

We've done quite a bit, passing—and making law—15 bills that included measures endorsed by last year's White House Conference on Small Business. Unfortunately, eight bills that contained important small business relief have been vetoed by President Clinton.

Yes, that's right—eight bills that included recommendations from the White House Conference on Small Business were vetoed by the current occupant of the White House, President Clinton. Those eight measures, which would have been of tremendous help to small business men and women were: An estate tax reduction, health care reform, pension reform, legal reform, a health deduction for the self-employed, an expensing provision, broad-based capital gains reform, and small business investment via capital gains reform. Last year, at the conference, the President expressed strong support for these measures and led us to believe that he wanted to relieve some of the burdens on our Nation's entrepreneurs.

Well, as we know from past experience, you can't always rely on what the President says he's going to do. I certainly hope this Small Business Week will jog his memory as to the promises he made last year, and that he will work with Congress as we continue in our efforts to ease the burdens on small businesses.●

CONGRATULATING WEST PHILADELPHIA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

● Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, today I call attention to a very special honor bestowed upon the West Philadelphia Catholic High School of Philadelphia, PA. West Philadelphia Catholic High School is among 266 secondary schools to be selected as a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. The U.S. Department of Education's Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Program nationally recognizes public and private schools that are effective in meeting local, State, and national goals and in educating their students.

Mr. President, I would like to congratulate West Philadelphia Catholic High School on this distinguished achievement. I am also proud to say that the West Philadelphia Catholic High School is a two-time winner of this prestigious honor and is the only Archdiocesan school to have received this award. As the U.S. Department of Education notes, these Blue Ribbon Schools are not only centers of educational excellence in their communities, but are often visited by educators from across the country who study their success.

The West Philadelphia Catholic High School is a Blue Ribbon Award winner because of the hard work of its students, the continued support of parents and graduates, and the dedication of its faculty and administration. This hard work and dedication to excellence can also be seen in the high number of graduating students who pursue higher education.

Again Mr. President, the Blue Ribbon Award is an honor to the students, faculty, and administration of the West Philadelphia Catholic High School as well as the city of Philadelphia. At this time I would like to extend my best wishes to West Philadelphia Catholic High School and congratulate this academic community on a job well done.●

BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF MONTAUK POINT LIGHTHOUSE

● Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, on the seventh day of June, 1796, the founding block of sandstone was placed at the base of the Montauk Point Lighthouse on the eastern tip of Long Island. Two hundred years of Atlantic breakers have worn away more than half of the land that once separated the great black and white striped tower from the ocean; however, this steady beacon continues to welcome seafarers from near and far and guides them around the point, safely to shore.

On April 12, 1792, President George Washington signed into law the congressional authorization for the construction of the Montauk Point Lighthouse. On March 2, 1793, a sum of \$20,000 was appropriated for the project. Unbiased in its service to the vessels of the sea, the lighthouse was the first to be constructed in New York State at full Federal expense, and it remains a shining beacon of the best of what we can do as a nation.

From the top of the lighthouse tower, one can see Long Island, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Block Island. This range of sight proved beneficial during World War II, when spotters from the tower would coordinate the 16" cannons located in the battery at Fort Hero—500 meters to the west. Throughout the war, the lighthouse was operated by the Army Signal Corps and established itself as a crucial part of the eastern coastal defensive shield.

Though its construction was significantly altered only once, the lighthouse has changed with the times. Originally it burned whale oil, housed a lightkeeper, and could be seen from but a few miles from its source. Today the lighthouse runs on an automated system, and can be seen at a distance of 19 nautical miles. In addition, it forms part of a satellite-based global positioning system.

This year the Montauk Point Lighthouse Museum will welcome its 1 millionth visitor by land. On behalf of those who pass both by land and by sea, I would like to thank the Montauk Historical Society and the Coast Guard for their dutiful service to the light, and I am delighted to celebrate the Bicentennial of the Montauk Lighthouse.●

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 3120

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I inquire of the Chair if H.R. 3120 has arrived from the House of Representatives?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Yes, it has.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3120) to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to witness retaliation, witness tampering and jury tampering.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now ask for its second reading, and I object on behalf of the Democratic leadership. I understand they have some concerns with it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. LOTT. Will the bill remain at the desk to be read a second time following the next adjournment of the Senate?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM

Mr. LOTT. Before I go to the closing script, I want to comment briefly on what I understand is happening with the health insurance reform package. I understand that discussions are continuing. I have the impression that very good progress is being made. I am hopeful, as I know the distinguished majority leader is, that agreement can be reached and that this legislation can be taken up early next week.

Yet I was amused to hear the Senator from Massachusetts, Senator KENNEDY, a few moments ago, complaining loudly, vociferously about how not enough was being done. Actually, what he is complaining about is the way it is being done to come to an agreement. It was amusing to me because he was complaining about how there were meetings going on and they were not being informed or kept advised, yet he immediately started talking about exactly what is being discussed. He knows every detail. I know he is involved and staff is involved.

Senator KASSEBAUM, the Senator from Kansas, who coauthored this legislation with the Senator from Massachusetts, is keeping him informed. Really, he protests too much. He says they are not involved, yet he knows every detail immediately. When we get close to an agreement he does not like, he runs to the floor and says, "My goodness." Then he continues to complain that members of the minority are not involved in discussions. Yet every time we have tried to get conferees appointed, the Democrats have objected. I tried it yesterday. That way Senator KENNEDY, Senator PELL, Senator MOYNIHAN, Senator BIDEN or others would be involved, sitting down in a room discussing the solution. The reason they are not directly, formally involved is because Senator KENNEDY and other Democrats have objected to the appointment of conferees.

We are never going to bring this to a conclusion if we cannot get over the hurdle of at least appointing conferees.