

Much of the north branch of the Potomac River, from its headwaters near Kempton, MD, to the Jennings Randolph Lake is biologically dead. The Kempton mine alone contributes 3 million gallons of acid mine drainage to the Potomac each day and estimates to clean up this problem run as high as \$80 million.

Section 402 (g)(6)(B) of SMCRA authorizes States to set aside up to 10 percent of their annual title IV abandoned mine land reclamation allocation into a special interest-bearing account for addressing adverse environmental effects caused by abandoned mine drainage. For a minimum program State like Maryland, which receives only \$1.5 million in AML funds a year, 10 percent is clearly insufficient to address our State's acid mine drainage problems.

My amendment will not authorize or appropriate any new money to be expended for acid mine drainage. It will provide greater flexibility for Maryland to use its existing AML funds for acid mine drainage abatement as well as health and safety problems and help address the most serious environmental problem facing the western region of my State.

MORNING BUSINESS

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT CONCERNING THE CONTINUATION OF THE EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO UNITA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 169

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the Federal Register and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this pro-

vision, I have sent the enclosed notice, stating that the emergency declared with respect to the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola ("UNITA") is to continue in effect beyond September 26, 1996, to the Federal Register for publication.

The circumstances that led to the declaration on September 26, 1993, of a national emergency have not been resolved. The actions and policies of UNITA pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the foreign policy of the United States. United Nations Security Council Resolution 864 (1993) continues to oblige all Member States to maintain sanctions. Discontinuation of the sanctions would have a prejudicial effect on the Angolan peace process. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to maintain in force the broad authorities necessary to apply economic pressure to UNITA to reduce its ability to pursue its aggressive policies on territorial acquisition.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 16, 1996.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following measure was read the second time and placed on the calendar:

S. 2073. A bill to require the District of Columbia to comply with the 5-year time limit for welfare recipients, to prohibit any future waiver of such limit, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-4093. A communication from the Chief of the Programs and Legislation Division in the Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of the Air Force, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice of a cost comparison study with respect to the grounds maintenance function at Keesler Air Force Base; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4094. A communication from the Assistant Chief Counsel of the Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning a rule entitled "Lending and Investment," (RIN 1550-AA94) received on September 16, 1996; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4095. A communication from the President and Chairman of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a statement regarding transactions involving exports to India; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4096. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report with respect to the rule entitled "Truth in Lending; Docket Number R-0927" (received on September 16, 1996); to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4097. A communication from the Managing Director of the Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to

law, eight rules regarding the table of allotments for FM broadcast stations (RM6904, 7114, 7186, 7415, 7298, 8719, 8815, 8788, 8645, 8655, 8698, 8552) received on September 13, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4098. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General in the Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting draft legislation regarding economic espionage; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4099. A communication from the Commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report with respect to a rule regarding Immigration Title II benefits (RIN-1115-AE51) received on September 13, 1996; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4100. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations in the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule regarding student assistance (received on September 16, 1996); to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-4101. A communication from the Board Members of the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the budget request for fiscal year 1998; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

H.R. 531. A bill to designate the Great Western Scenic Trail as a study trail under the National Trails System Act, and for other purposes.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

H.R. 1091. A bill to improve the National Park System in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

H.R. 2636. A bill to transfer jurisdiction over certain parcels of Federal real property located in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

S. 608. A bill to establish the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park in New Bedford, MA, and for other purposes.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 695. A bill to provide for the establishment of the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve in Kansas, and for other purposes.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

S. 902. A bill to amend Public Law 100-479 to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to assist in the construction of a building to be used jointly by the Secretary for park purposes and by the city of Natchez as an intermodal transportation center, and for other purposes.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

S. 951. A bill to commemorate the service of First Ladies Jacqueline Kennedy and Patricia Nixon to improving and maintaining the Executive Residence of the President and to authorize grants to the White House Endowment Fund in their memory to continue their work.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1127. A bill to establish the Vancouver National Historic Reserve, and for other purposes.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

S. 1649. A bill to extend contracts between the Bureau of Reclamation and irrigation districts in Kansas and Nebraska, and for other purposes.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 1699. A bill to establish the National Cave and Karst Research Institute in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes.

S. 1706. A bill to increase the amount authorized to be appropriated for assistance for highway relocation with respect to the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park in Georgia, and for other purposes.

S. 1809. A bill entitled the "Aleutian World War II National Historic Areas Act of 1996".

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment:

S. 1844. A bill to amend the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act to direct a study of the opportunities for enhanced water-based recreation, and for other purposes.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1921. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to transfer certain facilities at the Mindoka project to the Burley Irrigation District, and for other purposes.

S. 1986. A bill to provide for the completion of the Umatilla Basin project, and for other purposes.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 2015. A bill to convey certain real property located within the Carlsbad project in New Mexico to the Carlsbad Irrigation District.

Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary:

Report to accompany the bill (S. 1952) to amend the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, and for other purposes (Rept. 104-369).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. CHAFEE (for himself and Mr. ROCKEFELLER):

S. 2075. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide additional consumer protections for medicare supplemental insurance; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI:

S. 2076. A bill to increase economic benefits to the United States from the activities of cruise ships visiting Alaska; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LUGAR (for himself and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 2077. A bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to improve the act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, and Mr. CRAIG):

S. 2078. A bill to authorize the sale of excess Department of Defense aircraft to facilitate the suppression of wildfire; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MOYNIHAN:

S. 2079. A bill to repeal the prohibition against State restrictions on communications between government agencies and the INS; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CHAFEE (for himself and Mr. ROCKEFELLER):

S. 2075. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide additional consumer protections for medicare supplemental insurance; to the Committee on Finance.

THE MEDIGAP PORTABILITY ACT OF 1996

• Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, last month, the President signed into law bipartisan legislation that provides greater portability of health insurance for working Americans. Today, I join with my colleague, Senator ROCKEFELLER, in the introduction of a bipartisan bill that will provide some of the same guarantees for seniors who buy Medicare supplemental insurance or Medigap policies.

Of the 37 million Medicare beneficiaries, 80 percent, or nearly 30 million, have some form of Medicare supplemental insurance, whether covered through a retiree health plan or a private Medigap policy. Under current law, Medigap insurers must issue these policies without pre-existing condition limitations during the 6-month period immediately after the beneficiary becomes eligible for Medicare. Our bill does three things for seniors who have purchased Medigap insurance.

First, it guarantees that if their plan goes out of business or the beneficiary moves out of a plan service area, he or she can buy another comparable policy. These rules also would apply to a senior who has had coverage under a retiree health plan if their plan goes out of business.

Second, it encourages seniors to enroll in Medicare managed care by guaranteeing that they can return to Medicare fee-for-service and, during the first year of enrollment, get back their same Medigap policy if they decide they do not like managed care. Under current law, if a senior wishes to enroll in a Medicare managed care plan, they have two options. They may drop their Medigap policy, and hope they can get another if they go back to fee-for-service, or they can continue paying their Medigap premiums in the event that they may need the policy again some day—a very costly option for those on fixed incomes.

Third, it provides a 6-month open enrollment period for those under 65 who become Medicare beneficiaries because they are disabled. Under current Federal law, Medicare beneficiaries are offered a 6-month open enrollment period only if they are 65. There are approximately 4 million Americans who are under 65 years of age and are enrolled

in the Medicare Program. Currently, they do not currently have access to Medigap policies unless State laws require insurers to offer policies to them.

It is true that this bill does not go as far as some advocacy groups would like. Our bill leaves to the States more controversial issues, such as continuous open enrollment and community rating of Medigap premiums. I believe, however, that this legislation will provide seniors the same guarantees that we provided to working Americans under the Kassebaum-Kennedy legislation. Thank you, Mr. President.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be included in the RECORD immediately following my remarks.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2075

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Medigap Portability Act of 1996".

SEC. 2. MEDIGAP AMENDMENTS.

(a) GUARANTEEING ISSUE WITHOUT PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS FOR CONTINUOUSLY COVERED INDIVIDUALS.—Section 1882(s) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ss(s)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by striking "paragraphs (1) and (2)" and inserting "this subsection";

(2) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4), and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

"(3)(A) The issuer of a medicare supplemental policy—

"(i) may not deny or condition the issuance or effectiveness of a medicare supplemental policy described in subparagraph (C);

"(ii) may not discriminate in the pricing of the policy on the basis of the individual's health status, medical condition (including both physical and mental illnesses), claims experience, receipt of health care, medical history, genetic information, evidence of insurability (including conditions arising out of acts of domestic violence), or disability; and

"(iii) may not impose an exclusion of benefits based on a pre-existing condition, in the case of an individual described in subparagraph (B) who seeks to enroll under the policy not later than 63 days after the date of the termination of enrollment described in such subparagraph.

"(B) An individual described in this subparagraph is an individual described in any of the following clauses:

"(i) The individual is enrolled with an eligible organization under a contract under section 1876 or with an organization under an agreement under section 1833(a)(1)(A) and such enrollment ceases either because the individual moves outside the service area of the organization under the contract or agreement or because of the termination or nonrenewal of the contract or agreement.

"(ii) The individual is enrolled with an organization under a policy described in subsection (t) and such enrollment ceases either because the individual moves outside the service area of the organization under the policy, because of the bankruptcy or insolvency of the insurer, or because the insurer closes the block of business to new enrollment.