

Mr. JEFFORDS, and Mr. LEAHY) submitted the following resolution; which was ordered to lie over, under the rule:

S. RES. 52

Whereas, during the last few months farm milk prices have experienced substantial volatility, dropping precipitously from \$15.37 per hundredweight in September, 1996 to \$11.34 per hundredweight in December, 1996, while simultaneously there have been record high costs for cattle feed;

Whereas, there is a strong sense of financial crisis in the dairy industry;

Whereas, many dairy farmers have looked to the Federal government for relief because minimum milk prices under the Milk Marketing Orders are established by the Department of Agriculture;

Whereas, the price of cheese at the National Cheese Exchange in Green Bay, Wisconsin influences milk prices paid to farmers because of its use in the Department of Agriculture's Basic Formula Price under Federal Milk Marketing Orders;

Whereas, less than one percent of the cheese produced in the United States is sold on the National Cheese Exchange and the Exchange acts as a reference price for as much as 95 percent of the commercial bulk cheese sales in the nation;

Whereas, there has been some concern among dairy producers that the prices at the National Cheese Exchange may have been manipulated downward, benefiting processors at the expense of dairy farmers;

Whereas, it is in the national interest to ensure that market prices for milk, cheese, and other dairy products are determined by a fair and competitive marketplace; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the Sense of the Senate of the United States that the Secretary of Agriculture should act immediately pursuant to his legal authority to modify the Basic Formula Price for dairy by replacing the National Cheese Exchange as a factor to be considered in setting the Basic Formula Price and to establish in its place an equivalent pricing mechanism more reflective of the actual market conditions for cheese and other dairy products nationally.

SENATE RESOLUTION 53— RELATIVE TO A DISPUTE

Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Mr. GRAMM, and Mr. D'AMATO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources:

S. RES. 53

Whereas a strike by the Allied Pilots Association, the union of the pilots of American Airlines, could lead to a severe disruption in air service;

Whereas such a strike could result in the loss of employment by tens of thousands of individuals in the United States;

Whereas such a strike would affect approximately 20 percent of the domestic airline traffic in the United States;

Whereas such a strike would cause more than 75,000 American Airlines employees to be idle;

Whereas such a strike would affect—

(1) the livelihood of thousands of other workers employed in airline and airport supply industries; and

(2) commerce relating to tourism, logistics, and business requiring travel;

Whereas such a strike would cause substantial adverse economic effects in communities of the United States;

Whereas such a strike could jeopardize the largest order made in history for the production of civilian aircraft; and

Whereas because $\frac{1}{4}$ of the air traffic of American Airlines is in foreign air commerce (as that term is defined in section 40102 of title 49, United States Code), a strike would have an adverse effect with respect to—

(1) the expansion of the market of United States goods and services in foreign countries; and

(2) the trading partners of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the President should work in conjunction with the National Mediation Board to facilitate a resolution of the labor dispute between the Allied Pilots Association and AMR, the parent company of American Airlines; and

(2) the President should—

(A) encourage—

(i) the settlement of the issues that are the subject of the labor dispute through the use of the services of the National Mediation Board established under section 4 of the Railway Labor Act (45 U.S.C. 154) before midnight on February 15, 1997 (which is the date specified by the Allied Pilots Association as the deadline for averting a strike); or

(ii) the achievement, by the date specified in clause (i), of an agreement by the parties to the dispute to arbitrate the issues that are the subject of the labor dispute through the National Mediation Board; and

(B) if necessary, establish a board under section 10 of the Railway Labor Act (45 U.S.C. 160) to serve as an emergency board to investigate the matter relating to the labor dispute and to make a report to the President in the manner prescribed in that section.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

THE BALANCED BUDGET CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

DODD AMENDMENT NO. 4

Mr. DODD proposed an amendment to the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 1) proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require a balanced budget; as follows:

On page 3, line 7, strike beginning with "is" through line 11 and insert "faces an imminent and serious military threat to national security as declared by a joint resolution."

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be allowed to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 11, 1997, at 9 a.m. in SR-328A to discuss reform to the Commodity Exchange Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, February 11, 1997, in closed session, to

receive a briefing on the situation in Bosnia and the status of U.S. military forces participating in the stabilization force [SFOR].

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 11, 1997, immediately after the first rollcall vote to hold a business meeting to vote on pending items.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet for a hearing on the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 11, 1997, at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs would like to request unanimous consent to hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to receive the legislative presentation of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The hearing will be held on February 11, 1997, at 9:30 a.m., in room 345 of the Cannon House Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO ERICA MICHELLE PITTS

● Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, each fall, Senators and Congressmen turn to the enjoyable task of submitting nominations to the U.S. Service Academies. This year, like every other, my office was flooded with applications from qualified young men and women—students with excellent academic records, students whose extracurricular activities would drive the most patient parent crazy, students who donate endless hours to community service projects. However, rarely do I see a young person possessing all of this and more.

This year I proudly nominated Erica Michelle Pitts, of Louisville, KY, to the U.S. Military Academy, as did Senator WENDELL FORD and then-Congressman Mike Ward. There are many adjectives that can be used to describe Erica—poised, accomplished, brave, athletic, energetic, but even combined they do not adequately portray her. A senior at Saint Francis High School, Erica's headmaster Thomas Pike describes her as "a delightfully different young person." Counselor Kit Llewellyn sees her as a "risk-taker" and admires her integrity.