

Whereas, the Fast Flux Test Facility (FFTF) is the nation's most advanced test reactor; and

Whereas, numerous independent studies have suggested that the facility could one day be used to produce cancer-curing medical isotopes; and

Whereas, the facility has also been considered by the Department of Energy (DOE) for short-term production of tritium for our nation's defense needs; and

Whereas, utilizing the FFTF for this purpose could help postpone construction of more expensive options for tritium production, thus freeing federal dollars for environmental purposes during DOE's "Ten Year Cleanup Plan"; and

Whereas, this would protect Hanford clean up from budget pressures during this time frame and ensure that the federal government fulfills its responsibilities under the Tri-Party Agreement; and

Whereas, private sector involvement in the FFTF project could further reduce federal expenditures needed for tritium production; and

Whereas, DOE and President William J. Clinton have announced their decision to keep the FFTF on standby for potential use for medical and tritium purposes; and

Whereas, this decision could lead to the development of a major cancer treatment center in Washington State; and

Whereas, sixty-nine nationally recognized cancer researchers have expressed their strong support for preserving the FFTF, and have argued that they would find it "unconscionable to shut down the FFTF without a full review of its potential for future operation, including isotope production": Now, therefore,

Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the United States Congress and executive agencies approve and endorse the plan to fully and fairly evaluate the FFTF for use in meeting critical national needs, and urge that the long-term best interests of clean-up activities at Hanford and cancer research be given top priority by DOE in arriving at its decision, be it

Resolved, That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the United States, the Secretary of Energy, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of Washington.

POM-37. A petition from the citizens of the State of California relative to violence, abuse, and the women's citizenship; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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. BOND (for himself and Mr. ASHCROFT):

S. 368. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds for human cloning research; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CHAFEE, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DODD, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. GLENN, and Mr. REED):

S. 369. A bill to amend section 1128B of the Social Security Act to repeal the criminal penalty for fraudulent disposition of assets in order to obtain medicaid benefits added by

section 217 of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. CONRAD, and Mr. HOLLINGS):

S. 370. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for increased medicare reimbursement for nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists to increase the delivery of health services in health professional shortage areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

S. 371. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for increased medicare reimbursement for physician assistants, to increase the delivery of health services in health professional shortage areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. 372. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a 5-year reinstatement of the medicare-dependent, small, rural hospital payment provisions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 373. A bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act and part 7 of subtitle B of title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to establish standards for protection of consumers in managed care plans and other health plans; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. ROBB:

S. 374. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend eligibility for hospital care and medical services under chapter 17 of that title to veterans who have been awarded the Purple Heart, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. DODD, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. FORD, Mr. WARNER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. GREGG, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. REED, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. WELLSTONE, and Mr. HAGLEY):

S. 375. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to restore the link between the maximum amount of earnings by blind individuals permitted without demonstrating ability to engage in substantial gainful activity and the exempt amount permitted in determining excess earnings under the earnings test; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. BURNS, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 376. A bill to affirm the rights of Americans to use and sell encryption products, to establish privacy standards for voluntary key recovery encryption systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BURNS (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LOTT, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. DORGAN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. GRAMS, and Mr. ALLARD):

S. 377. A bill to promote electronic commerce by facilitating the use of strong encryption, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. THOMPSON:

S. 378. A bill to provide additional funding for the Committee on Governmental Affairs of the Senate; read the first time.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI (for himself and Mr. STEVENS):

S. 379. A bill entitled the "Native Alaskan Subsistence Whaling Provision"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. KOHL):

S. 380. A bill to prohibit foreign nationals admitted to the United States under a non-immigrant visa from possessing a firearm; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself, Mr. MACK, Mr. FRIST, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. KERREY, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, and Mr. BINGAMAN):

S. 381. A bill to establish a demonstration project to study and provide coverage of routine patient care costs for medicare beneficiaries with cancer who are enrolled in an approved clinical trial program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HOLLINGS (for himself, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. BIDEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. REED, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. DORGAN, and Mr. REID):

S.J. Res. 18. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections; read twice and placed on the calendar.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BOND (for himself and Mr. ASHCROFT):

S. 368. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds for human cloning research; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

RESEARCH LEGISLATION

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, today I rise to introduce a measure on behalf of myself, Senator ASHCROFT, and Senator BYRD which would prohibit permanently the use of Federal funds for human cloning research. I am sure most Americans by now have heard about the successful cloning of Dolly, the sheep, by Scottish scientists. Many people are now asking can similar techniques be used to clone a human being? Something that was once thought to be only science fiction is now close to being a reality.

With the legislation I introduce today, I intend to make sure that human cloning stays within the realm of science fiction and does not become a reality. The bill that I am introducing with my colleagues today will place a permanent ban on Federal funding for human cloning or human cloning research. We must send a clear signal: Human cloning is something we cannot and should not tolerate. This type of research on humans is morally reprehensible. We should not be creating human beings for spare parts or as replacements. Moreover, a National Institutes of Health human embryo panel noted, "allowing society to create genetically identical persons would devalue human life by undermining the individuality of human beings."

In a September 1994 report of the Human Embryo Research Panel, the heading is, "Research Considered Unacceptable for Federal Funding." It said: