

[Mr. SMITH] were added as cosponsors of Senate Joint Resolution 6, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to protect the rights of crime victims.

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 7

At the request of Mr. SARBANES, the names of the Senator from New York [Mr. MOYNIHAN] and the Senator from Alaska [Mr. MURKOWSKI] were added as cosponsors of Senate Concurrent Resolution 7, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Federal retirement cost-of-living adjustments should not be delayed.

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 13

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the name of the Senator from Georgia [Mr. COVERDELL] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 13, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the display of the Ten Commandments by Judge Roy S. Moore, a judge on the circuit court of the State of Alabama.

## NOTICE OF HEARING

## SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for information of the Senate and the public that a hearing of the Subcommittee on Public Health and Safety, Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources will be held on Friday, April 25, 1997, 9:30 a.m., in SD-430 of the Senate Dirksen Building. The subject of the hearing is "The U.S. Healthcare Workforce: Realigning to Meet the Future." For further information, please call the committee, 202/224-5375.

## AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

## 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 Wednesday, April 23, 1997, to receive testimony on the Administration's proposal on NATO enlargement.

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

## COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on April 23, 1997, at 9:30 a.m. on the nominations of Kerri-Ann Jones of Maryland, and Jerry M. Melillo of Massachusetts, to be associate directors of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

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

## COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, the Finance Committee requests unanimous consent to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, April 23, 1997, beginning at 10 a.m. in room 215 Dirksen.

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

## COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Wednesday, April 23, 1997, at 10 a.m., for a hearing on S. 261, Biennial Budgeting and Appropriations Act.

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

## COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 23, 1997, at 10 a.m., to hold a hearing on "Gangs—A National Crisis."

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 Reauthorization of Higher Education, during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 23, 1997, at 9:30 a.m.

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

## SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 23, 1997, at 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed hearing on intelligence matters.

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

## SUBCOMMITTEE ON MANUFACTURING AND COMPETITIVENESS

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Manufacturing and Competitiveness subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on April 23, 1997, at 10 a.m. on the current state of manufacturing in the United States.

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

## ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

## EARTH DAY 1997

• Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I would like to take a few moments to discuss our environment following Earth Day 1997.

In consideration of the 27th annual commemoration of Earth Day, the American people should remember that they have been fortunate to live in an industrialized and prosperous society that has afforded environmental protection. Growing consumer demand for parks, improved air quality, and open land for hunting and hiking is largely responsible for improving the quality and quantity of ecological resources. Advances in technology, production methods, and manufacturing practices, an offshoot of our economic growth, have resulted in less pollution.

However, Mr. President, Earth Day in 1970 was not the beginning of

environmentalism in this Nation. Rather, it was evidence of a trend. Since the turn of the century, a strong conservation movement, led by rural interests, wanted national policy that would manage those resources they depended on to survive. Beginning with the passage of the Wilderness Act, Congress responded to those interests. In the last 27 years, the United States has continued to make great strides in improving the quality of its environment.

The United States of America has become a world leader in so many environmental areas. The Clean Air Act has been strengthened, and the Clean Water Act and the reauthorization of the Safe Drinking Water Act have improved the quality of our Nation's environment. We can take pride in the progress that has been made in the last 27 years since the first Earth day, and we have learned a great deal. We are in far better shape than we were in 1970.

According to the EPA, between 1970-95, air pollutants have decreased substantially. EPA has also observed that our rivers, lakes, and coastal waters are cleaner today than 25 years ago. Carol Browner, Administrator of the EPA, stated yesterday that the United States has the best drinking water in the world. We now recycle almost 35 percent of our municipal waste, 40 percent of all paper, and 60 percent of all aluminum cans. Our children consider recycling a way of life.

Since 1970, air pollution has been steadily declining, despite the fact that the U.S. population has increased by 28 percent and vehicle travel has increased by 116 percent. This is due in large part to advanced emissions equipment on newer cars. But we have learned as a people to change our personal habits as we demand that industry change theirs. Air pollution, for example, would continue to be greatly improved if people kept their vehicles, old and new, tuned up.

Mr. President, we know that humans will inevitably effect the environment because they are an inherent part of nature itself. We are not in a battle against the environment; rather, we now know that we are interdependent. Congress has further learned that top-down administration and imposition of regulations may not achieve the goal of true interdependence, but incentives, cooperation, respect for property rights, and more local control does. As most Americans have come to learn, if you want a better society, you build it yourself.

The term "sustainability" has come to represent our Nation's environmental goals. Activists, entrepreneurs, and scientists are being successfully linked with ecosystems. Technological advancements have shown us how to improve the environment. Programs such as the Waste-management Education and Research Consortium, or WERC, which I put together several years ago, are the future of environmental protection, not top-down regulation imposing unfunded mandates to