

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I also thank the distinguished Senator from Pennsylvania. Telemedicine, particularly those initiatives focused on emergency and trauma care are essential for the highest quality medical care for our troops. I too look forward to working with the Senator from Pennsylvania in conference.

PERSIAN GULF WAR ILLNESSES AMENDMENT

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise to commend my colleagues, Senator STEVENS and Senator INOUE, for their work on this appropriations bill and the bipartisan spirit in which it was crafted.

I wish to speak for a moment on the amendment I offered on Persian Gulf war illnesses that was accepted by the chairman and ranking member.

The amendment will provide \$4.5 million for the Department of Defense and the Veterans Administration to determine what treatments are working for those who are afflicted with Persian Gulf war illnesses.

The reasonableness and necessity for action along these lines seem so obvious that many of my colleagues probably find it difficult to believe that such action has not already been taken. To allay their doubts, let me quote directly from a GAO report released just last month: "There is an absence of efforts to measure Gulf War veterans clinical progress. This leaves the government unable to promptly determine the quality and effectiveness of treatments currently being provided to Gulf War veterans."

That's not an angry Senator making unsupported allegations. That's the objective, nonpartisan view of the General Accounting Office.

Mr. President, at this point, it seems to me that we've left our ailing troops on the battlefield. Here we are, 6 years after the end of the Persian Gulf war and it takes an act of Congress to begin an effective examination of which treatments are most effective in caring for our veterans with Persian Gulf war illnesses.

While I am heartened by the fact that we're offering examinations to those who served in the Persian Gulf War, I feel it's important to take the next step to determine what happens after that initial examination. Often I hear stories of families being forced to look outside the government agencies to get the care and compensation their Persian Gulf war veterans deserve.

So those are the reasons that I offered the amendments to the Defense authorization bill and the Defense appropriations bill. Mr. President, nearly 700,000 men and women served in our Armed Forces in the Persian Gulf war. Five thousand of them were constituents of mine. Depending on what reports you read, as many as 10 percent of those who served are today ailing from some form or another of these Persian Gulf war illnesses. That's far too many to be left out on the battlefield. One ailing veteran forgotten by this country is too many. I expect to

see some progress now on finding and employing effective treatments for those with Persian Gulf war illnesses.

Let me again express my gratitude to the Senator from Alaska and the Senator from Hawaii for approving of this funding and accepting the amendment. I'm sure they feel equally compelled by the issues raised here.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The roll-call vote will occur at 2:15.

RECESS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I now ask that we recess under the previous order.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:36 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer [Mr. COATS].

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question occurs on final passage of S. 1005, the Defense appropriations bill. The yeas and nays have been ordered, and the clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Montana [Mr. BURNS] and the Senator from Rhode Island [Mr. CHAFEE] are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 94, nays 4, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 176 Leg.]

YEAS—94

Abraham	Durbin	Lautenberg
Akaka	Enzi	Leahy
Allard	Faircloth	Levin
Ashcroft	Feinstein	Lieberman
Baucus	Ford	Lott
Bennett	Frist	Lugar
Biden	Glenn	Mack
Bingaman	Gorton	McCain
Bond	Graham	McConnell
Boxer	Gramm	Mikulski
Breaux	Grams	Moseley-Braun
Brownback	Grassley	Moynihn
Bryan	Gregg	Murkowski
Bumpers	Hagel	Murray
Byrd	Hatch	Nickles
Campbell	Helms	Reed
Cleland	Hollings	Reid
Coats	Hutchinson	Robb
Cochran	Hutchison	Roberts
Collins	Inhofe	Rockefeller
Conrad	Inouye	Roth
Coverdell	Jeffords	Santorum
Craig	Johnson	Sarbanes
D'Amato	Kempthorne	Sessions
Daschle	Kennedy	Shelby
DeWine	Kerrey	Smith (NH)
Dodd	Kerry	Smith (OR)
Domenici	Kyl	Snowe
Dorgan	Landrieu	Specter

Stevens	Thurmond	Wyden
Thomas	Torrice	
Thompson	Warner	

NAYS—4

Feingold	Kohl
Harkin	Wellstone

NOT VOTING—2

Burns	Chafee
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The bill (S. 1005), as amended, was passed, as follows:

S. 1005

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, for military functions administered by the Department of Defense, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

MILITARY PERSONNEL

MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMY

For pay, allowances, individual clothing, subsistence, interest on deposits, gratuities, permanent change of station travel (including all expenses thereof for organizational movements), and expenses of temporary duty travel between permanent duty stations, for members of the Army on active duty (except members of reserve components provided for elsewhere), cadets, and aviation cadets; and for payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97-377, as amended (42 U.S.C. 402 note), to section 229(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 429(b)), and to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund; \$20,426,457,000.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, NAVY

For pay, allowances, individual clothing, subsistence, interest on deposits, gratuities, permanent change of station travel (including all expenses thereof for organizational movements), and expenses of temporary duty travel between permanent duty stations, for members of the Navy on active duty (except members of the Reserve provided for elsewhere), midshipmen, and aviation cadets; and for payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97-377, as amended (42 U.S.C. 402 note), to section 229(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 429(b)), and to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund; \$16,508,218,000.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS

For pay, allowances, individual clothing, subsistence, interest on deposits, gratuities, permanent change of station travel (including all expenses thereof for organizational movements), and expenses of temporary duty travel between permanent duty stations, for members of the Marine Corps on active duty (except members of the Reserve provided for elsewhere); and for payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97-377, as amended (42 U.S.C. 402 note), to section 229(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 429(b)), and to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund; \$6,148,899,000.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For pay, allowances, individual clothing, subsistence, interest on deposits, gratuities, permanent change of station travel (including all expenses thereof for organizational movements), and expenses of temporary duty travel between permanent duty stations, for members of the Air Force on active duty (except members of reserve components provided for elsewhere), cadets, and aviation cadets; and for payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97-377, as amended (42 U.S.C. 402 note), to section 229(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 429(b)), and to