

This trend was reversed in 1992 and now, under the Taliban, "women and girls became, and remain today, virtually invisible."

Education is a major concern, where edicts prevent girls from attending school and receiving an education. A small, low-profile, "home school" movement has started, with an estimated 6,500 girls and boys attending classes in Kabul. These home schools, however, are no substitute for access to a real education.

On September 6, 1997 the Taliban government issued a statement demanding that admission of female patients to hospitals cease immediately, and that all female medical staff stop working. After negotiations with the ICRC the Taliban government reconsidered, but women still face great difficulties in getting access to medical care.

Many Non-Governmental Organizations are doing work which I can describe as nothing short of heroic to provide medical and humanitarian assistance under the most adverse of circumstances. But they are faced with numerous constraints, from difficulties in collecting data and verifying beneficiary cards, to laws and practices which prevent the distribution of assistance or services directly to the women in need.

The U.S. State Department's 1997 human rights report states: "Women were beaten for violating increasingly restrictive Taliban dress codes, which require women to be covered from head to toe. Women were strictly prohibited from working outside the home, and women and girls were denied the right to an education. Women were forbidden from appearing outside the home unless accompanied by a male family member. Beatings and death resulted from a failure to observe these restrictions."

The women of Afghanistan, who have seen their families destroyed by war, are now having their economic life and their fundamental human rights stripped away, and an already war-torn and war-weary Afghanistan has been pushed to the brink of disaster.

Fully half of Afghanistan's population cannot work for a living or be educated. Fully half the population of Afghanistan are being systematically denied their basic human rights. We must act to stop these injustices and to bring peace to Afghanistan.

Ambassador Richardson's recent initiative, which led to the unprecedented peace talks between representatives of the Taliban and the Northern Alliance in Islamabad last month and an agreement to set up a 40-member Ulama commission to find a solution for the civil conflict, represents perhaps the best opportunity for a comprehensive peace in Afghanistan in over a generation.

The ultimate outcome of these discussions are still in doubt, however, and, movement at the peace talks has been accompanied by reports of new fighting in the fields, with both sides reportedly acquiring new weapons.

I believe we must give our full support to these peace talks. But I also believe that we must be prepared for continued violence in Afghanistan, and for the situation faced by Afghanistan's women to get worse before it gets better. As we await the outcome of these peace talks—and there is no quick or apparent solution in sight—we must continue to work to alleviate the plight of Afghanistan's women.

The resolution I submit today calls on the administration to create an Afghan Women's Initiative, along the lines of the successful Bosnian and Rwandan Women's Initiatives which the administration has created in the past two years. Those initiatives have assisted the victims of those wars by promoting the reintegration of women into the economy with an emphasis on capacity-building, training programs, legal assistance, and support for micro-enterprise projects, as well as refugee reintegration and protection.

I believe that the successes of those two programs can serve as a model for a similar initiative for the women of Afghanistan, as well as the numerous Afghan women in refugee camps in Pakistan. The women of Afghanistan could greatly benefit from such a women's initiative, and I look forward to working with the administration to design and implement such a program.

Second, this resolution calls for the international community to investigate charges of rape and abuse as instruments of the now almost decade-long civil war which has torn Afghanistan apart, and, if credible evidence exists, to convene a war crimes tribunal to prosecute the perpetrators.

Credible charges have been made about the systematic use of rape by several of the factions and parties involved in this struggle, and I believe that these charges must be investigated and, if true, must lead to indictments and trials.

Finally, I believe that the United States must be clear in stating that we will not recognize any government in Afghanistan unless it is broad-based, respective of all Afghans, and respects international norms of behavior in human rights, including the rights of women and girls. As we continue to work for peace in Afghanistan, this resolution calls for an unequivocal statement of administration policy on this point.

The United States, with our history of commitment to women's rights and equality, must redouble its efforts to place respect for women's rights at the top of the international community's agenda in Afghanistan, and I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

This resolution, essentially, asks the President and the Secretary of State to work with the United Nations High Commissioner of Refugees to guarantee the safety of and provide development assistance for Afghan women in Pakistan, as well as Afghanistan, and to increase support for various refugee programs, to explore options for resettle-

ment, and to establish in Afghanistan a women's initiative which is based on the successful model of the Bosnian women's initiative and the Rwandan women's initiative that are targeted toward Afghani women's groups.

SENATE RESOLUTION 231—MAKING A TECHNICAL AMENDMENT TO SENATE RESOLUTION 208

Mr. BENNETT submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 231

Resolved, That Senate Resolution 208, agreed to April 2, 1998 (105th Congress), is amended—

(1) in section 3(a)(8), by inserting "reimbursable or" before "non-reimbursable"; and

(2) striking section 5 and inserting the following:

"SEC. 5. FUNDING.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be made available from the contingent fund of the Senate out of the Account for Expenses for Inquiries and Investigations, for use by the special committee to carry out this resolution—

"(1) not to exceed \$575,000 for the period beginning on April 2, 1998, through February 28, 1999, and \$575,000 for the period beginning on March 1, 1999, through February 29, 2000, of which not to exceed \$200,000 shall be available for each period for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof, as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946; and

"(2) such additional sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the special committee.

"(b) EXPENSES.—Payment of expenses of the special committee shall be disbursed upon vouchers approved by the chairman, except that vouchers shall not be required for the disbursement of salaries paid at an annual rate."

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

AMERICAN COMPETITIVENESS ACT

WARNER (AND ROBB) AMENDMENT NO. 2412

Mr. ABRAHAM (for Mr. WARNER, for himself and Mr. ROBB) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 1723) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to assist the United States to remain competitive by increasing the access of the United States firms and institutions of higher education to skilled personnel and by expanding educational and training opportunities for American students and workers; as follows:

At the appropriate place in the bill insert the following new section:

SEC. ____ SPECIAL IMMIGRANT STATUS FOR CERTAIN NATO CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 101(a)(27) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(27)) is amended—

(1) by striking "or" at the end of subparagraph (J),

(2) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (K) and inserting "; or", and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(L) an immigrant who would be described in clause (i), (ii), (iii), or (iv) of subparagraph (I) if any reference in such a clause—

“(i) to an international organization described in paragraph (15)(G)(i) were treated as a reference to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO);

“(ii) to a nonimmigrant under paragraph (15)(G)(iv) were treated as a reference to a nonimmigrant classifiable under NATO-6 (as a member of a civilian component accompanying a force entering in accordance with the provisions of the NATO Status-of-Forces Agreement, a member of a civilian component attached to or employed by an Allied Headquarters under the ‘Protocol on the Status of International Military Headquarters’ set up pursuant to the North Atlantic Treaty, or as a dependent); and

“(iii) to the Immigration Technical Corrections Act of 1988 or to the Immigration and Nationality Technical Corrections Act of 1994 were a reference to the American Competitiveness Act.”

(b) **CONFORMING NONIMMIGRANT STATUS FOR CERTAIN PARENTS OF SPECIAL IMMIGRANT CHILDREN.**—Section 101(a)(15)(N) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(N)) is amended—

(1) by inserting “(or under analogous authority under paragraph (27)(L))” after “(27)(I)(i)”, and

(2) by inserting “(or under analogous authority under paragraph (27)(L))” after “(27)(I)”.

KENNEDY (AND JOHNSON)
AMENDMENT NO. 2413

Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 1723, supra; as follows:

On page 41, after line 16, insert the following:

SEC. ____ WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION.

Section 212(n)(2) (8 U.S.C. 1182(n)(2)), as amended by section 5 of this Act, is further amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “, or that the employer has intimidated, discharged, or otherwise retaliated against any person because that person has asserted a right or has cooperated in an investigation under this paragraph” after “a material fact in an application”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(F) Any alien admitted to the United States as a nonimmigrant described in section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b), who files a complaint pursuant to subparagraph (A) and is otherwise eligible to remain and work in the United States, shall be allowed to seek other employment in the United States for the duration of the alien’s authorized admission, if—

“(i) the Secretary finds a failure by the employer to meet the conditions described in subparagraph (C), and

“(ii) the alien notifies the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the name and address of his new employer.”

REID AMENDMENT NO. 2414

Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 1723, supra; as follows:

At the appropriate place in the bill, insert the following:

SEC. ____ PASSPORTS ISSUED FOR CHILDREN UNDER 16.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1 of title IX of the Act of June 15, 1917 (22 U.S.C. 213) is amended—

(1) by striking “Before” and inserting “(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Before”, and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(b) **PASSPORTS ISSUED FOR CHILDREN UNDER 16.**—

“(1) **SIGNATURES REQUIRED.**—In the case of a child under the age of 16, the written application required as a prerequisite to the issuance of a passport for such child shall be signed by—

“(A) both parents of the child if the child lives with both parents;

“(B) the parent of the child having primary custody of the child if the child does not live with both parents; or

“(C) the surviving parent (or legal guardian) of the child, if 1 or both parents are deceased.

“(2) **WAIVER.**—The Secretary of State may waive the requirements of paragraph (1)(A) if the Secretary determines that circumstances do not permit obtaining the signatures of both parents.”

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to applications for passports filed on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

REED AMENDMENT NO. 2415

Mr. REED proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 1723, supra; as follows:

On page 27, beginning with line 1, strike all through page 29, line 10.

BUMPERS AMENDMENT NO. 2416

Mr. BUMPERS proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 1723, supra; as follows:

At the end of the bill add the following:

SEC. ____ REPEAL OF IMMIGRANT INVESTOR PROGRAM.

Section 203(b)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended, (8 U.S.C. 1153(b)(5)) shall be repealed effective on the date of enactment of this Act.

KENNEDY (AND JOHNSON)
AMENDMENTS NOS. 2417-2418

Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON) proposed two amendments to the bill, S. 1723, supra; as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 2417

On page 41, after line 16, insert the following new section:

SEC. ____ RECRUITMENT OF UNITED STATES WORKERS PRIOR TO SEEKING TEMPORARY FOREIGN WORKERS UNDER THE “H-1B VISA” PROGRAM.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 212(n)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(n)(1)) is amended by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following new subparagraph:

“(E)(i) The employer, prior to filing the application, has taken timely, significant, and effective steps to recruit and retain sufficient United States workers in the specialty occupation in which the nonimmigrant whose services are being sought will be employed. Such steps include good faith recruitment in the United States, using procedures that meet industry-wide standards, offering compensation that is at least as great as that required to be offered to non-immigrants under subparagraph (A), and offering employment to any qualified United States worker who applies.

“(ii) Clause (i) shall not apply with respect to aliens seeking admission or status as non-immigrants described in section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b) who are—

“(I) aliens with extraordinary ability, aliens who are outstanding professors and researchers, or certain multinational execu-

tives and managers described in section 203(b)(1), or

“(II) aliens coming as researchers or instructors at an institution of higher education (as defined in section 1201(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965; 20 U.S.C. 1141(a)) (or a related or affiliated nonprofit entity of such institution) or a nonprofit or Federal research institute or agency.”

AMENDMENT NO. 2418

Beginning on page 30, strike line 12 and all that follows through line 21 on page 32.

On page 41, after line 16, add the following new section:

SEC. ____ PROTECTION AGAINST DISPLACEMENT OF UNITED STATES WORKERS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 212(n)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(n)(1)) is amended by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following:

“(E) The Employer has not replaced any United States worker with a nonimmigrant described in section 101(a)(15)(H)(i) (b) or (c)—

“(i) within the 6-month period prior to the filing of the application,

“(ii) during the 90-day period following the filing of the application, and

“(iii) during the 90-day period immediately preceding and following the filing of any visa petition supported by the application.”

(b) **DEFINITIONS.**—Section 212(n) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(n)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(3) For purposes of this subsection:

“(A) The term ‘replace’ means the employment of the nonimmigrant, including by contract, employee leasing, temporary help agreement, or other similar basis, at the specific place of employment and in the specific employment opportunity from which a United States worker with substantially equivalent qualifications and experience in the specific employment opportunity has been laid off.

“(B) The term ‘laid off’, with respect to an individual, means the individual’s loss of employment other than a discharge for inadequate performance, violation of workplace rules, cause, voluntary departure, voluntary retirement, or the expiration of a grant, contract, or other agreement. The term ‘laid off’ does not include any situation in which the individual involved is offered, as an alternative to such loss of employment, a similar employment opportunity with the same employer at equivalent or higher compensation and benefits as the position from which the employee was discharged, regardless of whether or not the employee accepts the offer.

“(C) The term ‘United States worker’ means—

“(i) a citizen or national of the United States,

“(ii) an alien who is lawfully admitted for permanent residence, or

“(iii) an alien authorized to be employed by this Act or by the Attorney General, if the individual is employed, including employment by contract, employee leasing, temporary help agreement, or other similar basis.”

ABRAHAM (AND OTHERS)
AMENDMENT NO. 2419

Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. MCCAIN) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 1723, supra; as follows:

On page 25, line 9, insert “and for any other fiscal year for which this subsection does not specify a higher ceiling,” after “1997”.

Beginning on page 27, strike line 6 and all that follows through page 29, line 10, and insert the following: "is amended in section 415A(b) (20 U.S.C. 1070c(b)), by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(3) MATHEMATICS, COMPUTER SCIENCE, AND ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIPS.—It shall be a permissible use of the funds made available to a State under this section for the State to establish a scholarship program for eligible students who demonstrate financial need and who seek to enter a program of study leading to a degree in mathematics, computer science, or engineering."

On page 32, between lines 21 and 22, insert the following:

(d) PROHIBITION OF USE OF H-1B VISAS BY EMPLOYERS ASSISTING IN INDIA'S NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAM.—Section 214(c) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (6), (7), and (8) as paragraphs (7), (8), and (9), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following new paragraph:

"(6) The Attorney General shall not approve a petition under section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b) for any employer that has knowledge or reasonable cause to know that the employer is providing material assistance for the development of nuclear weapons in India or any other country."

On page 32, line 22, strike "(d)" and insert "(e)".

On page 33, line 1, strike "(e)" and insert "(f)".

Beginning on page 36, line 25, strike "the National" and all that follows through "methods" on line 3 of page 37 and insert "a study involving the participation of individuals representing a variety of points of view, including representatives from academia, government, business, and other appropriate organizations."

On page 34, line 15, strike "(f)" and insert "(g)".

On page 35, line 20, strike "(g)" and insert "(h)".

On page 41, after line 16, insert the following:

SEC. 10. JOB TRAINING DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (c), in establishing demonstration programs under section 452(c) of the Job Training Partnership Act (29 U.S.C. 1732(c)), as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act, or a successor Federal law, the Secretary of Labor shall establish demonstration programs to provide technical skills training for workers, including incumbent workers.

(b) GRANTS.—Subject to subsection (c), the Secretary of Labor shall award grants to carry out the programs to—

(1) private industry councils established under section 102 of the Job Training Partnership Act (29 U.S.C. 1512), as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act, or successor entities established under a successor Federal law; or

(2) regional consortia of councils or entities described in paragraph (1).

(c) LIMITATION.—The Secretary of Labor shall establish programs under subsection (a), including awarding grants to carry out such programs under subsection (b), only with funds made available to carry out such programs under subsection (a) and not with funds made available under the Job Training Partnership Act or a successor Federal law.

NATIONAL TOBACCO POLICY AND YOUTH SMOKING REDUCTION ACT

LOTT AMENDMENT NO. 2420
(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. LOTT submitted an amendment incorporating all modifications to the Commerce Committee substitute to the bill (S. 1415) to reform and restructure the processes by which tobacco products are manufactured, marketed, and distributed, to prevent the use of tobacco products by minors, to redress the adverse health effects of tobacco use, and for other purposes; as follows:

[The amendment will appear in a future issue of the RECORD.]

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that an oversight hearing has been scheduled before the full Energy and Natural Resources Committee to consider the fiscal and economic implications of Puerto Rico status.

The hearing will take place on Tuesday, May 19, 1998, at 9:30 A.M. in room SH-216 of the Hart Senate Office Building.

For further information, please call Betty Nevitt, Staff Assistant at (202) 224-0765.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs will meet in open session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 20, 1998 beginning at 10 p.m. to mark up the following: S. 1691, the American Indian Equal Justice Act; and S. 2069, a bill to permit the mineral leasing of Indian land located within the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation. The meeting will be held in room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for information of the Senate and the public that a hearing of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources will be held on Thursday, May 21, 1998, 10:00 a.m. in SD-430 of the Senate Dirksen Building. The subject of the hearing is "Genetic Information and Health Care." For further information, please call the committee, 202/224-5375.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND SUBCOMMITTEE ON FORESTS AND PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that a joint field hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Interior of the Senate Committee on Appropriations and the Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place in Spokane, Washington at the Spokane City Hall, in the City Council Chambers, on Thursday, May 28, 1998, from 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. The Spokane City Hall is located at 808 West Spokane Falls Boulevard, Spokane, Washington.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony and examine issues as-

sociated with the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Plan.

Those who wish to submit written statements should write to the Committee on Appropriations U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. For further information, please call Amie Brown at (202) 224-6170 or Kevin Johnson at (202) 224-7233.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet for a joint hearing on Monday, May 18, 1998, at 3 p.m. The subject of the hearing is "The Role of Faith Based Charities in the District of Columbia."

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs of the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, May 18, 1998 at 2:00 p.m. to hold a hearing.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HEIDI MARIE NOYES: MISS NEW HAMPSHIRE 1998

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Heidi Marie Noyes for being crowned Miss New Hampshire 1998. As Miss Winnepesaukee, Heidi prevailed over a competitive field of thirteen New Hampshire women. Her triumph earns Heidi the right to represent New Hampshire in the Miss America pageant in Atlantic City this September.

One has to admire Heidi for her persistence and dedication. She had appeared in the pageant five times in the last seven years. Heidi's runner-up finish last year and her victory this year attest to her drive to improve and triumph.

Heidi is deeply committed to helping children. She studies criminal justice at Franklin Pierce College in order to eventually work as an advocate for children and to campaign for juvenile law reform. She has been a volunteer for the Youth Services Court Diversion Program in Belknap County for the past six years, and she models in United Way bridal shows to benefit charity. Heidi's platform issue as Miss New Hampshire is the "Let's Get Motivated" scholarship program that she founded three years ago.

At only 23 years old, Heidi is the owner of two dance studios, The Broadway North School of Performing Arts