

The growth of Las Vegas is a fact that has been recorded on many occasions. It has been dramatic. That growth could not have occurred if McCarran International had not kept pace and indeed anticipated the phenomenal tourism growth in southern Nevada. We salute McCarran on the 50th anniversary of its establishment. It has become an international gateway to the entertainment capital of the world. We are sure it was the farsighted leadership that has been provided in the past and its present expansion that will allow McCarran to continue to enjoy another 50 years of service to the community and to the millions of people who arrive by air each year making Las Vegas their destination.

#### THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Wednesday, June 9, 1998, the federal debt stood at \$5,493,569,839,079.81 (Five trillion, four hundred ninety-three billion, five hundred sixty-nine million, eight hundred thirty-nine thousand, seventy-nine dollars and eighty-one cents).

One year ago, June 9, 1997, the federal debt stood at \$5,348,704,000,000 (Five trillion, three hundred forty-eight billion, seven hundred four million).

Five years ago, June 9, 1993, the federal debt stood at \$4,300,363,000,000 (Four trillion, three hundred billion, three hundred sixty-three million).

Ten years ago, June 9, 1988, the federal debt stood at \$2,534,222,000,000 (Two trillion, five hundred thirty-four billion, two hundred twenty-two million).

Fifteen years ago, June 9, 1983, the federal debt stood at \$1,309,407,000,000 (One trillion, three hundred nine billion, four hundred seven million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$4 trillion—\$4,184,162,839,079.81 (Four trillion, one hundred eighty-four billion, one hundred sixty-two million, eight hundred thirty-nine thousand, seventy-nine dollars and eighty-one cents) during the past 15 years.

#### TEST BAN TREATY—35TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, thirty-five years ago today, in his commencement address to the graduating class of The American University in 1963, President Kennedy announced his support for a comprehensive nuclear test ban. As he said on that occasion:

The conclusion of such a treaty, so near and yet so far, would check the spiraling arms race in one of its most dangerous areas. It would place the nuclear powers in a position to deal more effectively with one of the greatest hazards which man faces in 1963, the further spread of nuclear arms. It would increase our security—it would decrease the prospects of war. Surely this goal is sufficiently important to require our steady pursuit, yielding neither to the temptation to give up the whole effort nor the temptation to give up our insistence on vital and responsible safeguards.

In the weeks that followed, President Kennedy secured one of the most important of successes of his New Frontier—the signing of the Limited Test Ban Treaty.

But, today, 35 years later, we still have not achieved the larger goal of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Especially in the wake of the recent nuclear tests by India and Pakistan, we need to do all we can to achieve the rapid ratification of this important treaty.

The arguments in favor of the CTBT are stronger and more important than ever. The recent tests are a reminder that the greatest threat to humanity is still the danger of nuclear war.

The end of the Cold War has presented us with a unique opportunity to step back from the nuclear brink and end nuclear testing worldwide. A Comprehensive Test Ban now would also end the current discrepancy between the world's recognized nuclear states which are permitted to test and the rest of the world's countries which are not. The Senate can take the lead in creating a more secure world by putting the United States in the front of the international effort to achieve a Comprehensive Test Ban.

This is the right time for the CTBT. We no longer need to develop more powerful or more accurate nuclear weapons to deter the nations of the former Soviet Union, or any other nuclear-capable state. Through the Stockpile Stewardship Program, we are learning more each day about how to keep our nuclear arsenal safe and reliable without testing.

One-hundred and forty-nine nations around the world have already signed the CTBT, including all five of the recognized nuclear states. The United States signed it in September 1996, but the Senate has not yet ratified it.

President Kennedy said it best 35 years ago when he told the students at American University, “. . . in the final analysis, our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this small planet. We all breathe the same air. We all cherish our children's future. And we are all mortal.”

I urge the Senate to act on the ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. The most important single step we can take today to reduce the dangers of nuclear war.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:05 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1635. An act to establish within the United States National Park Service the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3520. An act to adjust the boundaries of the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area and the adjacent Wenatchee National Forest in the State of Washington.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill,

with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 1990. An act to establish a commission to examine issues pertaining to the disposition of Holocaust-era assets in the United States before, during, and after World War II, and to make recommendations to the President on further action, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 270. Concurrent resolution acknowledging Taiwan's desire to play a positive role in the current Asian financial crisis and affirming the support of the American people for peace and stability on the Taiwan Strait and security for Taiwan's democracy.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 423. An act to extend the legislative authority for the Board of Regents of Gunston Hall to establish a memorial to honor George Mason.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2709) to impose certain sanctions on foreign persons who transfer items contributing to Iran's efforts to acquire, develop, or produce ballistic missiles, and to implement to obligations of the United States under the Chemical Weapons Conventions.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 2709. An act to improve certain sanctions on foreign persons who transfer items contributing to Iran's efforts to acquire, develop, or produce ballistic missiles, and to implement to obligations of the United States under the Chemical Weapons Conventions.

H.R. 3811. An act to establish felony violations for the failure to pay legal child support obligations, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1635. An act to establish within the United States National Park Service the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The following concurrent resolution was read and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 270. Concurrent resolution acknowledging Taiwan's desire to play a positive role in the current Asian financial crisis and affirming the support of the American people for peace and stability on the Taiwan Strait and security for Taiwan's democracy; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 3520. An act to adjust the boundaries of the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area and the adjacent Wenatchee National Forest in the State of Washington.

#### ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on June 10, 1998 he had presented to the President of the United States, the following enrolled bill:

S. 1244. An act to amend title 11, United States Code, to protect certain charitable contributions, and for other purposes.

#### PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-449. A resolution adopted by the St. Augustine Beach City Commission relative to funding of a shore protection project; to the Committee on Appropriations.

POM-450. A resolution adopted by the Nevada Legislature's Committee on Public Lands relative to the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-451. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of New Hampshire; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

#### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 23

Whereas, the state of New Hampshire has continued to decrease air pollution emissions in accordance with the federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990; and

Whereas, certain regions of the country, including the state of New Hampshire, are currently victims of air pollution emitted upwind from the region, but are being held responsible for that pollution by the federal Clean Air Act; and

Whereas, section 126 of the federal Clean Air Act allows states to petition the Administrator of the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to find that any stationary source or group of stationary sources emits any air pollutant in amounts which significantly contribute to levels of air pollution in excess of the national air quality standard outside of the state; and

Whereas, the state of New Hampshire filed a petition to section 126 before the EPA in August 1997; now therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

That the New Hampshire Senate and House of Representatives support the section 126 petition filed by the state of New Hampshire in August 1997; and

That the federal Clean Air Act should be amended so that section 126 petitions may refer not only to stationary sources and groups of stationary sources, but also to non-stationary sources and groups of non-stationary sources; and

That the EPA should exercise its duty under section 110 of the federal Clean Air Act to require states to submit plans consistent with attainment of the national air standards in their own state and in all areas downwind from them; and to refuse to accept plans containing emissions which significantly contribute to non-attainment of the national air standards in areas downwind, by determining what total reductions are needed to attain the standards and then apportioning the responsibility for reductions in a cost-effective equitable manner among all states that contribute significantly to non-attainment; and

That copies of this resolution be sent by the hours clerk to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the chairpersons of committees of the United States Congress having jurisdiction over the Clean Air Act, the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and each member of the New Hampshire congressional delegation.

POM-452. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Tennessee; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 132

Whereas, This General Assembly acknowledges the importance and emerging dependence of business, government and society on the Internet as a growing part of our system of communications and commerce; and

Whereas, The members of this legislative body also recognizes that the Internet as a medium of free speech contains, in addition to its many salutary features, potential dangers for society and especially our youth, in that it can provide uncontrolled and instantaneous access to obscenity, child pornography and other adult-oriented materials that are harmful to youth; and

Whereas, in 1996 Congress attempted to place restrictions on the Internet to curb these dangers by the passage of the Communications Decency Act of 1996, which was declared unconstitutional in part by the United States Supreme Court in the case of *Reno v. ACLU*; and

Whereas, The Internet is in a developing stage and software developments and other market forces may eventually allow Internet providers to provide clean Internet services or products that will protect children from the harms of the Internet and permit users to block out offensive materials and services without compromising the beneficial aspects of the Internet; and

Whereas, The technology currently exists to more readily control these problems by the use of a designated top-level domain site for web sites that contain pornographic and adult-oriented materials and services which, if employed, will expedite and facilitate the development of clean Internet materials and services by the lawful classification of web sites; and

Whereas, In October of this year, the United States Department of Commerce plans to set up a private not-for-profit corporation whose directors will create five new top-level domains that will register web sites by subject type; and

Whereas, A federal requirement that an adult-oriented domain site be created and that all adult-oriented web sites be registered to such domain would greatly aid Internet users, parents and teachers in shielding America's youth from the harms of pornography and adult-oriented materials and services that are available and proliferating on the Internet, and

Whereas, The states are somewhat limited in the regulation they can provide in this area because of the federal Commerce Clause; and

Whereas, Congress and the Executive Branch are the appropriate governmental branches to provide leadership in this area and may lawfully act to resolve quickly this issue in a responsible manner that comports with the ideals of the First Amendment; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate of the One-Hundredth General Assembly of the State of Tennessee,* That this Body hereby urges the United States Congress to establish and maintain a uniform resource locator system that con-

tains a top-level domain for all Internet web sites providing pornographic or adult-oriented materials or services so as to facilitate and assist Internet users, service providers and software developers to manage the problem of uncontrolled access to obscenity, child pornography and other adult-oriented materials and services via the Internet. Be it

*Further Resolved,* That this Body respectfully urges the President and Vice President of the United States and the Secretary of the Department of Commerce to use their offices and considerable influence to bring about the aims of this resolution by the means of executive order or department regulation, or the promotion of federal regulation, as they deem appropriate. Be it

*Further Resolved,* That the Clerk of the Senate deliver enrolled copies of this resolution to each member of the Tennessee delegation, to the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives, to the Chairmen of the United States Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee and the United States House Commerce Committee, and to the President and Vice President of the United States and the Secretary of the United States Department of Commerce.

POM-453. A resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the State of Michigan; to the Committee on Finance.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 212

Whereas, Housing credits are the primary state-federal tool for making affordable rental housing available for low-income people. Since 1987, state agencies have allocated housing credits that have helped finance nearly 900,000 apartments for low-income families; and

Whereas, The cap on the amount of housing credits was set ten years ago. Over the past decade, less and less housing is becoming available. As a result of the impact of inflation, demand for this highly successful program exceeds supply by a three-to-one ratio; and

Whereas, The Congress of the United States is considering two bills that would rectify the problem of inadequate housing credits by adjusting the cap to reflect inflationary growth. These bills, H.R. 2990 and S. 1252, will reopen doors to more low-income housing. In Michigan, it is estimated that the legislation will result in enough credit authority to create another 1,000 units of much-needed housing. Another key to the bills is a provision to index the cap for housing credits to reflect inflationary change. This is an appropriate strategy to ensure the continuing availability of low-income housing; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives,* That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to enact legislation to increase the cap on low-income housing credits; and be it further

*Resolved,* That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-454. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Michigan; to the Committee on Finance.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 171

Whereas, The Internal Revenue Code is beyond repair; and

Whereas, The Internal Revenue Code is the core of the distrust of government the American people feel; and

Whereas, the current tax code is 7 million words, compared to Lincoln's Gettysburg Address of 269 words and the Declaration of Independence, which is 1,337 words; and