

“(B) COMMUNICATIONS BARRIER REMOVAL EXPENSES.—The term ‘communications barrier removal expense’ means an expenditure for the purpose of identifying and implementing alternative technologies or strategies to remove those features of the physical, information-processing, telecommunications equipment or other technologies that limit the ability of handicap individuals to obtain, process, retrieve, or disseminate information that nonhandicapped individuals in the same or similar setting would ordinarily be expected and be able to obtain, retrieve, manipulate, or disseminate.”, and

(C) by striking “and transportation” in the heading and inserting “, transportation, and communications”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The item relating to section 190 in the table of sections for part VI of subchapter B of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “and transportation” and inserting “, transportation, and communications”.

(C) EXPANSION OF WORK OPPORTUNITY CREDIT.—Section 51(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (defining wages) is amended by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5) and by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

“(4) ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY EXPENSES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘wages’ includes expenses incurred in the acquisition and use of technology—

“(i) to facilitate the employment of any individual, including a vocational rehabilitation referral; or

“(ii) to provide a reasonable accommodation for any employee who is a qualified individual with a disability, as such terms are defined in section 101 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12111).

“(B) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall by regulation provide rules for allocating expenses described in subparagraph (A) among individuals employed by the employer.”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1998.

THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1999

INOUYE AMENDMENT NO. 2709

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. INOUYE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill, S. 2057, *supra*; as follows:

On page 76, between lines 7 and 8, insert the following:

SEC. 349. AUTHORITY TO PAY CLAIMS OF CERTAIN CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEES.

Of the amount authorized to be appropriated by section 301, \$300,000 shall be available to the Secretary of the Navy for the purpose of paying claims of former employees of Airspace Technology Corporation for unpaid back wages and benefits for work performed by the employees of that Corporation under Department of the Navy contracts N000600-89-C-0958, N000600-89-C-0959, N000600-90-C-0894, and DAAB-07-89-C-B917.

• Mr. INOUYE. Mr. President, my amendment will provide the Secretary of the Navy with authority to use up to \$300,000 in funds available for operations and maintenance in fiscal year 1999 to pay unpaid back wages and benefits to former employees by Airspace Technology Corporation. The 141 employees affected by this case, from Hawaii, California, Guam and Oklahoma,

have gone unpaid for their services due to bankruptcy of the corporation and an error in the Navy's disbursement of monies due the corporation.

I am introducing the amendment in response to constituent requests. In addition, the Navy is willing to make the payment, but has indicated that legislative authority is needed to disburse the funds. •

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the full Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet on Tuesday, June 16, 1998, at 10 a.m. in open session, to consider the nominations of Mr. Louis E. Caldera, to be Secretary of the Army and Mr. Daryl Jones, to be secretary of the Air Force.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Tuesday, June 16, 1998, at 2:30 p.m. on music lyrics.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 16, 1998, at 10 a.m., 2:30 p.m., and 4 p.m. to hold three hearings.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 16, 1998, at 10 a.m. in room 216 of the Senate Hart office building to hold a hearing on: “Mergers and Corporate Consolidation in the New Economy.”

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Water and Power of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 16, for purposes of conducting a subcommittee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 2:30 p.m. The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1398, the Irrigation Project Contract Extension Act of 1997; S. 2041, a bill to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the design, planning, and construction of the Willow Lake Natural

Treatment System Project for the reclamation and reuse of water, and for other purposes; S. 2087, the Wellton-Mohawk Title Transfer Act of 1998; S. 2140, a bill to amend the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the design, planning, and construction of the Denver Water Reuse project; S. 2142, the Pine River Project Conveyance Act; H.R. 2165, an Act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act applicable to the construction of FERC Project Number 3862 in the State of Iowa, and for other purposes; H.R. 2217, an Act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act applicable to the construction of FERC Project Number 9248 in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes; and H.R. 2841, an Act to extend the time required for the construction of a hydroelectric project.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TELEMARKETING FRAUD

• Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I would like to say a few words on the subject of telemarketing fraud. In particular, I will discuss the severity of telemarketing fraud, the House and Senate telemarketing fraud bills, and the United States Sentencing Commission's recently proposed amendments to the sentencing guidelines.

At the outset, I would like to commend Representative GOODLATTE for his sponsorship of H.R. 1847 and for his leadership in combating telemarketing fraud.

TELEMARKETING FRAUD IS A SERIOUS PROBLEM

Mr. President, I would like to take a few minutes to describe the severity of the problem of telemarketing fraud. According to Maryland Attorney General J. Joseph Curran, Jr., telemarketing fraud is probably the fastest growing illegal activity in this country. Senior citizens appear to be the most vulnerable to chicanery of this kind. Fred Schulte, an investigating editor for the Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel and an expert on telemarketing fraud, has pointed out that senior citizens are often too polite or too lonely not to listen to the voice on the other end of the line. As one telemarketing con man who has worked all over the country put it: “People are so lonely, so tired of life, they can't wait for the phone to ring. It's worth the \$300 to \$400 to them to think that they got a friend. That's what you play on.”

These criminals prey on the vulnerable of our society. In one case, Nevada authorities arrested a Las Vegas telemarketer on a charge of attempted theft. The telemarketer was accused of trying to persuade a 92-year-old Kansas man who had been fraudulently declared the winner of \$100,000 to send \$1,900 by Western Union in advance to