

(c) DISTRICT JUDGE.—Section 133(a) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to North Dakota the following:

“Northern Mariana Islands ..... 1”.

(d) BANKRUPTCY JUDGE.—Section 152(a) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2) by inserting after the item relating to North Dakota the following:

“Northern Mariana Islands ..... 0”;

and

(2) in paragraph (4) in the first sentence by inserting “and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands” after “territories”.

(e) ASSIGNMENT OF JUDGES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 13 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding after section 297 the following:

**“§ 298. Assignment to the United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands**

“In addition to the judges authorized to be designated by sections 291 and 292, the Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit may assign judges of courts of record of the Northern Mariana Islands or Guam, including a judge of the District Court of Guam who is appointed by the President or a recalled senior judge of the District Court of Guam, to serve temporarily as a judge in the United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands whenever such an assignment is necessary for the proper dispatch of the business of the court. Such designated judges shall have the powers of a magistrate judge under section 636.”.

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 13 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding after the item relating to section 297 the following:

“298. Assignment to the United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands.”.

(f) JUDICIAL CONFERENCES OF CIRCUITS.—Section 333 of title 28, United States Code, is amended in the third sentence of the first undesignated paragraph by striking “the District Court of the Virgin Islands, and the District Court of the Northern Mariana Islands” and inserting “and the District Court of the Virgin Islands”.

(g) JUDGE IN TERRITORIES AND POSSESSIONS.—Section 373 of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a) by striking “the District Court of the Northern Mariana Islands,”; and

(2) in subsection (e) by striking “the District Court of the Northern Mariana Islands.”.

(h) ANNUITIES FOR SURVIVORS OF CERTAIN JUDICIAL OFFICIALS OF THE UNITED STATES.—Section 376(a) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(B) by striking “, the District Court of the Northern Mariana Islands,”; and

(2) in paragraph (2)(B) by striking “, the District Court of the Northern Mariana Islands.”.

(i) SAVINGS PROVISIONS.—The amendments made by subsections (a) through (h) of this section shall not affect the rights of any judge who may have retired before the effective date of this section. Service as a judge of the District Court of the Northern Mariana Islands shall be included in computing under sections 371, 372, 373, and 376 of title 28, United States Code, the aggregate years of judicial service of any person who is in office as a district judge for the District of the Northern Mariana Islands on the effective date of this section. The term of office of any

such judge shall terminate upon a vacancy in the office by expiration of the term or otherwise. Upon such termination, the President shall appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a judge for the district who shall hold office during good behavior.

(j) UNITED STATES ATTORNEY.—Section 541 of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a) by inserting before the period the following: “, except that any United States attorney appointed for the Northern Mariana Islands may at the same time serve as United States attorney in another judicial district”; and

(2) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d) and inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) If the President appoints a United States attorney for the Northern Mariana Islands who at that time is serving in the same capacity in another district, the appointment shall, without prejudice to a subsequent appointment, be for the unexpired term of such United States attorney.”.

(k) UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE.—Section 561(d) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding after the second sentence the following: “If the President appoints a marshal for the Northern Mariana Islands who at that time is serving in the same capacity in another district, the appointment shall, without prejudice to a subsequent appointment, be for the unexpired term of such marshal.”.

(l) UNITED STATES MAGISTRATES.—Section 631(b)(1) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by inserting “the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,” after “Puerto Rico.”.

(m) INTERLOCUTORY DECISIONS.—Section 1292(d)(4)(A) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by striking “, the District Court of the Virgin Islands, or the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands,” and inserting “, or the District Court of the Virgin Islands.”.

(n) JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FEDERAL CIRCUIT.—Section 1295(a) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1) by striking “, the District Court of the Virgin Islands, or the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands,” and inserting “, or the District Court of the Virgin Islands,”; and

(2) in paragraph (2) by striking “, the District Court of the Virgin Islands, or the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands,” and inserting “, or the District Court of the Virgin Islands.”.

(o) DIVERSITY JURISDICTION.—Section 1332(d) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by striking “, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico” and inserting “, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands”.

(p) CIVIL COMMITMENT AND REHABILITATION OF NARCOTICS ADDICTS.—Section 2901(e) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by striking “or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico,” and inserting “the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.”.

(q) NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS JUDICIAL PROVISIONS.—The Act of November 8, 1977 (Public Law 95-157; 91 Stat. 1265) is amended—

(1) in section 4(a) (48 U.S.C. 1824(a))—

(A) by striking “(a)”;

(B) by striking all beginning with “, unless those cases are reviewable in the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands” through the period and inserting a period; and

(C) by striking subsection (b); and

(2) by striking—

(A) the first section (48 U.S.C. 1821);

(B) section 2 (48 U.S.C. 1822);

(C) section 3 (48 U.S.C. 1823);

(D) section 5 (48 U.S.C. 1825); and

(E) section 6 (48 U.S.C. 1826).

(r) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section, including such sums as may be necessary to provide appropriate space and facilities for the judicial positions created by this section.

## AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

### COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet on Friday, September 25, 1998, at 10 a.m. in closed session, to receive a briefing on the worldwide threat and status of U.S. military forces and potential operational requirements.

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

### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Friday, September 25, 1998, at 9:30 a.m. to hold two hearings.

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

### SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Friday, September 25, 1998, at 9:30 a.m. for a hearing on the topic of “Improving the Safety of Food Imports.”

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

## ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

### RECOGNITION OF DR. MADAN M. BHASIN

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Dr. Madan Bhasin for being awarded the 1999 Industrial Chemistry Award by the American Chemical Society. This honor is annually bestowed to recognize outstanding contributions to industrial chemistry that have resulted in the commercialization of an economically significant new product or process. I am always proud when West Virginians are recognized for their outstanding contributions to society. However, this is an especially nice case since Dr. Bhasin’s work also demonstrates how great ideas can improve a company’s profit margin and save resources at the same time.

Dr. Bhasin received his B.Sc. from the University of Delhi and his Ph.D. from the University of Notre Dame in 1958 and has been with Union Carbide since 1963. During his 35 year career at the Union Carbide Technical Center in