

votes on that. And we will also be voting, I presume, on the Internet tax bill tomorrow. And we cannot say right now, but I expect we will go beyond the normal hour of 9:30 or 10. We will work toward 12. And if we have to go beyond that, I would hope we would get cooperation because there is a meeting going on right now on the Internet tax matter with interested Senators from both sides of the aisle. We could complete that bill. And we should be prepared to stay as late as it takes to get that done.

I urge the Senators that are involved in this, Senator MURKOWSKI, Senator FEINSTEIN, and others, if you can do it in less than 3 hours, there would be a lot of appreciation. If you can do it in an hour, hour and a half, we would appreciate it because we have a lot of work to do.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

Mr. MURKOWSKI addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I ask unanimous consent that privileges of the floor be granted to the following members of my staff: Mr. Brian Malnak, David Dye, Joe Meuse, Jim Beirne and Mark Rey during the pending debate on S. 1092.

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

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, my understanding is that the Senator from California would like to take a few minutes to discuss a matter of great importance to her. And since we have not addressed the time, I have no objection with the assumption that I be recognized upon the conclusion of her remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from California is recognized.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. I thank the Chair and thank the distinguished Senator from Alaska for his courtesy.

THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF NASA

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, the 40th anniversary of NASA is historic. It does have an impact on my State of California. I want to take a moment and wish NASA a happy birthday. I want to salute the fact that they have captured the world's imagination with missions such as the Mars Pathfinder and the Hubbell Space Telescope. Experiments and technological feats performed on Space Shuttle missions are paving the way for a permanent presence in space.

Mr. President, as I said, I join my colleagues in recognizing the many historic achievements that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration has made in its forty years of service.

This is a particularly exciting period for our space program, not simply be-

cause NASA is celebrating its 40th Anniversary but more importantly because of the major advances being made in the exploration of our solar system.

As I said, in recent years, NASA has captured the world's imagination with missions such as the Mars Pathfinder and the Hubble Space Telescope. Experiments and technological feats performed on Space Shuttle missions are paving the way for a permanent presence in space.

One of the most telling signs of our changing world is that, NASA, whose original mission was national defense in the cold war with the Soviet Union, is now working with Russia to develop the first International Space Station.

I am very proud to say that some of NASA's most valuable research has been accomplished in my home State of California. In 1958, the Jet Propulsion Lab in Pasadena built and controlled the first United States satellite sent into orbit. In the four decades that have followed, JPL has contributed to the exploration of most of the known planets in our solar system.

The full list of JPL's role in planetary exploration is far too long to address here. But I want to mention one recent accomplishment. In December of 1996, NASA launched the Mars Pathfinder, another JPL built and controlled spacecraft.

The Pathfinder successfully placed a rover on the surface of the red planet that beamed-back pictures that were viewed around the world with awe. I actually had the unique pleasure to visit JPL last year and was actually able to send commands up to the rover and then watch and see the rover move based on the command. It was rather amazing because the computer I was on actually went to a station in the desert which then beamed it directly to Mars, and so a few minutes after I pressed the command into the computer, I actually watched the rover move on the planet Mars. It was an amazing experience.

California is also home to one of NASA's premier research laboratories, the Ames Aeronautical Laboratory. NASA Ames provides research in the fields of supercomputing, software development, and automated reasoning. As the lead center for Aviation Operations Systems, Ames manages the research effort in air traffic control and has the major responsibility for wind tunnel testing and simulation.

As California has been a major partner in NASA's success in the past, we will continue to lead as we move into the 21st century. NASA has developed a strategic plan that will build on its accomplishments with a renewed focus on scientific research and the application of a new cutting-edge technology. I am confident that California will continue to provide the backbone for this program.

I want to take a few moments to talk about what I believe is one of the most remarkable feats in the history of a space program filled with remarkable

feats. Later this month, the Space Shuttle *Discovery* will be embarking on Mission STS-95. As we know, our colleague, Senator JOHN GLENN will be making his second trip into space on this flight. While his presence will certainly be missed here in the Senate, I know my colleagues share my pride in his achievements and wish him the best on his historic return to space.

On February 20, 1962, JOHN GLENN piloted the "Friendship 7" spacecraft on the U.S.'s first manned orbital mission. During the almost 5 hour flight, Senator GLENN worked on some of the first technical and medical experiments ever performed while orbiting the Earth.

Now, more than 35 years after that first flight, Senator GLENN will soon be returning to space. It is interesting to note some of the advancements that have been made since that first ground breaking flight.

The shuttle's flight will last 9 days instead of 5 hours, it will orbit the planet at 345 miles an hour rather than 16, and it will circle the Earth 144 times rather than 3. The comparison between these two flights capsulizes the advancements that have been made in the space program and it is remarkable that one man will experience both.

Senator GLENN has done more to promote our space program than perhaps any other person. Millions of people held their collective breath as he led the country into orbit of the Earth in 1962 and the world will again watch as he leads NASA into the next century.

Mr. President, it is with great pride and respect that I pay tribute to the many achievements NASA has made in its first 40 years. I know that I stand with the rest of the nation in anticipation of what will be accomplished in the next 40.

KING COVE HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT OF 1997

The Senate continued with consideration of the bill.

AMENDMENT NO. 3676

(Purpose: Amendment in the nature of a substitute)

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I send an amendment in the nature of a substitute to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Alaska [Mr. MURKOWSKI] proposes an amendment numbered 3676.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "King Cove Health and Safety Act of 1998".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds that—

(a) King Cove, Alaska is a community in the westernmost region of the Alaska Peninsula with a population of roughly 800 full-