

As the Senator knows, I have been a pilot for over 40 years, and I understand that an "order to land" could be a dangerous and traumatic experience for a pilot. In fact, the International Standards, Rules of the Air, published by the International Civil Aviation Organization says "interceptions of civil aircraft are, in all cases, potentially hazardous."

The provision was intended to provide additional authority to U.S. law enforcement officers to curtail maritime and aviation drug smuggling near the border, which I'm sure all of us agree is a laudable goal. However, because of the potential danger and immense burden to pilots, I believe some relatively minor changes should be made to the amendment.

With that in mind, I have drafted some changes to the language that I would appreciate the House and Senate considering during their deliberations. These changes will directly address the concerns of the general aviation community without undermining the ability of law enforcement to track and stop pilots involved in illegal activity.

Mr. MCCAIN. I thank my friend, Senator INHOFE, for raising these issues. As he said, the goal of this amendment is to help U.S. law enforcement officers fight the war on drugs. The provision would make it unlawful for a pilot subject to U.S. jurisdiction to knowingly disobey an order to land issued by an authorized Federal law enforcement officer. The provision does try to address the issues you raise by requiring that the FAA write the regulations to define the means by and circumstances under which it would be appropriate to order an aircraft to land. The regulations would include guidelines for determining when an officer may issue an order to land based on observed conduct, prior information, or other circumstances.

Clearly, safety must be a primary consideration in the formulation and administration of these guidelines. Let me also assure the Senator from Oklahoma that the intent of this provision is not to allow for seizure of aircraft owned by people whose planes have been stolen, borrowed or rented and used illegally without the owner's knowledge. If the general aviation community still has concerns, we will work with you to make sure the issues involving safety and fair treatment of innocent pilots are thoroughly considered. As we discuss the Coast Guard bill with the House, we will work with you and review the language in this provision. I want to assure my friend that I will discuss all of your concerns and recommendations, and recommendations from other Senators with our colleagues in the House.

Mr. INHOFE. I thank the Senator. I appreciate his willingness to work with me on this issue which is of great important to the general aviation community.

Mr. JEFFORDS. I ask consent the Snowe amendment be agreed to, and the bill be considered read a third time.

The amendment (No. 3813) was agreed to.

The bill (S. 1259), as amended, was considered read the third time.

Mr. JEFFORDS. I ask consent the Senate proceed to Calendar No. 221, H.R. 2204.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2204) to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. JEFFORDS. I further ask consent that all after the enacting clause be stricken and the text of S. 1259, as amended, be inserted in lieu thereof. I further ask consent that the bill then be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD, and finally S. 1259 be placed back on the calendar.

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

So the bill (H.R. 2204), as amended, was considered read the third time and passed.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION REFORM ACT OF 1998

Mr. JEFFORDS. I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 575, S. 2364.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2364) to reauthorize and make reforms to programs authorized by the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965.

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

AMENDMENT NO. 3814

(Purpose: To provide a complete substitute)

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, Senator CHAFEE has a substitute amendment at the desk.

I ask for its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Vermont [Mr. JEFFORDS], for Mr. CHAFEE, proposes an amendment numbered 3814.

(The text of the amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Amendments Submitted.")

Mr. JEFFORDS. I ask unanimous consent the substitute be agreed to, the bill be considered read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The substitute amendment was agreed to.

So the bill (S. 2364), as amended, was considered read the third time and passed.

The title was amended so as to read:

A bill to reauthorize and make reforms to programs authorized by the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 and the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965.

REMOVAL OF RESTRICTION ON DISTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN REVENUES TO CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE AGUA CALIENTE BAND OF CAHUILLA INDIANS

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 658, H.R. 700.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 700) to remove the restriction on the distribution of certain revenues from the Mineral Springs parcel to certain members of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed; that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; and that any statements relating to the bill be printed at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 700) was considered read the third time and passed.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING FOREST SERVICE POLICY FOR RECREATIONAL SHOOTING AND ARCHERY RANGES

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Energy Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 123 and, further, that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 123) to express the sense of Congress regarding the policy of the Forest Service toward recreational shooting and archery ranges on Federal land.

The Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to; that the preamble be agreed to; that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; and that any statements relating to the concurrent resolution be printed at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 123) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.