

Los Angeles Unified School District got 16,000 additional students this year and expects an 11 percent enrollment growth by 2006. Because of overcrowding, they are bussing 13,000 students away from their home neighborhoods. For example, Cahuenga Elementary School has 1,500 students on 40 buses, with some children traveling on the bus two hours every day. Not only is this essentially wasted time for students and an expense of school districts, it means that it is very difficult for parents to get to their children's schools for school events and teacher conferences.

Half of LA Unified's students attend school on a multi-track, year-round schedule because of overcrowding. This means their schools cannot offer remedial summer school programs for students that need extra help.

Olive View School in Corning Elementary School District, with over 70 percent of students in portable classrooms, needs to replace these aging and inadequate facilities.

Fresno Unified School District has a backlog of older schools needing repairs. For example, Del Mar Elementary School has a defective roof. Chuck McAlexander, Administrator, wrote me: "The leakage at Del Mar is so bad that the plaster ceiling of the corridor was falling and has been temporarily shored with plywood."

San Bernardino City Unified School District, which is growing at a rate of over 1,000 students per year, has 25 schools over 30 years old, buildings needing improved classroom lighting, carpeting, electrical systems, and plumbing. Several schools need air condition so they can operate year-round to accommodate burgeoning enrollment.

Berkeley High School was built in 1901 and damaged by the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. They are still trying to raise funds to replace the building.

Polytechnic High School in Long Beach is over 100 years old and houses 4,200 students. The last repairs were done in 1933. Long Beach officials wrote:

"The heating system is in desperate need of replacement with continual breakdowns and the constant need for maintenance. The roofs have exceeded their average life expectancy by 20 years. Flooring and equipment have been damaged several times during the rainy season. There have been instances where classrooms had to be evacuated due to health and safety issues. The electrical systems that were designed for 2,000 students can no longer support the needs of over 4,000 students, especially after taking into account the need for increased technology. The antiquated plumbing system is in desperate need of repair. . . . The entire support infrastructure, water, sewer and drainage facilities are in dire need of replacement as the age of these systems have well exceeded their lifespan."

The elementary school in the Borrego Unified School District has a deteriorating water well, with silt and inadequate pressure. The middle-high school has an intercom and fire alarm

system inoperable because of a collapsed underground cable.

In San Diego, 49 schools need roof repairs or replacement. Ninety-one elementary schools need new fire alarms and security systems. Mead Elementary School, which is 45 years old, has clogged and rusted plumbing beyond repair, with water pressure so weak that it amounts to a drip at times.

Ethel Phillips Elementary School, age 48, in the Sacramento City Unified School District, has dry rot in the classrooms because of water damaged and needs foundation repairs and new painting, to preserve the building.

Loleta Union School District, which is in an area of seismic activity, needs an overhaul of the wiring to support modern technology.

San Pasqual Union School District's only water well is contaminated and the 30-year-old roof needs replacement.

At the San Miguel Elementary School in San Francisco, the windows are rotting and the roof is leaking so badly that they must set out buckets every time it rains.

And on and on.

School overcrowding places a heavy burden on teachers and students. Studies show that the test scores of students in schools in poor condition can fall as much as 11 percentage points behind scores of students in good buildings. Other studies show improvements of up to 20 percent in test scores when students move to a new facility.

The point is that improving facilities improves teaching and learning. I hope that this bill will offer some help and most importantly provide new learning opportunities for our students. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a summary of this be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the summary was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows.

SUMMARY OF FEINSTEIN-SANCHEZ SCHOOL
CONSTRUCTION BILL
TAX CREDITS

Provides \$1.4 billion in tax credits in FY 2000 and \$1.4 billion in tax credits in FY 2001 to any bondholder for public elementary and secondary school construction and rehabilitation bonds. Similar to the Qualified Zone Academy Bonds created by the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997, bondholders would receive a tax credit, rather than interest.

ELIGIBLE SCHOOLS

To qualify to use the bonds, students in the schools must be subject to state academic achievement standards and tests;

schools must have a program to alleviate overcrowding; the school district must have an average elementary student-teacher ratio of 28 to one at the time of issuance of the bonds; and meet one of the following three criteria:

1. The school to be repaired is over 30 years old or the bonds are used to provide advanced or improved telecommunications facilities.

2. The student growth rate in the school district will be at least 10 percent over the next 5 years.

3. School construction or rehabilitation is needed to meet natural disaster requirements.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 14

At the request of Mr. COVERDELL, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. GRAMS) were added as cosponsors of S. 14, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the use of education individual retirement accounts, and for other purposes.

S. 25

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the names of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) were added as cosponsors of S. 25, a bill to provide Coastal Impact Assistance to State and local governments, to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act Amendments of 1978, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act, and the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (commonly referred to as the Pittman-Robertson Act) to establish a fund to meet the outdoor conservation and recreation needs of the American people, and for other purposes.

S. 86

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. THOMPSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 86, a bill to amend the Social Security Act to establish a Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program in the Social Security Administration to provide beneficiaries with disabilities meaningful opportunities to work, to extend Medicare coverage for such beneficiaries, and to make additional miscellaneous amendments relating to Social Security.

S. 92

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 92, a bill to provide for biennial budget process and a biennial appropriations process and to enhance oversight and the performance of the Federal Government.

S. 98

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 98, a bill to authorize appropriations for the Surface Transportation Board for fiscal years 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002, and for other purposes.

S. 135

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 135, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the deduction for the health insurance costs of self-employed individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 223

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Hawaii

(Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 223, a bill to help communities modernize public school facilities, and for other purposes.

S. 242

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 242, a bill to amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act to require the labeling of imported meat and meat food products.

S. 280

At the request of Mr. FITZGERALD, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 280, a bill to provide for education flexibility partnerships.

S. 296

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) were added as cosponsors of S. 296, a bill to provide for continuation of the Federal research investment in a fiscally sustainable way, and for other purposes.

S. 331

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. FRIST) were added as cosponsors of S. 331, a bill to amend the Social Security Act to expand the availability of health care coverage for working individuals with disabilities, to establish a Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program in the Social Security Administration to provide such individuals with meaningful opportunities to work, and for other purposes.

S. 335

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 335, a bill to amend chapter 30 of title 39, United States Code, to provide for the nonmailability of certain deceptive matter relating to games of chance, administrative procedures, orders, and civil penalties relating to such matter, and for other purposes.

S. 368

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. MOYNIHAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 368, a bill to authorize the minting and issuance of a commemorative coin in honor of the founding of Biloxi, Mississippi.

S. 389

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mr. GORTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 389, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve and transfer the jurisdiction over the troops-to-teachers program, and for other purposes.

S. 395

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the names of the Senator from Ala-

bama (Mr. SHELBY) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) were added as cosponsors of S. 395, a bill to ensure that the volume of steel imports does not exceed the average monthly volume of such imports during the 36-month period preceeding July 1997.

S. 398

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 398, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of Native American history and culture.

S. 445

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. 445, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a demonstration project to provide the Department of Veterans Affairs with medicare reimbursement for medicare healthcare services provided to certain medicare-eligible veterans.

S. 459

At the request of Mr. BREAUX, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 459, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the State ceiling on private activity bonds.

S. 512

At the request of Mr. GORTON, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 512, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the expansion, intensification, and coordination of the activities of the Department of Health and Human Services with respect to research on autism.

S. 528

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) were added as cosponsors of S. 528, a bill to provide for a private right of action in the case of injury from the importation of certain dumped and subsidized merchandise.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 5

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS) were added as cosponsors of Senate Concurrent Resolution 5, a concurrent resolution expressing congressional opposition to the unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state and urging the President to assert clearly United States opposition to such a unilateral declaration of statehood.

SENATE RESOLUTION 19

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE), the Senator from Massachu-

setts (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 19, a resolution to express the sense of the Senate that the Federal investment in biomedical research should be increased by \$2,000,000,000 in fiscal year 2000.

SENATE RESOLUTION 47

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 47, a resolution designating the week of March 21 through March 27, 1999, as "National Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week."

SENATE RESOLUTION 53

At the request of Mr. HUTCHINSON, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 53, a resolution to designate March 24, 1999, as "National School Violence Victims' Memorial Day."

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 14—CONGRATULATING THE STATE OF QATAR AND ITS CITIZENS FOR THEIR COMMITMENT TO DEMOCRATIC IDEALS AND WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. TORRICELLI, and Mr. GRAMS) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 14

Whereas His Highness, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, the Emir of Qatar, issued a decree creating a central municipal council, the first of its kind in Qatar;

Whereas on March 8, 1999, the people of Qatar will participate in direct elections for a central municipal council;

Whereas the central municipal council has been structured to have members from 29 election districts serving 4-year terms;

Whereas Qatari women have been granted the right to participate in this historic first municipal election, both as candidates and voters;

Whereas this election demonstrates the strength and diversity of Qatar's commitment to democratic expression;

Whereas the United States highly values democracy and women's rights;

Whereas March 8 is recognized as International Women's Day, and is an occasion to assess the progress of the advancement of women and girls throughout the world; and

Whereas this historic event of democratic elections and women's suffrage in Qatar should be honored: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Congress—

(1) commends His Highness, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, the Emir of Qatar, for his leadership and commitment to suffrage and the principles of democracy;

(2) congratulates the citizens of Qatar as they celebrate the historic election for a central municipal council; and

(3) reaffirms that the United States is strongly committed to encouraging the suffrage of women, democratic ideals, and