

(1) the Social Security Amendments of 1977 (Public Law 95-216) substantially altered the way Social Security benefits are computed;

(2) those amendments resulted in disparate benefits depending upon the year in which a worker becomes eligible for benefits; and

(3) those individuals born between the years 1917 and 1926, and who are commonly referred to as "notch babies" receive benefits that are lower than those retirees who were born before or after those years.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the Congress should reevaluate the benefits of workers who attain age 65 after 1981 and before 1992.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on Thursday, April 26, 1999, he had presented to the President of the United States, the following enrolled bill:

S. 531. An act to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Rosa Parks in recognition of her contribution to the Nation.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-2682. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Prevailing Rate Systems; Environmental Differential Pay for Working at High Altitudes" (RIN3206-A136) received on April 6, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2683. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Employees Health Benefits Program: Contributions and Withholdings" (RIN3206-A133) received on April 6, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2684. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on drug and alcohol abuse prevention, treatment and rehabilitation programs and services for Federal civilian employees for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2685. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation relative to the Federal Executive Institute Annex; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2686. A communication from the Chairman, U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for the fiscal year 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2687. A communication from the Chairman, Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for fiscal year 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2688. A communication from the Director, Employment Service, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Temporary and Term Employment" (RIN3206-A145) received on April 6, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2689. A communication from the Director, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of

a rule relative to retirement, health, and life insurance for certain employees of the District of Columbia (RIN3206-A155) received on April 5, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2690. A communication from the Director, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Prevailing Rate Systems; Abolishment of the Orlando, Florida, Appropriated Fund Wage Area" (RIN3206-A104) received on April 12, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2691. A communication from the Director, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Prevailing Rate Systems; Redefinition of the Orlando, Florida, Appropriated Fund Wage Area" (RIN3206-A113) received on April 12, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2692. A communication from the Director, Employment Service-Workforce Restructuring Office, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Reduction in Force Service Credit; Retention Records" (RIN3206-A109) received on April 6, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2693. A communication from the Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for fiscal year 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2694. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 13-33, entitled "Potomac River Bridges Towing Compact Temporary Act of 1999" adopted by the Council on February 2, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2695. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 13-40, entitled "Children's Defense Fund Equitable Real Property Tax Relief and Children's Health Insurance Program Authorization Emergency Act of 1998 Fiscal Impact Temporary Amendment Act of 1999" adopted by the Council on March 2, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2696. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-634 entitled "District of Columbia Department of Health Functions Clarification Temporary Act of 1999" adopted by the Council on February 2, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2697. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 13-32 entitled "Omnibus Regulatory Reform Temporary Amendment Act of 1999" adopted by the Council on February 2, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2698. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 13-34 entitled "Solid Waste Facility Permit Temporary Amendment Act of 1999" adopted by the Council on February 2, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2699. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 13-48 entitled "Homestead Housing Preservation Amendment Act of 1999" adopted by the Council on March 2, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2700. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 13-46 entitled "Tax Conformity Temporary Act of 1999" adopted by the Council on March 2, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2701. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 13-53 entitled "Community Development Program Amendment Act of 1999" adopted by the Council on March 2, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2702. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-624 entitled "Solid Waste Facility Permit Amendment Act of 1998" adopted by the Council on January 5, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2703. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 13-45 entitled "Motor Vehicle Excessive Idling Fine Increase Temporary Amendment Act of 1999" adopted by the Council on March 2, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2704. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 13-49 entitled "Approval of the Application of Control of District Cablevision Limited Partnership from Tele-Communications, Inc. to AT&T Corporation Temporary Act of 1999" adopted by the Council on March 2, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2705. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 13-44 entitled "Lease Approval Technical Amendment Act of 1999" adopted by the Council on March 2, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. INOUE:

S. 874. A bill to repeal the reduction in the deductible portion of expenses for business meals and entertainment; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ALLARD (for himself, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. ENZI, Mr. MACK, and Mr. GRAMS):

S. 875. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand S corporation eligibility for banks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HOLLINGS:

S. 876. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require that the broadcast of violent video programming be limited to hours when children are not reasonably likely to comprise a substantial portion of the audience; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BROWBACK (for himself, Mr. NICKLES, and Mr. CRAIG):

S. 877. A bill to encourage the provision of advanced service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. TORRICELLI (for himself, Mr. MACK, Mr. GREGG, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. KERRY, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. REED, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 878. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to permit grants for the national estuary program to be used for the development and implementation of a comprehensive conservation and management plan, to reauthorize appropriations to carry out the program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CONRAD (for himself, Mr. MACK, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. ROBB, and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 879. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a shorter recovery period for the depreciation of certain leasehold improvements; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. INHOFE:

S. 880. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to remove flammable fuels from the list of substances with respect to which reporting and other activities are required under the risk management plan program; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mr. HELMS, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. ROBB, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. HATCH, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. MACK, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. DODD):

S. Res. 84. A resolution to designate the month of May, 1999, as "National Alpha 1 Awareness Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TORRICELLI (for himself, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. REED, Mr. HELMS, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. COVERDELL, and Mr. KERRY):

S. Res. 85. A resolution supporting the efforts of the people of Indonesia in achieving a transition to genuine democracy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. INOUE:

S. 874. A bill to repeal the reduction in the deductible portion of expenses for business meals and entertainment; to the Committee on Finance.

REPEAL THE REDUCTION IN BUSINESS MEALS AND ENTERTAINMENT TAX DEDUCTION

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I rise to introduce legislation to repeal the current fifty percent tax deduction for business meals and entertainment expenses, and to gradually restore the tax deduction to 80 percent over a five-year period. Restoration of this deduction is essential to the livelihood of the food service, travel, tourism, and entertainment industries throughout the United States. These industries are being economically harmed as a result of the 50 percent tax deduction.

The deduction for business meals and entertainment was reduced from 80 percent to 50 percent under the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, and went into effect on January 1, 1994. Many companies, small and large, have changed their policies and guidelines on travel and entertainment expenses as a result of this reduction. Additionally, businesses have been forced to curtail company reimbursement policies because of the reduction in business meals and entertainment expenses. In some cases, businesses have even eliminated their expense accounts. Consequently, restaurants

which previously relied heavily on business lunches and dinners are being adversely affected by the reduction in business meals. For example:

Currently, there are 23.3 million business meal spenders in the U.S. down from 25.3 million in 1989.

The total economic impact on small businesses of restoring the business meal deductibility from 50 percent to 80 percent ranges from \$8 to \$690 million, depending on the state.

In Hawaii, the restaurant industry alone employs 47,400 people and generates \$2 billion into the state's economy. An increase in the business meal tax deduction from 50 percent to 80 percent would result in a 13 percent increase in business meal spending in the State of Hawaii.

One issue of great importance to business travelers is the deductibility of expenses, particularly the business meal expense.

Restaurateurs have reported lower business meal sales forcing some restaurants to close during luncheon hours and lay off employees which in turn adversely affects those employed in agriculture, food processing, and any businesses related to the restaurant sector.

With sales equaling more than 4 percent of the U.S. gross domestic product, and more than 10.2 million persons employed in the industry, the restaurant business is obviously very important to the economic foundation of America. The 50 percent deduction has adversely affected the restaurant and entertainment industry and resulted in detrimental factors for the U.S. economy as a whole. I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this important legislation.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill text be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 874

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REPEAL OF REDUCTION IN BUSINESS MEALS AND ENTERTAINMENT TAX DEDUCTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 274(n)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to only 50 percent of meal and entertainment expenses allowed as deduction) is amended by striking "50 percent" and inserting "the applicable percentage".

(b) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE.—Section 274(n) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

"(3) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term 'applicable percentage' means the percentage determined under the following table:

"For taxable years beginning— in calendar year—	The applicable percentage is—
1999	56
2000	62
2001	68
2002	74
2003 or thereafter	80."

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading for section 274(n) of the Internal Revenue

Code of 1986 is amended by striking "ONLY 50 PERCENT" and inserting "PORTION".

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

By Mr. ALLARD (for himself, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. ENZI, Mr. MACK, and Mr. GRAMS):

S. 875. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand S corporation eligibility for banks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

SMALL BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TAX RELIEF ACT OF 1999

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, today I am pleased to introduce legislation that will expand and improve Subchapter S of the Internal Revenue Code. I am joined in this effort by Senators GRAMM, BENNETT, SHELBY, ABRAHAM, HAGEL, ENZI, MACK, and GRAMS.

The Subchapter S provisions of the Internal Revenue Code reflect the desire of Congress to eliminate the double tax burden on small business corporations. Pursuant to that desire, Subchapter S has been liberalized a number of times, most recently in 1996. This legislation contains several provisions that will make the Subchapter S election more widely available to small businesses in all sectors. It also contains several provisions of particular benefit to community banks that may be contemplating a conversion to Subchapter S. Financial institutions were first made eligible for the Subchapter S election in 1996. This legislation builds on and clarifies the Subchapter S provisions applicable to financial institutions.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill and the attached explanation of the provisions of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 875

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Small Business and Financial Institutions Tax Relief Act of 1999".

SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF S CORPORATION ELIGIBLE SHAREHOLDERS TO INCLUDE IRAS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1361(c)(2)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to certain trusts permitted as shareholders) is amended by inserting after clause (v) the following:

"(vi) A trust which constitutes an individual retirement account under section 408(a), including one designated as a Roth IRA under section 408A."

(b) TREATMENT AS SHAREHOLDER.—Section 1361(c)(2)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to treatment as shareholders) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(vi) In the case of a trust described in clause (vi) of subparagraph (A), the individual for whose benefit the trust was created shall be treated as a shareholder."