

By Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 919. A bill to amend the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Act of 1994 to expand the boundaries of the Corridor; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. HOLLINGS, and Mr. INOUE):

S. 920. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Federal Maritime Commission for fiscal years 2000 and 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. LOTT):

S. 921. A bill to facilitate and promote electronic commerce in securities transactions involving broker-dealers, transfer agents and investment advisers; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself and Mr. HOLLINGS):

S. 922. A bill to prohibit the use of the "Made in the USA" label on products of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and to deny such products duty-free and quota-free treatment; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SMITH of Oregon (for himself, Mr. THOMAS, and Mr. BROWNBACK):

S. 923. A bill to promote full equality at the United Nations for Israel; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. NICKLES (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. DOMENICI, and Mrs. HUTCHISON):

S. 924. A bill entitled the "Federal Royalty Certainty Act"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. DOMENICI:

S. 925. A bill to require the Secretary of the military department concerned to reimburse a member of the Armed Forces for expenses of travel in connection with leave cancelled to meet an exigency in connection with United States participation in Operation Allied Force; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. KERREY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mrs. LINCOLN, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 926. A bill to provide the people of Cuba with access to food and medicines from the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. HAGEL):

S. 927. A bill to authorize the President to delay, suspend, or terminate economic sanctions if it is in the important national interest of the United States to do so; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SANTORUM (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. LOTT, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. BOND, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. BURNS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. ENZI, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. FRIST, Mr. GORTON, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HELMS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. INHOPE, Mr. KYL, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. MACK, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 928. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to ban partial-birth abortions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ROBB (for himself, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. KERREY, Mr. HAGEL,

Mr. REED, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. ABRAHAM, and Mr. HUTCHINSON):

S. 929. A bill to provide for the establishment of a National Military Museum, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. BRYAN):

S. 930. A bill to provide for the sale of certain public land in the Ivanpah Valley, Nevada, to the Clark County, Nevada, Department of Aviation; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. CONRAD):

S.J. Res. 23. A joint resolution expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the need for a Surgeon General's report on media and violence; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

**SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS**

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

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. REID, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BOND, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mrs. HUTCHISON):

S. Res. 90. A resolution designating the 30th day of April 2000 as "Dia de los Ninos: Celebrating Young Americans", and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

**STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS**

By Mr. CONRAD (for himself, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. INOUE, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 909. A bill to provide for the review and classification of physician assistant positions in the Federal Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

**PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT EQUITY ACT**

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, today I am pleased to be joined by Senators NICKLES, ROCKEFELLER, INOUE, and HARKIN to introduce legislation that directs the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to develop a classification standard appropriate to the occupation of physician assistant.

Physician assistants are a part of a growing field of health care professionals that make quality health care available and affordable in underserved areas throughout our country. Because the physician assistant profession was very young when OPM first developed employment criteria in 1970, the agency adapted the nursing classification system for physician assistants. Today, this is no longer appropriate. Physician assistants have different education and training requirements than nurses and they are licensed and evaluated according to different criteria.

The inaccurate classification of physician assistants had led to recruitment and retention problems of physician assistants in federal agencies, usually caused by low starting salaries and low salary caps. Because it is recognized that physician assistants provide

cost-effective health care, this is an important problem to resolve.

This legislation mandates that OPM review this classification in consultation with physician assistants and the organizations that represent physician assistants. The bill specifically states that OPM should consider the educational and practice qualifications of the position as well as the treatment of physician assistants in the private sector in this review.

Mr. President, I believe that this legislation will make an important correction that will help federal agencies make better use of these providers of cost-effective, high quality health care.

By Mr. CRAIG:

S. 910. A bill to streamline, modernize, and enhance the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture relating to plant protection and quarantine, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

**NOXIOUS WEED COORDINATION AND PLANT PROTECTION ACT**

● Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the "Noxious Weed Coordination and Plant Protection Act of 1999"—a comprehensive bill which will focus the effort of federal agencies in fighting noxious weeds and other plant pests.

In January I introduced the Plant Protection Act, S. 321. This bill generated a lot of discussion and several suggestions for improvement, much of which is reflected in the bill I am introducing today. The Noxious Weed Coordination and Plant Protection Act of 1999 retains most of S. 321 but includes a section on federal coordination of noxious weed removal.

Mr. President, I ask that the bill and a section-by-section analysis be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows:

S. 910

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

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Noxious Weed Coordination and Plant Protection Act".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Findings.
- Sec. 3. Definitions.

**TITLE I—PLANT PROTECTION**

- Sec. 101. Regulation of movement of plant pests.
- Sec. 102. Regulation of movement of plants, plant products, biological control organisms, noxious weeds, articles, and means of conveyance.
- Sec. 103. Notification and holding requirements on arrival.
- Sec. 104. General remedial measures for new plant pests and noxious weeds.
- Sec. 105. Extraordinary emergencies.
- Sec. 106. Recovery of compensation for unauthorized activities.
- Sec. 107. Control of grasshoppers and Mormon Crickets.
- Sec. 108. Certification for exports.