

in providing each of the services, including interest on items credited prior to actual collection, overhead, and an allocation of imputed costs, which takes into account the taxes that would have been paid and the return on capital that would have been provided had the services been provided by a private business firm.

"(B) The pricing principles referred to in subparagraph (A) shall be carried out with due regard to competitive factors and the provision of an adequate level of such services nationwide.

"(C)(i) Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Financial Services Modernization Act of 1999, and not less frequently than once every 3 years thereafter, the Board shall conduct a comprehensive review of the methodology used to calculate the private sector adjustment factor pursuant to section 11A(c)(3), including a public notice and comment period.

"(ii) In conducting the review under clause (i), the Board shall publish in the Federal Register all elements of the methodology in use by the Board in the calculation of the private sector adjustment factor pursuant to section 11A(c)(3) provide notice and solicit public comment on the methodology, requesting commentators to identify areas of the methodology that are outdated, inappropriate, unnecessary, or that contribute to an inaccurate result in the calculation of the private sector adjustment factor.

"(iii) The Board shall—

"(I) publish in the Federal Register a summary of the comments received under this subparagraph, identifying significant issues raised; and

"(II) provide comment on such issues and make changes to the methodology to the extent that the Board considers to be appropriate.

"(iv) Not later than 30 days after the completion of each review under clause (i), the Board shall submit to Congress a report which shall include—

"(I) a summary of any significant issues raised by public comments relieved by the Board under this subparagraph and the relative merits of such issues; and

"(II) an analysis of whether the Board is able to address the concerns raised, or whether such concerns should be addressed by legislation."

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE TREATMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS BY THE TALIBAN IN AFGHANISTAN

BOXER AMENDMENT NO. 305

Mr. GRAMM (for Mrs. BOXER) proposed an amendment to the resolution (S. Res. 68) expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the treatment of women and girls by the Taliban in Afghanistan; as follows:

On page 3, line 4, strike "the" and insert "any".

BOXER AMENDMENT NO. 306

Mr. GRAMM (for Mrs. BOXER) proposed an amendment to the preamble to the resolution, S. Res. 68, supra; as follows:

Amend the preamble to read as follows:

Whereas millions of women and girls living under Taliban rule Afghanistan are denied their basic human rights;

Whereas according to the Department of State and international human rights orga-

nizations, the Taliban continues to commit widespread and well-documented human rights abuses, in gross violation of internationally accepted norms;

Whereas, according to the United States Department of State Country Report on Human Rights Practices (hereafter "1998 State Department Human Rights Report"), violence against women in Afghanistan occurs frequently, including beatings, rapes, forced marriages, disappearances, kidnappings, and killings;

Whereas women and girls under Taliban rule are generally barred from working, going to school, leaving their homes without an immediate male family member as chaperone, and visiting doctors, hospitals or clinics;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, gender restrictions by the Taliban continue to interfere with the delivery of humanitarian assistance to women and girls in Afghanistan;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, under Taliban rule women are forced to don a head-toe garment known as a burqa, which has only a mesh screen for vision, and many women found in public not wearing a burqa, or wearing a burqa that does not properly cover the ankles, are beaten by Taliban militiamen;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, some poor women under Taliban rule cannot afford the cost of a burqa and thus are forced to remain at home or risk beatings if they go outside the home without one;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, the lack of a burqa has resulted in the inability of some women under Taliban rule to get necessary medical care because they cannot leave home;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, women under Taliban rule reportedly have been beaten if their shoe heels click when they walk;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, under Taliban rule women in homes must not be visible from the street, and houses with female occupants must have their windows painted over;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, under Taliban rule women are not allowed to drive, and taxi drivers reportedly have been beaten if they take unescorted women as passengers;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, women under Taliban rule are forbidden to enter mosques or other places of worship; and

Whereas women and girls of all ages under Taliban rule have suffered needlessly and even died from curable illness because they have been turned away from health care facilities because of their gender: Now, therefore, be it

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, be allowed to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday May 5, 1999. The purpose of this meeting will be: (1) To consider the nomination of Thomas J. Erickson to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trad-

ing Commission; and (2) to discuss agricultural trade options.

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

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet on Tuesday, May 4, 1999, at 10:00 a.m. in open session, to consider the nomination of Ms. Carolyn L. Huntoon to be Assistant Secretary of Energy for Environmental Management.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be allowed to meet on Wednesday, May 5, 1999, at 9:30 a.m. on pending committee business.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 5, for purposes of conducting a full committee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of this oversight hearing is to receive testimony on damage to the national security from Chinese espionage at DOE nuclear weapons laboratories.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the full Committee on Environment and Public Works be granted permission to conduct a hearing to receive testimony from Timothy Fields, Jr., nominated by the President to be Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response of the Environmental Protection Agency Wednesday, May 5, 9:00 a.m., Hearing Room (SD-406).

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, The finance Committee requests unanimous consent to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, May 5, 1999 beginning at 10:00 a.m. in room 215 Dirksen.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 5, 1999 at 10:00 a.m. to hold a hearing.

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. LOTT., Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Governmental Affairs Committee be permitted to meet on Wednesday, May 5,