

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## SUPPORT THE CLINICAL RESEARCH ENHANCEMENT ACT

**HON. JAMES C. GREENWOOD**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 1999

Mr. GREENWOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce the Clinical Research Enhancement Act, which has been endorsed by more than 80 associations and universities. The bill begins to address the disincentives that are steering young physicians away from research careers. The legislation improves our commitment to clinical research by: improving the peer review process for clinical research grants; establishing new training awards that focus on clinical investigators; establishing support for structured academic training in clinical investigation; and expanding the existing intramural loan repayment program so it will be available to clinical investigators in academic medical centers around the country.

Clinical research at NIH has dropped from 3% of NIH's budget to 1% over the past 30 years. Combine this decrease in applied research with the diminished capacity of some managed care organizations to subsidize clinical investigation, and it is easy to see why translating laboratory breakthroughs to the bedside are in jeopardy. Because clinical research is the pathway that links basic science to human health, we may endanger the hard fought increases in the NIH budget by failing to arm our scientists with practical applications.

Twenty years ago, Dr. James Wyngaarden, a former director of the NIH, brought the scientific community's attention to the issue when he described the clinical investigator as an endangered species. In 1994, the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences reiterated this problem and offered solutions for the declining numbers of American physicians pursuing research careers. And again in January, significant data have come to light that documents this dramatic drop in physician scientists.

At the National Institutes of Health, the number of MD postdoctoral trainees has dropped by 51% between 1992 and 1996. In addition, the NIH has seen a 1/3 drop in the number of first time MD applications for grant support in just three short years between 1994 and 1997. This historical and continuing decrease in the number of physicians pursuing careers in applied biomedical research must be reversed.

I am including in the RECORD letters of support from the American Federation for Medical Research and the American Medical Association. In addition, I have included a list of supporters. My hope is this important legislation is considered and passed by this Congress. I encourage my colleagues to support it.

AMERICAN FEDERATION FOR  
MEDICAL RESEARCH,

Washington, DC, May 12, 1999.

Hon. JAMES GREENWOOD,  
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN GREENWOOD: I write to express the strong support of the American

Federation for Medical Research for the legislation you will introduce to enhance clinical research programs at the National Institutes of Health. The AFMR is a national organization of 5,000 physical scientists engaged in basic, clinical and health services research. Most of our members receive NIH support for their basic research but are finding it increasingly difficult to obtain funding for translational or clinical research studies through which basic science discoveries are translated to the care of patients.

In the past, academic medical centers provided institutional support for this research through revenues generated by patient care activities. However, as the health care marketplace has become increasingly competitive, academic centers have all but eliminated internal subsidies for clinical research or the training of clinical investigators. In fact, the Association of American Medical Colleges has estimated that these institutions have lost approximately \$800 million in annual "purchasing power" for research and research training within their institutions.

This loss of support for clinical investigation has had a large effect on young investigators and medical students considering a research career. The number of medical school graduates indicating an interest in a research career has fallen steadily in the 1990's according to the American Medical Association. The number of first time physician applicants to the NIH for research support has fallen by thirty percent between 1994 and 1997. The Clinical Research Enhancement Act would seem to be an extremely modest investment in a much-needed program to reinvigorate our nation's clinical research capabilities.

There is a strong consensus among the 80 scientific and consumer organizations that have endorsed this legislation that Congress must stop the deterioration of the U.S. clinical research capacity. In addition, we must assure that the American people and the American economy benefit from the translation of basic science breakthroughs to improved clinical care and new medical products. The American Federation for Medical Research is pleased to have the opportunity to express its strong support for this important piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM LOWE,  
President.

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION,  
Chicago, IL, May 3, 1999.

Hon. JAMES GREENWOOD,  
Rayburn House Office Building, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN GREENWOOD: The American Medical Association (AMA) is pleased to support the Clinical Research Enhancement Act of 1999.

At a time when we are on the verge of achieving exciting breakthroughs involving many fatal and debilitating diseases, it is important that research programs and accompanying funding keep pace to achieve this goal. A 1997 Institute of Medicine report emphasized the immediate need for additional clinical research support noting an insufficient number of persons involved in clinical research; lack of infrastructure to adequately select and support the best clinical research; and declining overall fiscal investment in biomedical research.

Your legislation would lend strong support by strengthening and improving the peer review process for clinical research grants; establishing innovative awards that would be reviewed by scientists with extensive backgrounds in clinical research; strengthening the general clinical research centers; providing support for scientists seeking advanced degrees in clinical investigation; and expanding the existing loan repayment program available to clinical scientists.

The AMA has been a solid advocate of strong clinical research programs. We ardent believe that fundamental and applied clinical research is essential to constructing the knowledge base for the practice of modern medicine and is the essential link connecting advances in basic science knowledge to advances in the diagnosis and treatment of human disease.

We commend you for your leadership on this issue and look forward to working with you to achieve passage of this much needed legislation.

Respectfully,

E. RATCLIFFE ANDERSON, JR.,  
Executive Vice President.

## SUPPORTERS FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH ENHANCEMENT ACT

Alliance for Aging Research; Alzheimer's Association; Ambulatory Pediatric Association; American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry; American Academy of Dermatology; American Academy of Neurology; American Academy of Optometry; American Academy of Ophthalmology; American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery; American Academy of Pediatrics; American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation; American Association for Cancer Research; American Association for the Surgery of Trauma; American Association of Anatomists; American Association of Colleges of Nursing; American Association of Neurological Surgeons; American Cancer Society; American Celiac Society—Dietary Support Coalition; American College of Chest Physicians; American College of Clinical Pharmacology; and

American College of Medical Genetics; American College of Neuropsychopharmacology; American College of Preventive Medicine; American Diabetes Association; American Federation for Medical Research; American Gastroenterological Association; American Geriatrics Society; American Heart Association; American Kidney Fund; American Liver Foundation; American Lung Association; American Medical Association; American Neurological Association; American Optometric Association; American Pediatric Society; American Psychiatric Association; American Skin Association; American Society for Bone and Mineral Research; American Society for Clinical Nutrition; American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics; American Society for Reproductive Medicine; and

American Society of Addiction Medicine; American Society of Adults with Pseudo-Obstruction, Inc.; American Society of Clinical Nutrition; American Society of Hematology; American Society of Nephrology; American Thoracic Society; American Urological Association; Americans for Medical Progress; Arthritis Foundation; Association for Medical

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

School Pharmacology; Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology; Association of Academic Health Centers; Association of Academic Physiatrists; Association of American Cancer Institutes; Association of American Medical Colleges; Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges; Association of Behavioral Sciences and Medical Education; Association of Departments of Family Medicine; Association of Medical and Graduate Departments of Biochemistry; Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairmen; Association of Pathology Chairs; Association of Professors of Dermatology; Association of Professors of Medicine; and

Association of Program Directors in Internal Medicine; Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry; Association of Schools of Public Health; Association of Subspecialty Professors; Association of Teachers of Preventive Medicine; Association of University Radiologists; American Urogynecologic Society; Center for Ulcer Research and Education Foundation; Citizens for Public Action; Cooley's Anemia Foundation; Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America; Cystic Fibrosis Foundation; Dean Thiel Foundation; Digestive Disease National Coalition; East Carolina University School of Medicine; Ehlers-Danlos National Foundation; Emory University School of Medicine; The Endocrine Society; Epilepsy Foundation of America; Foundation for Ichthyosis and Related Skin Types; Gay Men's Health Crisis; General Clinical Research Center Program Directors' Association; Gluten Intolerance Group; and

Hemochromatosis Research Foundation; Hepatitis Foundation International; Inova Institute of Research and Education; Institute for Asthma and Allergy; International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders; Jeffrey Modell Foundation; Joint Council of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology; Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International; Lawson Wilkins Pediatric Endocrine Society; Lupus Foundation of America, Inc.; Medical Dermatology Society; Mount Sinai Medical Center; National Caucus of Basic Biomedical Science Chairs; National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare; National Health Council; National Hemophilia Foundation; National Marfan Foundation; National Multiple Sclerosis Society; National Organization for Rare Disorders; National Osteoporosis Foundation; National Perinatal Association; National Tuberculous Sclerosis Association; National Vitiligo Foundation, Inc.; National Vulvodynia Association; and

North American Society of Pacing and Electrophysiology; Oley Foundation for Home Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition; The Orton Dyslexia Society; Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation; Parkinson's Action Network; PXE International; RESOLVE; Schepens Eye Research Institute; Scleroderma Research Foundation; Society for Academic Emergency Medicine; Society for the Advancement of Women's Health Research; Society for Inherited Metabolic Disorders; Society for Investigative Dermatology; Society for Pediatric Research; Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates, Inc.; Society of Gynecologic Oncologists; Society of Medical College Directors of Continuing Medical Education; Society of University Urologists; St. Jude Children's Research Hospital; Tourette Syndrome Association, Inc.; United Ostomy Association; United Scleroderma Foundation; University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry; Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society; and Yale University School of Medicine.

TRIBUTE TO THE SENIORS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA IN HONOR OF OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 17, 1999*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating National Older Americans Month in the District of Columbia. District of Columbia seniors will come to the National Arboretum in the District of Columbia on Tuesday, May 18th for an afternoon of information about the programs Congress provides for senior citizens, for entertainment, and for lunch. Our senior citizens have earned this information and celebration I have for them each year at a place of interest in the District. We have celebrated National Older Americans Month at the National Cathedral, the FDR Memorial, the National Zoo, museums, and similarly interesting settings, some of which our seniors rarely get to visit.

The growing number of senior citizens in the District, one third of whom are over 80, have contributed to the best days of the nation's capital. As young people, they helped build this city to its strongest point, and as seniors today, they are helping to bring revitalization to the District.

Senior citizens in my District want the 106th Congress to know that the Social Security and Medicare programs have done more to make their senior years secure and healthy than any programs ever enacted by the Congress. Today, the Social Security program alone has taken one out of every three elderly Americans out of poverty and has rescued 60% of elderly women from poverty. In 1997, almost half of all elderly Americans would have had incomes below the poverty line without their Social Security benefits.

Today's seniors have fought hard to preserve their Social Security. Those who worry most about Social Security are younger baby boomers and their children. This Congress must make sure that the progressive benefit structure with annual increases is available for generations to come.

Far more problematic and worrisome for the District's seniors is the future of Medicare. At my Senior Legislative Day, I want to focus my own constituents on the immediate problems of Medicare, which runs out of money in 2008. Seniors, like other Americans, are being directed to HMOs in order to allow the program to achieve cost savings. Yet, already, we see many of the HMOs dropping seniors because the federal government has been unwilling to fund sufficiently these HMO senior programs. We have not met the challenge of doing what must be done for Medicare—making the savings necessary to save the program while assuring seniors that the benefits are sufficient to make the programs worth saving. Passage of the President's Patients' Bill of Rights is a crucial part of this effort.

On May 18th, the District's seniors will also be discussing the intolerable costs of prescription drugs not covered by Medicare. The Congress has not yet faced the challenges of the increasing use of costly medicines which are being used instead of more costly invasive procedures. The burden of these costs has been put entirely on seniors. It is a burden they cannot bear and should not bear.

Medicare has been a virtually universal program, with virtually all Americans covered, regardless of income. The need for healthcare tends to increase with age. It is certain that Medicare has saved and lengthened millions of American lives. On May 18th, at my Seniors Legislative Day, I intend to assure the seniors of the District of Columbia that I will have no greater priority than preserving Medicare. I ask the 106th Congress to help me keep that promise.

HONORING EDWARD ABRAMOWITZ

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 17, 1999*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to talk about an extraordinary man of medicine, Dr. Edward Abramowitz, Attending Physician, Division of Cardiology, Department of Internal Medicine at Long Island College Hospital. Dr. Abramowitz is being honored on May 22nd by the Long Island College Hospital Board of Regents for his commitment to quality patient care and his medical leadership.

Born in New York City, Dr. Abramowitz received his B.S. degree from City College of the City University of New York and his M.D. from the Faculty of Medicine, Copenhagen University, Denmark in 1975. After graduation, he did rotating internships in OB/GYN, Surgery and Psychiatry in the Danish health care system.

Returning to New York, Dr. Abramowitz finished an Internal Medicine internship at Maimonides Medical Center and went on to complete a two-year internal medicine residency at Long Island College Hospital. In 1981, he completed a two-year fellowship in Cardiology at LICH and established a private practice in Cardiology and Internal Medicine. In 1991, Dr. Abramowitz was one of the founding members of Diagnostic Cardiology Associates, a premier diagnostic testing center for cardiovascular disease.

A longtime resident of Cobble Hill, Dr. Abramowitz was a member of the Board of Directors of the Brooklyn Heights Center for Counseling. Board Certified in Internal Medicine, Dr. Abramowitz is an active member of many professional organizations, including the American College of Cardiology, the American College of Physicians and the New York Cardiological Society. At Long Island College Hospital, Dr. Abramowitz has been an elected member of the Medical Executive Committee since 1989, serving as Secretary of the Medical Board from 1993 to 1996. He was elected Second Vice President of the Board in 1996, the position he currently holds. Dr. Abramowitz was a long-time member of the Ethics Committee and is a member of the Joint Coordinating Council of the Board of Regents. He is also Chairman of the Credentials Committee.

Dr. Abramowitz has always enjoyed teaching medical students and residents and is currently an Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine at SUNY Health Science Center at Brooklyn (Downstate).

Dr. Abramowitz currently resides in Staten Island with Noel C. Bickford, Vice-Chair of the LICH Board of Regents and their two children, Rebecca (Becky), age 7, and Eric, age 5.

IN RECOGNITION OF BLAIR  
COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION DAY**HON. BUD SHUSTER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 17, 1999*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to designate today, Monday, May 17, 1999 as Blair County Community Action Day.

On August 20, 1999 we will celebrate the 35th Anniversary of the signing of the Economic Opportunity Act by President Lyndon Johnson. In October of 1964 Blair County Community Action was chartered as a Community Action Agency. Over the course of these past 35 years, BCCA has assisted thousands of economically challenged Blair County residents. Some examples of these types of assistance include providing residential weatherization, intervention services for utility assistance, family and individual counseling, employment and training programs and other personal and family growth and improvement opportunities.

Blair County Community Action is the very epitome of grassroots organization and community empowerment. They have provided much of the impetus for the development of several programs which now operate as separate agencies including Day Care Services, Legal Aid, and Meals on Wheels. They have been leaders in the development of the Target Area Groups of the 1960's and 1970's which led to the creation of today's modern advocacy groups and neighborhood planning and organization.

I am proud to honor Blair County Community Action for all the work they have done to provide opportunities for the citizens of Blair County.

COMMENDING KATE MEHR—WHITE  
HOUSE FELLOW**HON. JOHN W. OLVER**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 17, 1999*

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a public servant of the highest caliber—Kate Mehr of Amherst, Massachusetts, who currently serves as a White House Fellow.

Since 1965, the White House Fellowship Program has called upon outstanding citizens, like Ms. Mehr, who have demonstrated excellence in community service, leadership, and professional achievement. It is the country's most prestigious fellowship for public service and leadership development. The selection process for White House Fellows is very competitive and is conducted by a Commission appointed by the President. Every year, there are 500 to 800 applicants nationwide for 11 to 19 fellowships. Ms. Mehr has demonstrated a long-standing commitment to public service through her involvement with many community-based organizations. Her service and commitment on behalf of the people of Massachusetts have earned her the honor of participating in this prestigious fellowship.

Ms. Mehr earned her BA in political science from Amherst College and an MPA from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at

Harvard. She is the executive director of the Massachusetts Service Alliance in Boston, a statewide non-profit group. Its mission is to strengthen Massachusetts's communities through service and volunteerism, running over 200 service programs including AmeriCorps and after-school programs. During her tenure, the Alliance has increased state support for services by 750 percent. Her involvement with youth causes in Massachusetts is extensive and impressive. For example, the Governor appointed her coordinator of The Massachusetts Summit: The Promise of Our Youth, the follow up to the President's Summit, and served as a founding member of the Massachusetts, Legislative Children's Caucus. Ms. Mehr was also a victim-witness advocate, tutored a young Cambodian immigrant and was a volunteer basketball coach at a local YMCA. She taught government and history, and coached basketball and golf at the high school level.

As a White House Fellow, Ms. Mehr has been assigned to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), where she has been involved in several important hunger initiatives. She is responsible for developing and implementing the Initiative on Community Food Security, which will coordinate the resources of the USDA to assist communities in developing an infrastructure to fight hunger. Additionally, Ms. Mehr serves as a policy advisor to Secretary Dan Glickman on hunger policy and international food assistance programs. She also is planning a USDA Summit on Hunger for the fall of 1999.

Mr. Speaker, in recognition of Kate Mehr's remarkable record of professional excellence and community service, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting her hard work and good citizenship.

A PROCLAMATION CELEBRATING  
THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE OHIO VETERANS OF FOREIGN  
WARS**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 17, 1999*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following to my colleagues:

Whereas, the Veterans of the United States have demonstrated a steadfast commitment to the preservation of the United States of America; and,

Whereas, on June 18th, 1999 the Department of Ohio, Veterans of Foreign Wars will be celebrating their 100th Anniversary and,

Whereas, the citizens of Ohio and the United States of America owe the Veterans of the United States a great deal of gratitude for their undying loyalty and dedication to the Union, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Ohio on 100 years of service.

## HONORING DR. OTTO MULLER

**HON. CURT WELDON**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 17, 1999*

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to my constituent, Dr. Otto

F. Muller, a talented cardiologist who is retiring after forty years of service in the medical field. Highlights of Dr. Muller's career include ten years of service as the Chief of the Cardiovascular Clinic at Philadelphia General Hospital; and thirty five years as the Director of Research and Education, Medicine, and Cardiology at Mercy Catholic Medical Center. Most recently, Dr. Muller practiced with the Kelly Cardiovascular Group. Early in his career, Dr. Muller received fellowship and investigator grants from the American Heart Association, and served as its President from 1980–1982.

Heart disease is America's number one killer, and stroke is the number three killer. The state of Pennsylvania, in which Dr. Muller practices, ranks fifteenth in the United States for heart disease deaths. More than one in five Americans suffer from cardiovascular disease, the leading cause of disability, at an estimated cost of \$287 billion in medical expenses and lost productivity. Moreover, the World Health Organization predicts that within twenty five years, heart disease will surpass pneumonia as the leading cause of death and disability worldwide.

I personally understand the dedication of doctors who are committed to battling cardiovascular disease. Three years ago, I underwent a successful coronary artery bypass graft after blockage of a coronary artery was detected during a routine screening. I was able to return to my full schedule of activities following the surgery, and my cardiologist placed me on a regimen of proper diet and exercise which has helped me to avoid further surgery. I applaud Dr. Muller for his dedication to his practice. For forty years, he has been a leader in the fight to eradicate this deadly disease. My own experience has taught me the need for increased awareness of this disease, and I have become one of the strongest advocates for increased research dollars.

I wish Dr. Muller the best of luck in his future endeavors, and thank him for his years of service in battling heart disease and stroke.

INTRODUCING THE GOVERNMENT  
WASTE CORRECTIONS ACT OF 1999**HON. DAN BURTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 17, 1999*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Government Waste Corrections Act of 1999.

One of my highest priorities as chairman of the Committee on Government reform is to attack the widespread fraud, waste, and error in many federal programs and activities that cost taxpayers billions of dollars every year. Already this year, the Government Reform Committee has held several hearings and received reports from GAO and agency Inspectors General on this subject. Just a few examples from the GAO and IG reports show outright waste that amounts to over \$30 billion annually. This \$30 billion figure only scratches the surface, no one knows the total cost to the federal government each year from waste and error.

One of the most troubling aspects of waste and error is that the problems tend to persist year after year. Many problems just grow worse. GAO, IGs and others already have fully

and repeatedly documented these problems. They don't need more general discussion; they need solutions.

The bill I introduce today will go a long way toward solving one of the most serious areas of waste and error—overpayments to vendors and others that provide goods and services to federal agencies. The bill deals with the problem by applying a proven practice from the private sector known as "recovery auditing."

The bill requires agencies to conduct recovery auditing to identify and collect back erroneous payments for programs that spend \$10 million or more annually. This should result in recoveries to the taxpayers of at least \$1 billion each year. The bill also provides agencies the means and incentives to make lasting improvements in their financial management that will reduce future overpayments, and other forms of waste and error.

The practice of recovery auditing is actually quite simple. Here's how it works:

Recovery auditors review payment transactions to uncover errors such as vendor pricing mistakes, missed discounts, duplicate payments, and so forth. The vast majority of payment transactions are correct. But inevitably, some errors occur because of communication failures between purchasing and payment departments, complex pricing arrangements, personnel turnover, and changes in information and accounting systems.

Once an error is identified and verified through the review of transactions, a notification letter is sent to the vendor for review. Monetary recoveries are usually accomplished through administrative offsets.

Recovery auditing has been used successfully by private sector firms for over 30 years. It began with major retailers and is now an accepted business practice among Fortune 1000 companies. It has helped even well-managed companies recover millions of dollars annually in overpayments to their vendors. It clearly has the potential to recover billions annually in federal overpayments, given the magnitude and complexity of federal payment programs coupled with the serious financial management problems that plague most agencies.

In places where recovery auditing has been tested in government, it has proven effective. The Army Air Force Exchange System (AAFES) has contracted with a recovery auditing firm since 1991. AAFES makes purchases of approximately \$6.5 billion annually. Over the last 7 years, \$108 million has been recovered.

In another example, the Defense Department has been conducting a recovery auditing demonstration program at several of its locations. Roughly \$6 billion in purchase transactions are being reviewed in this audit. This program is nearing completion and has identified over \$24 million in overpayments. These results were achieved despite the fact that most of the payments audited were 4 to 6 years old and agency records were incomplete.

The potential financial benefits to the federal government from recovery auditing are enormous, and can conservatively be estimated at well over \$1 billion annually. Experience thus far with recovery auditing in the federal government shows an error rate of about 0.4 percent, of four times the private sector error rate. Given that federal procurements total about \$170 billion per year, recoveries from procurement dollars alone could average at least \$680 million annually.

Here's what my bill does:

It establishes a general mandate that all Executive branch agencies use recovery auditing for all of their activities that involve recurring payments totaling at least \$10 million per year to vendors and other service providers. The scope of this mandate is very broad. It covers not only payments under procurement contracts, but also payments to fiscal agents, like consultants, who perform services on behalf of the federal government and are reimbursed from federal funds.

Exceptions from the bill's coverage could only be made by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in cases where he determines that recovery auditing would be impractical.

In addition to its general mandate for recovery auditing, the bill requires OMB to designate at least five agency recovery auditing model programs to receive particular attention and provide best practice for other federal recovery auditing programs.

If OMB provides strong leadership, and if agencies vigorously implement the bill's requirements as intended, recoveries to the federal government should amount to billions of dollars each year. This in itself will go a long way toward mitigating the effects of the pervasive waste and error that now occurs in federal payment programs. However, requiring agencies to identify and recoup overpayments is only one of the bill's key objectives. The other is to remedy the root causes that gave rise to the overpayments in the first place.

The bill contains two remedial measures. One requires that recovery auditing contractors periodically report to agencies on the conditions they find to have caused overpayments and provide recommendations for fixing them. The agency must take prompt action in response to these reports.

The second remedial measure is to dedicate up to 50 percent of overpayment recoveries to invest in management improvement programs that each agency must undertake. These programs will improve the agency's staff capacity, information technology, and financial management in order to prevent overpayments and reduce other problems of waste and error.

One particular feature of agency management improvement programs deserves special note. The bill provides for cash incentive awards of up to \$150,000 for federal employees who make extraordinary contributions that result in concrete savings to their agencies from reductions in waste or error. One specific condition is that the employee or employees must be directly responsible for documented savings of at least twice the amount of their awards. Dedicated federal employees can be valuable front line soldiers in combating waste and error. When they accomplish major results, they deserve major rewards.

In addition to the 50 percent reserved for management improvement programs, the bill allows agencies to use up to 25 percent of collections from recovery audits to finance their recovery auditing costs, including making payments to contractors. Agencies can return another 25 percent of collections to the programs and activities from which the overpayments originated. Any collections not used for these purposes will be returned to the Treasury.

Mr. Speaker, my bill lays out an ambitious program of immediate and aggressive action to recover wasted tax dollars and achieve

large annual savings for the federal government through application of the private sector business practice of recovery auditing. It also ensures a long-term investment in the fundamental management reforms so badly needed to achieve lasting improvements in the way the federal government does business. It includes bold and innovative measures such as unprecedented incentives for federal employees to combat waste.

The bill also contains controls and safeguards to ensure that its system of incentives is applied most effectively and is not abused. It assigns OMB substantial authority and responsibility to provide guidance and oversight. It provides for periodic reporting by both OMB and GAO. It envisions that Congress will likewise provide active oversight, including reviewing and, if necessary, modifying funding levels through reprogramming actions and other means.

I believe that this bill holds great potential to achieve substantial cost benefits for the government and the American taxpayers, as well as major improvements in the efficiency and effectiveness of agency operations throughout the government.

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HONORING THE MARK SHORE  
MEMORIAL BIKE TEAM

**HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 17, 1999*

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Mark Shore Memorial Bike Team. This devoted team helped raise money to fight the chronic and debilitating disease of multiple sclerosis in the 17th Annual Snow Valley MS 150 Bike Tour. The inspirational bike team, consisting of Shore family members and close friends, was formed out of respect and love for Mark Shore.

Mark was born and raised in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. He died of MS-related complications on November 25, 1998. Mark is perhaps best known for serving as a two-term commissioner on the Montgomery County, Maryland Commission on People with Disabilities. He was very active in my district, consistently fighting for disability rights. I am proud to say that Mark was very instrumental in the implementation of many transportation-accessibility initiatives in Montgomery County, such as sidewalk curb cuts. His dedication to improving the lives of others with disabilities will not be forgotten.

The Mark Shore Memorial Bike Team set an ambitious goal to raise more money to fight multiple sclerosis than any other team in history. Mark's parents, Senator Frank and Josie Shore, brothers and sisters, friends and team co-captain Michael Gresalfi set a goal to raise over \$25,000. The team was supported by many community members whose donations will help to end the devastating effects of multiple sclerosis.

Today, we thank the Mark Shore Memorial Bike Team for their tribute to Mark Shore, a man who did so much for the disabled community during his short life.

JOHN MINOR WISDOM

**HON. THOMAS E. PETRI**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 17, 1999*

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, John Minor Wisdom, an outstanding American, Judge, son of the South, and Republican passed on this weekend. I submit the following review of his eventful legal and political career which appeared in the New York Times today, to be entered in the RECORD at this point.

[From the New York Times, May 17, 1999]

JOHN MINOR WISDOM, APPEALS COURT JUDGE WHO HELPED END SEGREGATION, DIES AT 93

(By Jack Bass)

Judge John Minor Wisdom, the New Orleans legal scholar who wrote opinion after opinion that desegregated courthouses throughout the Deep South and put blacks on juries, in the voting booth, in state legislatures and in integrated classrooms, died on Saturday in New Orleans. He would have turned 94 today.

He had remained active in the 1990's, saying he had no interest in retirement.

Judge Wisdom wrote the opinion that allowed James Meredith to attend the University of Mississippi, the first black student to do so. In 1967 he wrote the majority opinion in *United States v. Jefferson County*, the case that, as he recalled, "really started affirmative action."

His wide-ranging judicial opinions over more than four decades kept public schools open in Louisiana when officials tried to close them rather than integrate, ordered Florida to desegregate even its reformatories and told sports authorities to desegregate the boxing ring.

He accomplished this after President Dwight D. Eisenhower named him in 1957 to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, a jurisdiction that then including six states of the old Confederacy—Louisiana, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Texas and Georgia.

It was four judges of the Fifth Circuit whose opinions helped shape the civil rights laws of the 1950's and 60's, changing forever the Deep South. Judge Wisdom was the last survivor of the men who came to be called "the Four," a term used in a dissenting opinion by a fellow judge from Mississippi who saw them as destroyers of the Old South that he cherished. The others were Elbert P. Tuttle of Georgia, John R. Brown of Texas and Richard T. Rives of Alabama. All but Judge Rives were Republicans.

The judges of the Fifth Circuit amplified the mandate of *Brown v. Board of Education*, the epochal Supreme Court decision of May 17, 1954, that nullified state laws and state constitutional provisions allowing or requiring the segregation of black and white students in public schools because of their race. Among the Four's trail-blazing decisions of the 1960's, most of them written by Judge Wisdom, were the following:

In 1961, the judges struck down Louisiana's school-closing law, after St. Helena Parish voted to close its public schools rather than submit to desegregation.

In 1962, they agreed that James H. Meredith had been turned down for admission to the University of Mississippi because of his race, and ordered Ole Miss to admit him. In the court's opinion, Judge Wisdom wrote that university officials had "engaged in a carefully calculated campaign of delay, harassment and masterly inactivity." Mr. Meredith became the first black to go to public school with white students in accordance with the *Brown* decision.

In 1963, the judges ordered the desegregation of all public parks, playgrounds and community and cultural centers in New Orleans.

In 1964, they struck down the jury-selection system in Orleans Parish in Louisiana because, as Judge Wisdom wrote, it "operated to exclude all but a token number of Negroes" from jury lists. He noted that "no black ever sat on a grand jury or a trial jury panel in Orleans Parish."

In 1965, they ruled that Louisiana's voter-registration law, because of its written test on the Constitution, discriminated against poorly educated back voters. Judge Wisdom wrote: "A wall stands in Louisiana between registered voters and unregistered eligible Negro voters. The wall is the state constitutional requirement that an applicant for registration 'understand and give a reasonable interpretation of any section' of the Constitution of Louisiana or of the United States." It is, he wrote "the highest, best-guarded, most effective barrier to Negro voting in Louisiana."

He concluded that "this wall, built to bar Negroes from access to the franchise, must come down."

In 1966, the judges ordered Florida to desegregate its reformatories and declared no state could legally maintain segregation in any school, whatever its mission.

In 1967, they affirmed that the six states within their jurisdiction had to integrate their public schools from kindergarten on.

In 1968, Judge Wisdom made what he regarded as the most important opinion of his career, in *United States v. Jefferson*, in which the court overturned the so-called *Briggs dictum*. This was the belief, widely held by conservative judges in the South, that the Constitution did not require integration but merely forbade discrimination.

Judge Wisdom expressed his "nagging feeling that it is not how far blacks have come that is important but how far they will have to go." He advocated "the planned organized undoing of the effects of past segregation" and set in motion the philosophical framework for what would come to be known as affirmative action. He wrote: "To avoid conflict with the equal protection clause, a classification that denies a benefit, cause harm or imposes a burden must not be based on race. In that sense, the Constitution is color blind. But the Constitution is color conscious to prevent discrimination being perpetuated and to undo the effects of past discrimination. The criterion is the relevancy of color to a legitimate government purpose."

#### UNDOING THE YEARS OF 'INGENIOUS DEVICES'

The Fifth Circuit made these rulings at a time when die-hard segregationists were using everything from violence to subtle evasion to resist change.

"Our court rapidly desegregated every place that could be desegregated: buses, hotels, restaurants, parks, barrooms and athletic contests," Judge Wisdom recalled in 1982.

"Our court had strong opposition from six state legislatures and state governors, year in and year out."

"Senators, Congressmen, governors and local politicians eventually changed their attitude toward minorities," he continued. "This not attributable to a change of heart but to the Voting Rights Act of 1965," which, he noted, enfranchised blacks "previously disenfranchised by many ingenious devices."

President Clinton, in awarding him the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1993, said that his opinions "advanced civil rights and economic justice, and his inspired words echo throughout many of this century's most significant Supreme Court opinions."

#### SON OF THE SOUTH WHO LOVED LITERATURE

John Minor Wisdom was born in New Orleans on May 17, 1905, the son of Mortimer M. Wisdom and Adelaide Labatt Wisdom. His father was a member of the city's elite and proudly remembered marching in the funeral procession of Robert E. Lee in 1870. In 1925 the son received his bachelor's degree from Washington and Lee University, where he had an interest in literature. He studied literature for a year as a graduate student at Harvard University, but then entered the law school at Tulane University, where he graduated first in his class.

He formed the law firm of Wisdom and Stone with a classmate, Saul Stone, practicing law in New Orleans in the 1930's. He joined the Army Air Forces in World War II, serving in the Office of Legal Procurement.

Some of his early legal work dealt with business law. He opposed so-called fair-trade laws, legislation that permitted manufacturers to set the retail prices of products, ostensibly to protect small retailers from competition from big discounters. He told those attending the American Fair Trade Council meeting in New York in 1953 that they could "never sell the American citizen on the justice or logic" of fair trade.

Mr. Wisdom, a long-time Republican loyalist who served in the 1950's as a national committeeman from Louisiana, worked hard to open doors to the party in the South. In 1952 he broke with the more traditional Southern Republicans, who strongly supported the candidacy of the conservative Senator Robert Taft of Ohio for President.

Earlier that year, Mr. Wisdom and Elbert P. Tuttle, a lawyer in Atlanta, met at the request of Herbert Brownell, General Eisenhower's campaign manager, to organize a campaign in the South to support General Eisenhower for the Republican nomination against Senator Taft. Mr. Wisdom and Mr. Tuttle became co-chairmen of the Southern Conference for Eisenhower.

As Attorney General in the Eisenhower Administration, Mr. Brownell became an important figure in selecting Federal judges, and both Mr. Tuttle and Mr. Wisdom were eventually put on the Federal bench.

One of the earliest civil rights cases Judge Wisdom received after his appointment came in 1959, when the Fifth Circuit voided a Louisiana ban on boxing matches between blacks and whites. The court's decision was upheld by the United States Supreme Court.

In 1964 he dissented from the Fifth Circuit's majority opinion, which upheld the tradition of revealing the race of all candidates for public office on the ballot. The Supreme Court ultimately repudiated the majority decision and upheld his position.

Though most of the Fifth Circuit's groundbreaking decisions concerning discrimination were made in the 1960's, there were many significant cases in the 1970's. Among them was a 1972 decision striking down a Louisiana law barring biracial adoptions. "It's obvious," Judge Wisdom wrote in the decision, "that the Louisiana statute making race a decisive factor in adoption subordinates a child's best interest in some circumstances to racial discrimination."

Judge Wisdom wrote several landmark opinions in employment discrimination cases. In 1979, the Supreme Court adopted the basic reasoning of his dissent in *Weber v. Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corporation* to uphold a hiring plan intended to overcome the effects of past discrimination.

Not all his major decisions concerned race. In 1974, he wrote an opinion that found that psychiatric patients as a class had a Federal constitutional right to adequate treatment when such patients were committed against their will to state institutions.

But to the end he felt that no opinion drew more fully on his intellect and imagination than *U.S. v. Jefferson*. By requiring "the organized undoing of the effects of past desegregation," he placed an affirmative duty on school boards to develop desegregation plans. Including a model desegregation order, he served notice that "the only school desegregation plan that meets constitutional standards is one that works."

Judge J. Harvie Wilkinson of the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals wrote in a 1979 book, "The Supreme Court wrote from *Brown to Bakke*," that Judge Wisdom in *Jefferson* and related cases "transformed the face of school desegregation law."

A SCUTTLED CANDIDACY FOR THE SUPREME COURT

Despite the storms that attended his civil rights decisions, the stature he attained was such that in 1969, he was mentioned as a leading candidate for the Supreme Court. Moderate Republicans advanced his name after the Senate rejected President Richard M. Nixon's nomination of Judge Clement F. Haynsworth, whom Judge Wisdom opposed.

But Mr. Nixon's Attorney General, John Mitchell, scuttled the idea, reportedly complaining that Judge Wisdom was nothing more than a "damn left-winger" who, if he ever got on the Supreme Court, would "be as bad as Earl Warren."

The judge once told a reporter that when the Fifth Circuit was issuing its most contentious rulings, his dogs were poisoned and a rattlesnake was thrown in his backyard.

But despite the liberal views about race and civil rights he espoused throughout his

judicial career, he maintained memberships in private clubs that discriminated against blacks and Jews.

"The people I see in these clubs are the guys I went to school with and have known all my life," he said. "I would not resign from any such club." He said, "They know how I stand on these matters" and "I certainly wouldn't change their views by getting out of the club."

He is survived by his wife, Bonnie Mathews Wisdom, and two daughters, Kathleen Mathews Wisdom and Penelope Stewart Wisdom Tose. A son, John Minor Jr., died.

His former law clerks recalled that the judge was capable of spending an afternoon playing bridge for high stakes, following it with drinks with lifelong friends, discussing and reciting obscure Elizabethan poetry, and after cocktails and dinner at home, staying up well past midnight working on one of the many drafts his major opinions went through before he was satisfied.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. TURNER KING, SR.

**HON. RONNIE SHOWS**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 17, 1999*

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievements of Mr. Turner King, Sr., a member of New Hope Mis-

sionary Baptist Church in Southaven, Mississippi.

Mr. King, now 84 years young, was born in Nesbit, Mississippi and married the late Mrs. Rennell Bridgforth King. Mr. King supplemented his farming income by becoming a self-taught tailor, and by so doing he and his wife were able to provide education for their seven children, a niece and a nephew.

Della Mae King Sutton, a retired teacher, received her Bachelor's Degree from Mississippi Industrial College in Holly Springs. Turner King, Jr., now deceased, attended college for two years. Irene King McNeil, a teacher, earned her Bachelor's Degree at Mississippi Valley State University in Itta Bena. Earning their degrees at Rust College in Holly Springs include teachers Margaret King and Lerah Yvonne King Macklin, and Doris Ann King, who is in the banking business. Niece Marilyn Clarice Young White attended the University of Mississippi at Oxford for 3½ years and nephew Donald Ray Young graduated from Southaven High School.

Mr. Speaker, through hard work and determination, Mr. and Mrs. Turner King raised a fine family that has contributed much to our state. Turner King, Sr. and the late Mrs. King are role models for us all. I am proud to share with my colleagues in Congress this tribute to Turner King and the entire King family.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

MAY 20

2:15 p.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings on proposals relating to cost of living adjustments in VA compensation and other benefits, improvements in Veterans' educational assistance benefits, long term care and homeless Veterans services, eligibility for burial in Arlington National Cemetery, WWII Memorial on the Mall, and U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans claims retirement provisions.

SR-418

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources  
Energy Research, Development, Production and Regulation Subcommittee

To hold joint oversight hearings with the House Committee on Government Reform's Subcommittee on National Economic Growth, Natural Resources and Regulatory Affairs, on the Administration's fiscal year 2000 budget request for climate change programs and compliance with various statutory provisions in fiscal year 1999 appropriations acts requiring detailed accounting of climate change spending and performance measures for each requested increase in funding.

SD-366

Governmental Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on the national security methods and processes relating to the Wen-Ho Lee espionage investigation.

Room to be announced

Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee

To hold hearings on issues relating to commercial space.

SR-253

MAY 24

1 p.m.

Aging

To hold hearings to examine Health Care Financing Administration assessments of home health care access.

SD-366

MAY 25

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources  
To hold oversight hearings on state progress in retail electricity competition.

SD-366

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To resume hearings to examine medical records privacy issues.

SD-628

10 a.m.

Finance

To resume oversight hearings on United States Customs, focusing on commercial operations.

SD-215

Small Business

To hold hearings relating to education and business success.

SR-428A

2:15 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources  
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 140, to establish the Thomas Cole National Historic Site in the State of New York as an affiliated area of the National Park System; S. 734, entitled the "National Discovery Trails Act of 1999"; S. 762, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study on the inclusion of the Miami Circle in Biscayne

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
To hold hearings on S. 97, to require the installation and use by schools and libraries of a technology for filtering or blocking material on the Internet on computers with Internet access to be eligible to receive or retain universal service assistance.

SR-253

Environment and Public Works  
Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property, and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee

To resume hearings on the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed sulfur standard for gasoline as contained in the proposed Tier Two standards for automobiles.

SD-406

Energy and Natural Resources

To resume hearings to examine damage to the national security from alleged Chinese espionage at the Department of Energy nuclear weapons laboratories.

SD-366

10 a.m.

Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 746, to provide for analysis of major rules, to promote the public's right to know the costs and benefits of major rules, and to increase the accountability of quality of Government; S. 59, to provide Government-wide accounting of regulatory costs and benefits; S. 468, to improve the effectiveness and performance of Federal financial assistance programs, simplify Federal financial assistance application and reporting requirements, and improve the delivery of services to the public; the nomination of Eric T. Washington, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals; the nomination of Stephen H. Glickman, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals; the nomination of Hiram E. Puig-Lugo, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia; and the nomination of John T. Spotila, of New Jersey, to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget.

SD-342

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

SD-628

10:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Foreign Operations Subcommittee  
To continue hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2000 for foreign assistance programs.

SD-192

2 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources  
Energy Research, Development, Production and Regulation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 348, to authorize and facilitate a program to enhance training, research and development, energy conservation and efficiency, and consumer education in the oilheat industry for the benefit of oilheat consumers and the public.

SD-366

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, May 18, 1999 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 19

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on S. 614, to provide for regulatory reform in order to encourage investment, business, and economic development with respect to activities conducted on Indian lands; and S. 613, to encourage Indian economic development, to provide for the disclosure of Indian tribal sovereign immunity in contracts involving Indian tribes, and for other purposes.

SR-485

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-366

10 a.m.

Appropriations  
Defense Subcommittee

To resume hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Defense.

SD-192

Finance

Business meeting to mark up the proposed Affordable Education Act of 1999.

SD-215

2 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources  
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings on the status of Youth Conservation Corps and other job programs conducted by the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

SD-366

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters.

SH-219

2:30 p.m.

Appropriations  
Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2000 for foreign assistance programs.

SD-192

National Park; S. 938, to eliminate restrictions on the acquisition of certain land contiguous to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park; S. 939, to correct spelling errors in the statutory designations of Hawaiian National Parks; S. 946, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to transfer administrative jurisdiction over land within the boundaries of the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site to the Archivist of the United States for the construction of a visitor center; and S. 955, to allow the National Park Service to acquire certain land for addition to the Wilderness Battlefield in Virginia, as previously authorized by law, by purchase or exchange as well as by donation.

SD-366

MAY 26

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on Native American Youth Activities and Initiatives.

SR-485

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
Employment, Safety and Training Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine mine safety and health issues.

SD-628

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 510, to preserve the sovereignty of the United States over public lands and acquired lands owned by the United States, and to pre-

serve State sovereignty and private property rights in non-Federal lands surrounding those public lands and acquired lands.

SD-366

MAY 27

2 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources  
Water and Power Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 623, to amend Public Law 89-108 to increase authorization levels for State and Indian tribal, municipal, rural, and industrial water supplies, to meet current and future water quantity and quality needs of the Red River Valley, to deauthorize certain project features and irrigation service areas, to enhance natural resources and fish and wildlife habitat; S. 244, to authorize the construction of the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System and to authorize assistance to the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, for the planning and construction of the water supply system; S. 769, to provide a final settlement on certain debt owed by the city of Dickinson, North Dakota, for the construction of the bascule gates on the Dickinson Dam; and S. 1027, to reauthorize the participation of the Bureau of Reclamation in the Deschutes Resources Conservancy.

SD-366

2:30 p.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
Aging Subcommittee

To resume hearings on issues relating to the Older Americans Act.

SD-628

JUNE 9

9:30 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee

To resume hearings on the implementation of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st century.

SD-406

2 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources  
Water and Power Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings on the process to determine the future of the four lower Snake River dams and conduct oversight on the Northwest Power Planning Council's Framework Process.

SD-366

JUNE 17

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings on mergers and consolidations in the communications industry.

SR-253

SEPTEMBER 28

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the American Legion.

345 Cannon Building