

A trust fund would ensure that a steady source of revenue would be available to address the problems for years to come.

Daschle is rallying support of federal, state, local and tribal leaders and wants to secure the first installment this year.

The sooner the better.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 660

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 660, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under part B of the medicare program of medical nutrition therapy services furnished by registered dietitians and nutrition professionals.

S. 796

At the request of Mr. WELLSTONE, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 796, a bill to provide for full parity with respect to health insurance coverage for certain severe biologically-based mental illnesses and to prohibit limits on the number of mental illness-related hospital days and outpatient visits that are covered for all mental illnesses.

S. 818

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 818, a bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a study of the mortality and adverse outcome rates of medicare patients related to the provision of anesthesia services.

S. 1155

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. GRAMS), and the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1155, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for uniform food safety warning notification requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 1159

At the request of Mr. STEVENS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1159, a bill to provide grants and contracts to local educational agencies to initiate, expand, and improve physical education programs for all kindergarten through 12th grade students.

S. 1276

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1276, a bill to prohibit employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

S. 1277

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI) were added as cosponsors of S. 1277, a bill to

amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to establish a new prospective payment system for Federally-qualified health centers and rural health clinics.

S. 1412

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1412, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to limit the reporting requirements regarding higher education tuition and related expenses, and for other purposes.

S. 1438

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1438, a bill to establish the National Law Enforcement Museum on Federal land in the District of Columbia.

S. 1941

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1941, a bill to amend the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 to authorize the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide assistance to fire departments and fire prevention organizations for the purpose of protecting the public and firefighting personnel against fire and fire-related hazards.

S. 1993

At the request of Mr. THOMPSON, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1993, a bill to reform Government information security by strengthening information security practices throughout the Federal Government.

S. 2068

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. ASHCROFT) were added as cosponsors of S. 2068, a bill to prohibit the Federal Communications Commission from establishing rules authorizing the operation of new, low power FM radio stations.

S. 2112

At the request of Mr. TORRICELLI, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN), and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 2112, a bill to provide housing assistance to domestic violence victims.

S. 2123

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ROBB), and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2123, a bill to provide Outer Continental Shelf Impact assistance to State and local governments, to amend the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978, and the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (commonly referred to

as the Pittman-Robertson Act) to establish a fund to meet the outdoor conservation and recreation needs of the American people, and for other purposes.

S. 2161

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2161, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a 1 year moratorium on certain diesel fuel excise taxes and to require the Secretary of the Treasury to transfer amounts to the Highway Trust Fund to cover any shortfall.

S. 2225

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH), and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 2225, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow individuals a deduction for qualified long-term care insurance premiums, use of such insurance under cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements, and a credit for individuals with long-term care needs.

S. 2242

At the request of Mr. THOMAS, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. GRAMS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2242, a bill to amend the Federal Activities Inventory Reform Act of 1998 to improve the process for identifying the functions of the Federal Government that are not inherently governmental functions, for determining the appropriate organizations for the performance of such functions on the basis of competition, and for other purposes.

S. 2262

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2262, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to institute a Federal fuels tax holiday.

S. 2263

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2263, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to institute a Federal fuels tax holiday.

S. 2265

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2265, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to preserve marginal domestic oil and natural gas well production, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 87

At the request of Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 87, a concurrent resolution commending the Holy See for making significant contributions to international peace and human rights, and objecting to efforts to expel the Holy See from the United Nations by removing the Holy

See's Permanent Observer status in the United Nations, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 87

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. KERREY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 87, a resolution commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the International Visitors Program

S. RES. 263

At the request of Mr. ASHCROFT, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 263, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the President should communicate to the members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries ("OPEC") cartel and non-OPEC countries that participate in the cartel of crude oil producing countries, before the meeting of the OPEC nations in March 2000, the position of the United States in favor of increasing world crude oil supplies so as to achieve stable crude oil prices.

S. RES. 276

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 276, a resolution to express the sense of the Senate that the conferees on the Violent and Repeat Juvenile Offender Accountability and Rehabilitation Act should submit the conference report on the bill before April 20, 2000, and include the gun safety amendments passed by the Senate.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
98—URGING COMPLIANCE WITH
THE HAGUE CONVENTION ON THE
CIVIL ASPECTS OF INTER-
NATIONAL CHILD ABDUCTION

Mr. DEWINE (for himself, Mr. HELMS, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. WARNER, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. ROBB, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. DODD, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. HATCH, and Mr. STEVENS) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 98

Whereas the Department of State reports that at any given time there are 1,000 open cases of American children either abducted from the United States or wrongfully retained in a foreign country;

Whereas many more cases of international child abductions are not reported to the Department of State;

Whereas the situation has worsened since 1993, when Congress estimated the number of abducted and wrongfully retained American children to be more than 10,000;

Whereas Congress has recognized the gravity of international child abduction in enacting the International Parental Kidnapping Crime Act of 1993 (18 U.S.C. 1204), the Parental Kidnapping Prevention Act (28 U.S.C. 1738a), and substantial reform and reporting requirements for the Department of State in the fiscal years 1998–1999 and 2000–2001 Foreign Relations Authorization Acts;

Whereas the United States became a contracting party in 1988 to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction (in this concurrent resolution referred to as the "Hague Convention") and adopted effective implementing legisla-

tion in the International Child Abduction Remedies Act (42 U.S.C. 11601 et seq.);

Whereas the Hague Convention establishes reciprocal rights and duties between and among its contracting states to expedite the return of children to the state of their habitual residence, as well as to ensure that rights of custody and of access under the laws of one contracting state are effectively respected in other contracting states, without consideration of the merits of any underlying child custody dispute;

Whereas Article 13 of the Hague Convention provides a narrow exception to the requirement for prompt return of children, which exception releases the requested state from its obligation to return a child to the country of the child's habitual residence if it is established that there is a "grave risk" that the return would expose the child to "physical or psychological harm or otherwise place the child in an intolerable situation" or "if the child objects to being returned and has attained an age and degree of maturity at which it is appropriate to take account of the child's views";

Whereas some contracting states, for example Germany, routinely invoke Article 13 as a justification for nonreturn, rather than resorting to it in a small number of wholly exceptional cases;

Whereas the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), the only institution of its kind, was established in the United States for the purpose of assisting parents in recovering their missing children;

Whereas Article 21 of the Hague Convention provides that the central authorities of all parties to the Convention are obligated to cooperate with each other in order to promote the peaceful enjoyment of parental access rights and the fulfillment of any conditions to which the exercise of such rights may be subject, and to remove, as far as possible, all obstacles to the exercise of such rights;

Whereas some contracting states fail to order or enforce normal visitation rights for parents of abducted or wrongfully retained children who have not been returned under the terms of the Hague Convention; and

Whereas the routine invocation of the Article 13 exception, denial of parental visitation of children, and the failure by several contracting parties, most notably Austria, Germany, Honduras, Mexico, and Sweden, to fully implement the Convention deprives the Hague Convention of the spirit of mutual confidence upon which its success depends: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) all contracting parties to the Hague Convention, particularly European civil law countries that consistently violate the Hague Convention such as Austria, Germany and Sweden, to comply fully with both the letter and spirit of their international legal obligations under the Convention;

(2) all contracting parties to the Hague Convention to ensure their compliance with the Hague Convention by enacting effective implementing legislation and educating their judicial and law enforcement authorities;

(3) all contracting parties to the Hague Convention to honor their commitments and return abducted or wrongfully retained children to their place of habitual residence without reaching the merits of any underlying custody dispute and ensure parental access rights by removing obstacles to the exercise of such rights;

(4) the Secretary of State to disseminate to all Federal and State courts the Department of State's annual report to Congress on

Hague Convention compliance and related matters; and

(5) each contracting party to the Hague Convention to further educate its central authority and local law enforcement authorities regarding the Hague Convention, the severity of the problem of international child abduction, and the need for immediate action when a parent of an abducted child seeks their assistance.

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a resolution urging compliance with the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. Joining me in introducing this resolution are Senators HELMS, WARNER, THURMOND, ROBB, ROCKEFELLER, THOMAS, DODD, LANDRIEU, and HATCH. Congressmen NICK LAMPSON of Texas and STEVE CHABOT of Ohio have introduced a similar measure in the House.

The Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction sets forth the legal mechanism for returning internationally abducted children to their countries of habitual residence, where custody can then be decided. Fifty-four countries, including the United States are signatories to the Convention.

According to the State Department, each year the United States sends an estimated 90% of kidnapped children back to foreign countries. But, the rate at which other nations belonging to the Convention return American children is much lower. A State Department report singles out several countries for their noncompliance with the accord, including Austria, Honduras, Mauritius, Mexico and Sweden. Notably absent from the report, however, was Germany, which also has established a disturbing pattern of non-compliance. According to "Insight Magazine," State Department records show that of the 243 Hague cases filed in Germany, there were only 40 court-ordered returns.

Last fall, the General Accounting Office (GAO) testified before the House International Relations Committee on their preliminary review of the federal government's response to international parental child abduction. They cited noncompliance with the Hague Convention on the part of other countries as one of the problems with our federal government's response to international parental kidnappings. According to GAO's testimony: "The State Department acknowledges that more systematic and aggressive diplomatic efforts are needed to address problems with the Hague Convention." The GAO also noted that while increased diplomatic efforts are needed, recommendations developed by the State Department and Department of Justice to rectify the noncompliance problem "seek to review, study, and explore Hague implementation issues, but fail to identify how these activities will actually help solve Hague implementation problems."

What we have to remember in any case where a parent abducts a child is that each of these cases involves the