

negotiations aimed at getting consensus on this legislation, the Senate has voted to continue and expand the successful Self-Governance in Health Care pilot that has proven so helpful in improving the health care of Native people and in assisting tribes in the development of their governments and economies.

I thank and acknowledge Senator GORTON and his staff for their efforts in helping to iron out the differences that stood in the path of agreement on this bill.

I am hopeful this legislation will make its way to the President in short order for his favorable consideration.

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, I am pleased the Senate will pass H.R. 1167, the Tribal Self-Governance Amendments of 1999. This legislation is the culmination of years of work by the Indian Affairs Committee, Indian tribes and the Indian Health Service, IHS, to make permanent the successful tribal self-governance demonstration program.

Since its inception, tribes have enthusiastically embraced the self-governance program because it allows them to assume greater control over health care programs and services which are now provided by the IHS. Tribal self-governance has succeeded because it respects the special trust relationship between Indian tribes and the United States. It puts into practice the principles of government-to-government relations and tribal sovereignty. It allows increased tribal flexibility and transfers control from federal bureaucrats to tribal governments who are closer to the people they serve.

I thank my colleague Senator CAMPBELL for his leadership in fostering an agreement on final legislative language for this bill and for adding legislative provisions which will designate an Assistant Secretary for Indian Health within the Department of Health and Human Services. The proposal to designate a new Assistant Secretary position primarily for Indian health policy is one that enjoys unanimous support by the tribal community, bipartisan support by Congress, and is also endorsed by the Administration.

The tribal self-governance bill is critically important to Indian country because it will finally put into place permanent authority for Indian tribes to directly manage their own health care programs. With the passage of the IHS elevation bill as part of this legislation, we can make progress for improved health conditions for Indian people nationwide.

Many of my colleagues may not realize that the year 2000 marks the 30th anniversary of the inception of the Indian self-determination policy, ending the era of failed Federal policies of termination and paternalism. A few days ago, I joined my colleagues, Senators CAMPBELL and JOHNSON, in sponsoring S. Res. 277 commemorating this important policy. In continuation of building

upon the fundamental tenets of tribal self-determination, I encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to move quickly to send this bill to the President.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to Calendar No. 419, H.R. 1167, the House companion measure. I further ask unanimous consent that all after the enacting clause be stricken and the text of S. 979, as amended, be inserted in lieu thereof, and the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed.

I also ask unanimous consent that the Senate then insist on its amendment and request a conference with the House.

Finally, I ask unanimous consent that S. 979 be placed on the calendar.

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

The bill (H.R. 1167), as amended, was read the third time and passed.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 2000

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until the hour of 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 5. I further ask unanimous consent that on Wednesday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then resume consideration of S. Con. Res. 101, the budget resolution.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, the Senate will begin debate on the budget resolution at 9:30 a.m. tomorrow. The time until 11 a.m. will be equally divided for debate on the pending Robb and Hutchison amendments. Votes on those amendments will be back to back at 11 a.m.

Further, amendments will be offered throughout the day and votes are possible into the evening. There are approximately 20 hours of debate remaining on the resolution, and it is hoped action on this resolution can be completed by Thursday night or Friday morning of this week.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment, under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator KERREY of Nebraska, Senator LEVIN, and Senator HARKIN, to be subtracted from the overall time relating to the budget resolution.

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

The Senator from the great State of Nebraska.

NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, the Department of Defense announced about 2 weeks ago that they are going to delay a critical feasibility test of an interceptor which would protect the United States from a ballistic missile attack. This delay, it should be noted, will give Congress and the President some additional breathing room before we begin the debate to deploy a missile defense system. It may even mean the final decision on deployment may not occur until after the November Presidential election, as many have urged already.

However, I believe, we should use this opportunity to consider anew the threats which the United States faces as a consequence of nuclear weapons. The approximately \$25 billion missile defense system being contemplated is in response to a threat that does not exist today but very assuredly could if nations such as North Korea, Iran, or Iraq continue to develop their weapons of mass destruction programs. Under estimates provided to us by the CIA's National Intelligence Estimates and a panel of experts headed by Mr. Donald Rumsfeld we have been alerted to, the possibility exists that these countries could have weapons of mass destruction and the means to deliver them to the United States within 5 years. It is this potential threat, along with a possible accidental or unauthorized launch by Russia, that justifies the attempt to build an effective missile defense system.

Three facts should be understood before proceeding further. First, this system is not the original Star Wars proposal of President Reagan. In other words, it is not a system which would protect us against a massive attack by Russia, a threat we now believe no longer exists. Second, the annual costs to build and maintain this new system would be in addition to the estimated \$15 to \$25 billion annual costs of the nuclear arsenal we maintain against the old threat of the Soviet Union. Third, the deterrent argument we used during the cold war was based on the rational presumption that the Soviet Union would never attack us if they knew that an attack would result in the destruction of their nation. However, we cannot presume rational behavior from North Korea, Iraq, Iran, or potential terrorists will be the order of the day. We presume they would be willing to suffer the consequences of retaliation to do terrible damage to the United States of America.

A scenario which imagines such an attack quickly justifies the investment in missile defenses. Even one relatively small nuclear weapon which North Korea, Iran, Iraq, or a non-nation-state terrorist could launch at the United States would inflict more damage than