

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
SENATE PERIODICAL PRESS GALLERY,
Washington, DC, June 7, 2000.

JIM TALBERT,
Superintendent, Senate Periodical Press Gallery,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR JIM: The Executive Committee of Correspondents conveys its gratitude on behalf of the more than 250 publications and 1,700 reporters who benefited from your nine years as superintendent of the United States Senate Periodical Press Gallery.

The transformation you have made running the press gallery has been nothing short of historic. The gallery has never operated in a more professional manner. The gallery staff was never better educated about the legislative process nor more knowledgeable of what is happening at any given moment on the Senate floor. Reporters never had a better opportunity of snagging a seat and testimony at a crowded hearing. Functions such as accrediting reporters and publications never operated in a more even-handed, efficient manner.

During your tenure, there was never a doubt that a reporter calling the gallery to ask about pending legislation would get an immediate and informed answer.

You deserve credit for what you have accomplished. You also earn our praise for leaving in your wake a highly trained and motivated staff. The personal zeal you displayed in understanding the often complicated legislative process was infectious and you were a good teacher.

While replacing Jim Talbert is out of the question, since you certainly are one of a kind, the mark you leave on the gallery will remain long after you enter your well-deserved retirement. The seeds you sowed will help reporters covering Congress for years to come.

We wish you and Judy a happy retirement to South Dakota filled with good health and mild winters.

Sincerely,

RICK MAZE,
Chairman.

CHERYL BOLEN,
Secretary-Treasurer.

RICHARD E. COHEN.

JAY CARNEY.

HEIDI GLENN.

AMY BORRUS.

TIM CURRAN.

Mr. LOTT. While Jim no longer will be toiling with us every day, he is keeping his favorite jobs: husband, father, and grandfather. I am a little envious, to tell the truth. He and his wife, Judy, whom he met while working in the Capitol, are moving to her native South Dakota.

It is typical of Jim that he didn't want a big bang, a big fuss over his departure. But we couldn't let him go without first wishing him well and saying, "Thanks, Jim. You have earned it."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I join the majority leader in his commendation of an extraordinary part of this wonderful institution. Jim Talbert, as the majority leader has indicated, is retiring at the end of this week as the Superintendent of the Senate Periodical Press Gallery. He is one of hundreds of members of our Capitol family whom C-SPAN viewers never see but without whom this institution would simply not function. He has served Congress with distinction for 32 years.

Born on February 22, 1943, in Washington, D.C., he has resided here all of his life. He graduated from the University of Maryland with a degree in journalism in 1964 and began his career on Capitol Hill in 1966, covering politics for the Timmons News Service.

In 1968, he joined the House Daily Press Gallery where he worked for 23 years. Much to our good fortune, he came to the Senate in 1991 as the Superintendent of the Senate Periodical Press Gallery. The periodical gallery is one of three press galleries in the Senate. It is the nerve center for Capitol Hill reporters representing national and local magazines and newsletters. More than 1,700 journalists representing 250 different news organizations are credentialed to use the Periodical Press Gallery to file stories, stay in contact with home offices, and get information on Senate activities. As head of the periodical gallery, Jim approves credentials for reporters covering Capitol Hill. He acts as a liaison between the press and Senate staff and keeps up-to-the-minute information on what is happening on the Senate floor.

Reporters do not turn to Jim simply for information about where a press conference is being held or when a bill might be coming to the floor. They also depend on his vast knowledge of Senate history and legislative procedure to make sense of our sometimes confusing parliamentary rules. He is a professional, an efficient and fair-minded person in carrying out all of his duties. He is also generous and always has a humorous story to share.

While his departure will have reporters scrambling to find a good source on Senate procedure, he can leave knowing that the periodical gallery staff he has worked so hard to train is committed to maintaining his same high standards.

Besides his retirement, Jim will celebrate another happy milestone this year. In 1995, Jim was diagnosed with throat cancer. In his 5-year fight to beat cancer, he endured several rounds of radiation treatment and surgery and missed only 1 month of work. Recently, Jim was declared cancer free.

Finally, I always sensed that there was something unusually wise about Jim. That hunch was confirmed recently when I learned that he and his wife, Judy, will be moving to her hometown, Brookings, SD, home of South Dakota State University. I can't think of a better place to retire. I am glad to call them constituents and look forward to seeing them many times in my State and now their State.

I wish Jim and Judy well. Jim has served this Senate with dedication and distinction. I look forward to being able to serve with him, for a change, as his Senator. I wish him and Judy all of the best as they begin their new life in South Dakota.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senator

from Virginia be recognized to offer a series of cleared amendments to the pending DOD authorization bill, and following the disposition of the 41-plus cleared amendments, the DOD authorization bill be laid aside and that the Senate then turn to the House Transportation appropriations bill and the Senate bill be immediately offered as an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

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

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I also had intended to ask consent that when the Senate resumes the DOD bill, the Smith amendment be laid aside and Senator DODD be recognized to offer his amendment regarding a Cuba commission. I am informed that Senator MCCAIN would object to that, but I assure Senator DASCHLE and Senator DODD and Senator MACK and Senator LEVIN and Senator WARNER, everybody, we will keep working to see if we can get this done. I think that is what we should do.

We are going to go back to DOD authorization in the morning in some form. Everybody is wanting to get in line or get their position first, or they don't want us to allow that second-degree slot to be opened, I guess, to the Smith amendment. Others want it to be open. It is kind of complicated. A lot of Senators are invoking their rights. They have a right to do that.

I do plead with the Senate, Republicans and Democrats, to work with us to try to get our appropriations bills done. I am going to continue to try to keep my word. Senator DASCHLE is working with me, and Senators are cooperating on both sides to come back to make progress on the Department of Defense authorization bill.

We were prepared to go to the Murray amendment, which is germane to the Defense bill. It is a Defense amendment. But I believe Senator FEINGOLD or somebody objected to that. We will keep working here. I think we can work through this in a way that will allow us to come back to the Defense authorization bill and deal with Defense-related amendments, which is what I prefer. It is our national security we are talking about. But there are amendments that Senators on both sides of the aisle want to offer that are not germane. We will try to find an orderly way in which to do that.

At this point, I am advised that there will be objections on this side on one approach and on that side on another approach. Let's keep working to find a way to get this done.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I just urge the cooperation of all Senators. The only way this dual track is going to work is if we can accommodate each other's needs. That is what generated our agreement to address both bills in this fashion. Senators on both sides want to be accommodated. They have amendments to offer. This allows for that process to continue—to allow amendments on Defense authorization

in the morning up until early afternoon, and then to take up appropriations in the afternoon—so that we can work through the appropriations bills that we know we must get done.

We will be unable to go to appropriations bills in the future if we can't continue to accommodate each other's needs. I think this is working well. I hope we can continue to work well to work off the list of amendments. Senator REID does his magic with our list, and I know we have our colleagues on the other side who are attempting to do the same there. But we ought to have these votes and debates. I think it is good for the country and good for the institution to be able to have the opportunity to debate some of these issues. That is what we are doing, and that is why you see the cooperation you have this week.

I yield the floor.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, one of the reasons Senator DASCHLE and I decided to try to proceed on this dual track, trying to work on the Defense authorization bill in the morning and appropriations bills in the afternoon—it was Senator DASCHLE's suggestion that we do that for the very purpose we are achieving here. It keeps people focused. Out of sight, out of mind. If we were not trying to come back to DOD authorization, everybody would go off to committee hearings and other work and would not focus on trying to get an orderly way to do it. So while it is not agreed to yet, it is exactly what we had in mind—to make everybody understand we are going to keep trying to do the Transportation appropriations bill, and we are going to focus on amendments and try to get order and process to go back to the Department of Defense authorization.

JOHN WARNER and Senator LEVIN, the two managers of this legislation, are trying very hard to find a way to work through this maze that they are faced with to get a Defense authorization bill for the national security of our country. Senator WARNER, working with others, has 41 amendments that we can clear. At that rate, in 2 or 3 days, maybe we can eliminate a couple hundred amendments. So we will keep trying to do that.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001—Continued

AMENDMENTS NOS. 3382 THROUGH 3424, EN BLOC

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I send a series of amendments to the desk en bloc, and I ask for their immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows: The Senator from Virginia [Mr. WARNER] proposes amendments numbered 3382 through 3424, en bloc.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendments be dispensed with.

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

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the amendments be agreed to en bloc, that the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table and, finally, that any statements relating to any of these individual amendments be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The amendments (Nos. 3382 through 3424), were agreed to en bloc as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 3382

(Purpose: To clarify the duties of the Chief of Naval Research as the Navy's manager of research funds)

On page 353, between lines 15 and 16, insert the following:

SEC. 914. MANAGEMENT OF NAVY RESEARCH FUNDS BY CHIEF OF NAVAL RESEARCH.

(a) CLARIFICATION OF DUTIES.—Section 5022 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively;

(2) by inserting after paragraph (1) of subsection (a) the following:

“(b)(1) The Chief of Naval Research is the head of the Office of Naval Research.”; and

(3) by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection (c):

“(c) CHIEF AS MANAGER OF RESEARCH FUNDS.—The Chief of Naval Research shall manage the Navy's basic, applied, and advanced research funds to foster transition from science and technology to higher levels of research, development, test, and evaluation.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (a) of such section is amended by striking “(a)(1)” and inserting “(a)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3383

(Purpose: To provide, with an offset, \$5,000,000 for research, development, test, and evaluation Defense-wide for the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program (PE603716D) for technologies for the detection and transport of pollutants resulting from live-fire activities)

On page 48, between lines 20 and 21, insert the following:

SEC. 222. TECHNOLOGIES FOR DETECTION AND TRANSPORT OF POLLUTANTS ATTRIBUTABLE TO LIVE-FIRE ACTIVITIES.

(a) INCREASE IN AMOUNT.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(4) for research, development, test, and evaluation Defense-wide is hereby increased by \$5,000,000.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNT.—Of the amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(4), as increased by subsection (a), the amount available for the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program (PE6034716D) is hereby increased by \$5,000,000, with the amount of such increase available for the development and test of technologies to detect, analyze, and map the presence of, and transport of, pollutants and contaminants at sites undergoing the detection and remediation of constituents attributable to live-fire activities in a variety of hydrogeological scenarios.

(c) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT.—Performance measures shall be established for the technologies described in subsection (b) for purposes of facilitating the implementation and utilization of such technologies by the Department of Defense.

(d) OFFSET.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(1) for research, development, test, and evaluation for the Army is hereby decreased by \$5,000,000, with

the amount of such decrease applied to Combat Vehicle and Automotive Advanced Technology (PE603005A).

AMENDMENT NO. 3384

(Purpose: To increase by \$45,000,000 the amount authorized to be appropriated for environmental restoration of formerly used defense sites and reduce defense-wide operations and maintenance accounts by \$45,000,000 for mobility enhancements)

On page 55, strike lines 13 and 14, and insert the following:

(18) For Environmental Restoration, Formerly Used Defense Sites, \$231,499,000.

On page 54, line 16, strike “\$11,973,569,000” and insert “\$11,928,569,000”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3385

(Purpose: To set aside for weatherproofing of facilities at Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi, \$2,800,000 of the amount authorized to be appropriated for the Air Force for operation and maintenance)

On page 58, between lines 7 and 8, insert the following:

SEC. 313. WEATHERPROOFING OF FACILITIES AT KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, MISSISSIPPI.

Of the total amount authorized to be appropriated by section 301(4), \$2,800,000 is available for the weatherproofing of facilities at Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi.

AMENDMENT NO. 3386

(Purpose: To remove the inclusion of housing in the determining of income eligibility for WIC support for members of the Armed Forces overseas)

On page 239, after line 22, insert the following:

SEC. 656. DETERMINATIONS OF INCOME ELIGIBILITY FOR SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM.

Section 1060a(c)(1)(B) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking the second sentence and inserting the following: “In the application of such criterion, the Secretary shall exclude from income any basic allowance for housing as permitted under section 17(d)(2)(B) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(d)(2)(B)).”.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I am offering a bipartisan amendment with my distinguished colleagues, Mr. LUGAR and Mr. LEAHY. This amendment would simply change the rules on eligibility of overseas troops for the supplemental nutrition program to be the same as the rules for troops in the United States. It corrects an inequity that would otherwise harm thousands of our troops overseas.

We have had much discussion of the disgrace that some of our men and women in uniform, who are risking their lives to serve our nation, have to rely on welfare to feed their families. Thousands of our troops are eligible for food stamps and WIC, the supplemental nutrition program. This is an outrage, and I will continue to work to increase the pay of our enlisted men and women, the real solution to this problem.

But it is even more outrageous that some of our troops who need this assistance cannot get it, just because of where they are stationed. WIC is administered by the States. Since our troops overseas are not in a State, in the past they have not received any