The Senate met at 10:01 a.m., and was called to order by the Honorable JAMES M. JEFFORDS, a Senator from the State of Vermont.

PRAYER
The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:
Almighty God, Sovereign of history, we join with Jews throughout the world in the joyous celebration of Purim. We thank You for the inspiring memory of Queen Esther who, in the fifth century B.C., threw caution to the wind and interceded with her husband, the King of Persia, to save the exiled Jewish people from persecution. The words of her uncle, Mordecai, sound in our souls: “You have come to the kingdom for such a time as this.”—Esther 4:14.

Lord of circumstances, we are moved profoundly by the way You use individuals to accomplish Your plans and arrange what seems like coincidence to bring about Your will for Your people. You have brought each of us to Your kingdom for such a time as this. You whisper in our souls, “I have plans for you, plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.”—Jeremiah 29:11.

Grant the Senators a heightened sense of the special role You have for each of them to play in the unfolding drama of American history. Give them a sense of destiny and a deep dependence on Your guidance and grace.

On Purim, we renew our commitment to fight against sectarian intolerance in our own hearts and religious persecution in so many places in the world. This is Your world; let us not forget that “though the wrong seems oft so strong, You are the Ruler yet.” Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The Honorable JAMES M. JEFFORDS led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:
I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,

To the Senate:
Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JAMES M. JEFFORDS, a Senator from the State of Vermont, to perform the duties of the Chair.

STROM THURMOND,
President pro tempore.

Mr. JEFFORDS thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

SCHEDULE
Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, today the Senate will immediately resume consideration of S. 420, the Bankruptcy Reform Act. There are several amendments pending, and others are expected to be offered. Any votes ordered during today’s and Monday’s session will be scheduled to occur on Tuesday, at 11 a.m. Senators with amendments are, again, encouraged to come to the floor today and Monday to offer their amendments. As previously announced, it is hoped that all action on this bill can be completed by midweek next week. I thank my colleagues for their cooperation.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME
The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

BANKRUPTCY REFORM ACT OF 2001
The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. 420, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 420) to amend title 11, United States Code, and for other purposes.

Pending:
Schumer amendment No. 25, to ensure that the bankruptcy code is not used to exacerbate the effects of certain illegal predatory lending practices.

Feinstein amendment No. 27, to place a $2,500 cap on any credit card issued to a minor, unless the minor submits an application with the signature of his parents or 

This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.
guardian indicating joint liability for debt or the minor submits financial information indicating an independent means or an ability to repay the debt that the card accrues.

Leahy amendment No. 20, to establish an off-budget lockbox to strengthen Social Security and Medicare.

Sessions amendment No. 32, to establish a procedure to safeguard the surpluses of the Social Security and Medicare hospital insurance trust funds.

Mr. REID addressed the Chair.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The senior Senator from Utah.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I see the manager of the bankruptcy bill coming on the floor. If there are matters dealing with bankruptcy that the Senator wants to take care of at this time, I will be happy to yield to him. I know Senator CONRAD wishes to speak some time this morning.

I yield to my friend from Utah.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The senior Senator from Utah.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, we are now on the 4th day of debating the bankruptcy reform legislation. Yesterday we were given a list of some 100 amendments to the bill. Members are serious about their amendments, then I ask that they come down and offer them, and that they do so now, so we can see the actual text and avoid any further undue delays and move forward with this much needed reform legislation. There may be one or two amendments on our side, but I do not think much more than that. So it comes down to getting our friends on the other side to come and offer their amendments and we will go from there.

I understand Senator CONRAD will be here in a few minutes to speak to one of his amendments. With that, I yield back to the senior Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I say to my friend, the senior Senator from Utah, I thought we made headway yesterday, with the majority leader, where he indicated he thought it was important that we work our way through these amendments. He and Senator Daschle thought that was the best way to proceed, I agree.

They have a goal of finishing this bill next week. There are other matters because of calendar obligations that have not must be taken up the following week. I think we can work our way through these amendments.

I agree with my friend from Utah, the manager of this bill, that we should move on some of these amendments. We have an 8 day delay and a 1 day Monday. After Monday there are going to be people saying: I don’t have time to debate this. I don’t have time to offer this. Here are 2 full days uninterrupted. They can talk as long as they want but I do not think we can have some of these amendments offered.

Mr. President, I recognize that Senator CONRAD will be here shortly. With the consent of my friend from Utah, I ask unanimous consent to proceed, for the purposes of introducing a bill, as in morning business.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. REID. Senator HATCH, I will, with your permission, until Senator CONRAD gets here, be as in morning business to introduce a bill.

Mr. HATCH. Fine.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The remarks of Mr. REID pertaining to the introduction of S. 503 are located in today’s Record under “Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.”)

Mr. REID, Mr. President, I know my friend from North Dakota is going to address the Senate on a very important amendment. But I wanted to say—for I have not had an opportunity publicly to do so since Senator CONRAD and I came to the Senate together; we were elected in 1986. We both had tough, hard-fought elections, and we were grateful for the people of our respective States allowing us to serve in the Senate. We have gotten to know each other very well in the years since 1986.

I have been in public life all my adult life—they were all part-time jobs until I came here in 1962 to the House of Representatives. I have seen a lot of people and worked with people in many different capacities in government. During my career, I have never known anybody who has a better grasp of finances than Kent CONRAD. He not only understands them, but he can articulate them. I speak for the entire Democratic caucus, and I think most Republicans, in indicating how good he is and how well he understands numbers. The people of North Dakota and this country are so fortunate to have someone who understands money. It is easy to understand the more sexy issues, for lack of a better description, such as crime and punishment and education. But money is hard to explain. Dollars are hard to explain. Budgets are hard to explain. Taxes are hard to explain.

I repeat that I have never known anybody in my career who better understands and can better express himself in his understanding than Kent CONRAD.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from North Dakota is recognized.

Mr. CONRAD, Mr. President, I thank my colleague for nice, kind words this morning. I appreciate that. I rise this morning to talk about what I think is a very important amendment. It is an amendment I offered yesterday to provide protection to the trust funds of Social Security and Medicare. We call it the Social Security and Medicare off-budget lockbox. It is designed to save both Social Security and Medicare.

Mr. President, this is critically important because it is right at the heart of the debate that is going to occur this year over our budget priorities. My Social Security and Medicare lockbox amendment protects Social Security surpluses in each and every year, takes the Medicare Part A trust fund off the budget, gives Medicare the same protections as the Social Security trust fund, and it contains strong enforcement provisions.

This is the amendment we voted on last year on the floor of the Senate. We had 60 votes, a strong bipartisan vote, to protect both the Social Security trust fund and the Medicare trust fund.

Speaker HASTERT, in speaking on a bill offered in the House said:

We are going to wall off Social Security trust funds and Medicare trust funds . . . and consequently, we pay down the public debt when we do that. So we are going to continue to do that. That’s in the parameters of our budget and we are not going to dip into that at all.

In other words, the Speaker is endorsing the principle, at least, of what is contained in this amendment, this legislation. Unfortunately, if you look at the lockbox they passed in the House, it has a giant trapdoor. It is not really protecting the Social Security and the Medicare trust fund. I think we can do better here in the Senate. We did last year, and I think we can again this year.

Really, what they passed is what I call a “leaky lockbox.” It doesn’t really protect Social Security and Medicare trust funds because it has a big exception that will allow them to be used for other purposes, to be used for new commitments for Social Security and Medicare.

I think all of us know we need the Social Security and Medicare trust funds to keep the promises that have already been made. We have additional challenges, no question about that. We have a long-term challenge of Social Security that will not be solved even by saving every penny of the trust fund. We are going to have to put more money into it. But I don’t believe we should set those funds up to be raided for any other purpose.

Some will say if you save the Social Security and Medicare trust funds, you are going to build up cash, and then the Government will have to figure out what to do with that cash. Let me just say that we have done a detailed cashflow analysis. You can save every penny of the Social Security and Medicare trust funds and have no buildup of surplus cash until the year 2010—2015 is 9 years from now. That gives us plenty of time to adjust to that, if indeed it begins to happen.

If these forecasts that have been made actually develop, if we actually see them coming true, we will have plenty of additional time to adjust.

I go back to a statement made by a fellow Budget Committee member, Senator Baucus. In speaking on the lockbox, he said, back in 1998, in the Budget Committee deliberations:
But the fundamental strength of it is, whether they are Democrats or Republicans who have gotten together in these dark corners of very bright rooms and said, what would we do if we had a half trillion dollars to spend? The obvious answer that cries out is Medicare. I think it is logical. People understood the President on saving Social Security and Medicare in the same way. We ought to protect them both, give them the same protections. We don’t in current law. In current law, we give much more protection to the Social Security trust fund than we do the Medicare trust fund.

We all know the Medicare trust fund is in greater danger; we face insolvency in a more recent timeframe than we do with Social Security. So what we are saying is not to protect them both. That just makes common sense.

The chairman of the Budget Committee said this at that same time back in 1998:

For every dollar you divert to some other program, you are spending the day when Medicare falls into bankruptcy and you are making it more and more difficult to solve the Medicare problem in a permanent manner into the next millennium.

That is absolutely right. The chairman of the Budget Committee was right then, and this same sentiment is right now. We should not raid the Medicare trust fund for other purposes. That hastens its insolvency.

Let me say the proposal the Republicans have made that will be the competing proposal to what I have offered, which will be voted on on Tuesday, I refer to as the “Republican broken safe.” Under the President’s budget plan that he has sent us, not a penny is reserved for the Medicare trust fund, not a penny. That is kind of startling and almost hard to believe, but it is true.

So their broken safe has a wide open door on it. It has a wide open door because the President doesn’t reserve any money for the Medicare trust fund. It has a wide open door because the proposal that has come over from the House is very leaky. It has a huge, “we will protect the Medicare trust fund, unless we don’t.” That is not going to work, or sell, and it should not because it is not right.

One of the reasons this proposal is necessary is because, if you look at the President’s budget proposal, it simply does not add up. As I have gone through the numbers and tried to determine the President’s plan and the effect of the President’s plan, here is what I have found: The projected surplus is $5.6 trillion. That is what the CBO says and what theOMB says, and we all know that is a 10-year forecast, and we all know it is highly uncertain. We all know there is only a 10-percent chance that is really going to come true. The people who made the forecast told us there is a 45-percent chance it will be greater than that. There is a 45-percent chance it will be lower than that.

That counsels to many of us that we ought to be very careful of what the President says the Social Security trust fund is $2.6 trillion out of that $5.6 trillion. His documents say the Medicare trust fund is $500 billion of that $5.6 trillion.

If you subtract out the Social Security and the Medicare trust funds, you wind up with an available surplus of $2.5 trillion.

If we look at the cost of the Bush tax cut, here is what we find. It has been advertised as a tax cut of $1.6 trillion. But when the House considered parts of the President’s tax cut, they reestimated, and they increased the cost by over $100 billion. For just part of what the President has proposed, they have increased the cost by over $100 billion.

Part of that is moving up the effective date. Part of it is a reestimate of the true cost of parts of the President’s proposal. Instead of a $1.6 trillion tax cut, it is a $1.7 trillion tax cut.

In the same vein, when we were told by the President, the alternative minimum tax will affect not 2 million people, but over 30 million people. Let me repeat that. The Joint Tax Committee has now told us that if we pass the President’s plan, the alternative minimum tax will affect not 2 million people, but over 30 million people.

That to be added to the President’s plan. It is not in the President’s plan. It is not there, but this is made more necessary by the President’s plan, and it will cost $300 billion to fix it.

One of the reasons this proposal is necessary is because, if you look at the President’s budget proposal, it simply does not add up. As I have gone through the numbers and tried to determine the President’s plan and the effect of the President’s plan, here is what I have found: The projected surplus is $5.6 trillion. That is what the CBO says and what the OMB says, and we all know that is a 10-year forecast, and we all know it is highly uncertain. We all know there is only a 10-percent chance that is really going to come to be far higher than the previous estimate because of the economic changes that have occurred in the interim.

They have not reestimated his marriage penalty proposal, which we know is going to be higher, again because of changes that have occurred since the previous estimate. This is before any defense initiative sent forward by the President. Does anybody in this Chamber not believe the President is going to send up a major defense initiative next year? We know he is. I personally believe he should. I think we are going to need more money in defense, but it does not end there.

Some of the tax extenders are included in the President’s baseline; others are not. We all know the provisions that affect energy are going to be extended in the Tax Code. There is a cost to that. That is not in these calculations, and it does not stop there because we now know the President’s prescription drug proposal is wildly deficient in terms of the resources he has dedicated to a prescription drug benefit.

The Republican chairman of the Finance Committee said to us the number he is reporting to having to have to have a serious prescription drug benefit; it is going to be much higher than what is in the President’s budget. The President has $153 billion in his estimate for a prescription drug benefit. The Congressional Budget Office is telling us the estimates on all the prescription drug proposals are being increased by about one-third because of new information on what is happening to the cost of pharmaceuticals.

I am saying this to my colleagues and I am saying this to anybody who is listening because when you add these things up, the President’s proposal simply does not make it. There is this tremendous gap between what is available and what we need to protect Social Security and Medicare trust funds and what is being used. In fact, it is very clear that the President is using all of the non-trust-fund money for his tax cut and its related expenses.

It is clear, I just do not know how any of this can be in any serious question. We all agree on the projected surplus, and I think most of us understand it is highly uncertain. It is a 10-year number. The forecasting agency itself has told us it is highly uncertain. This is the President’s own number in the Social Security trust fund. This is his number for the Medicare trust fund.

The Bush tax cut—this is the reestimate done on the House side of just part of the plan, and it added $100 billion to the $1.6 trillion that has been so much discussed. We know there is an interest cost associated with any tax cut or any spending proposal. The spending initiatives of the President are not in dispute. It is $200 billion above the so-called baseline.

The only question there can be of these figures is this one, fixing the alternative minimum tax. The President...
has not included it in his plan, but it is clearly made necessary by his plan. We cannot take 2 million people who are currently caught up in the alternative minimum tax and have it affect 30 million people. That will never be tolerated in this country, all in deficit not be. It will shift tax liability for 30 million taxpayers. And they are not saying 30 million, they are saying substantially in excess of 30 million people will be caught up in the alternative minimum tax if the Bush tax cut proposal is passed costs $300 billion to fix. That is not Kent Conrad’s number. That is the number of the Joint Committee on Taxation.

There is something else people should know in this Chamber that I call the dirty little secret of the President’s budget proposal. The President’s budget is in deficit in the year 2005 if he does not raid the Medicare trust fund. The reason I believe his proposal does not protect the Medicare trust fund is that he needs money in the year 2005 to avoid being in deficit.

These are the numbers from his proposal. What they show is that in the year 2005, the President’s budget is in deficit unless he is using the full Medicare surplus. Some of us believe that is a profound mistake, that is not a place we should go; we should not raid the Social Security trust fund surplus for any other purpose; we should not raid the Medicare trust fund surplus for any other purpose; we should hold those funds for the purposes intended. We should protect the Social Security trust fund. We should protect the Medicare trust fund. We should not allow them to be raided for any other purpose.

This year, certain Republicans have asserted there is no trust fund surplus in Medicare. It is a bizarre argument, is the only thing I can say. Their argument is there is a Part A trust fund surplus in Medicare and a Part B trust fund surplus. They say the trust fund surplus for each of them is in surplus by $500 billion. They say the Part B surplus is in deficit.

As I said yesterday, there is no Part B trust fund deficit. There is none. They are arguing there is a surplus in Part A, there is a deficit in B, so let’s not count the trust funds at all in Medicare.

What a bizarre argument. No. 1, they are factually wrong. There is no deficit over the 10 years in Part B. I direct them to page 19 of the Congressional Budget Office report. Page 19 of this report, available to every Member of Congress, makes it very clear in table 1. It is titled “Trust Fund Surpluses.”

First is Social Security. We all know Social Security has a trust fund and it is in surplus. That is, it is in surplus during this period of time. It is needed when the baby boomers start to retire. So “surplus” is a little misleading. It is in surplus temporarily, but it is committed to the liability.

The next trust fund mentioned is the Medicare trust fund’s Part A. The Congressional Budget Office showed over a $400 billion surplus. Their numbers are somewhat different from the President’s numbers. The President has an even larger surplus in trust fund Part A. He has a $500 billion surplus.

In Part B, where some are claiming it is in deficit, the Congressional Budget Office shows very clearly there is no deficit over the 10-year period in Part B, it is roughly in balance.

The argument that some on the other side are making is only 25 percent of the Part B trust fund is for premiums and 75 percent comes from the general fund, that means it is in deficit. That isn’t what the law says. That isn’t what the actuaries say. That isn’t what the Congressional Budget Office reports. They report the Part A trust fund is in surplus. They report that the Part B is in balance over the 10-year period. There is no justification for making the claim that if you put the two together there is no surplus at all, because they balance each other.

Even if there weren’t, if there were a deficit in Part B, what earthly sense would it make to move the Part A trust fund surplus to a category called “the general fund contingency fund” in the President’s plan? That is what he has done. He has taken all of the Medicare trust fund money and moved it from a committed category, a trust fund category, to an undesignated category, a category available for any other kind of spending.

In my State yesterday, he stated he has this fund, this uncategorized fund, this undesignated fund, and if you need more money, go to that fund. It is kind of the magic asterisk. There is no such fund. There is no such fund unless you raid every penny of the Medicare trust fund. If somebody does it, they will be held to account, because some of us are going to tell them the truth and we are going to remind people there is a trust fund of Medicare and a trust fund of Social Security and that both of them deserve protection and both of them should be used for other purposes.

I frankly think we ought to put more money in agriculture, but I am not for taking it out of the Medicare trust fund. Any move to use the Medicare trust fund money for other purposes, moves up the date of insolveney, and in fact the President’s plan to take the $500 billion from the Medicare trust fund and use it for his so-called contingency fund to fund defense spending or agriculture spending or any other kind of spending, that moves up the date of insolvency of the Medicare trust fund.

In fact, the actuaries say if we do what the President’s plan proposes and take the money from the Medicare trust fund, put it in the contingency funds, and make it available for other spending, we move up the date of insolvency of the Medicare trust fund by 16 months and it goes broke by the year 2009.

Some of us will not have any part of that plan because it is wrong. It is wrong for the country. It is wrong for Medicare. It is wrong to take trust fund money that has been designated for a specific purpose and seek to raid it for other purposes. That is what has gotten us into financial trouble in the past. That is what we should get us into financial trouble in the future, if we permitted it to happen.

This is a debate that deserves to be heard all across this country. It is fundamental to the economic future of America. Do we raid the trust funds to provide a tax cut? Do we protect them? That is the question.

I believe our colleagues will rally around a principle they have rallied around before, which is the fundamental notion, you don’t raid trust funds: You don’t raid Social Security trust funds; you don’t raid Medicare trust funds; those funds ought to be lockedbox, they ought to be walled off, they ought to be protected. That is what this amendment is all about. I believe this is what the American people support.

On Thursday, the Los Angeles Times reported that the American people, if they are asked: Are you for the Bush tax cut? Are you against it? overwhelmingly, they say they are for it. If you ask the American people about the choices, they give quite a different answer. When The Los Angeles Times asked in a nationwide poll if they would prefer the Bush tax cut or the Democratic proposal that had a tax cut half as big as the President proposed, with more money for Medicare, more money for education, and more money to pay down debt—which would they prefer—then the American people gave this answer: 30 percent said they were for the Bush tax cut; 55 percent said they were for the Democrat plan to reduce the size of the President’s tax cut in half and to have more money to strengthen Medicare, to improve education, and to pay down more of the debt.

That is what the American people are supporting. Yes, they want a tax cut, but they want one that is affordable. They want one that gives room to strengthen Social Security, improve Medicare, enhance education, strengthen defense, and pay down more of our national debt. That is what the American people are. That is where I hope this Chamber will be.

The first fundamental test is on Tuesday. The basic question: Do we protect the Social Security and Medicare trust funds? I hope very much we get the same result this year as we got last year. The result last year was 60 votes, on a strong bipartisan basis, for the fundamental principle that we do not permit a raid of the Social Security or the Medicare trust funds. That is important for the future of our country and the important of our economy. I hope very much this Chamber will say we are not going to abandon fiscal discipline.
We are not going to abandon the notion that we ought to pursue the maximum paydown of both our short-term and long-term debt. That is in America’s interest. That is what is at stake on Tuesday. I thank the Chair. I yield the floor.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Roberts). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I was sitting here mulling things over after I listened to my colleague from North Dakota and his very erudite comments about the budget, about President Bush’s budget, the tax cut package, and so forth.

It is kind of amazing to me because, in all honesty, I am afraid our colleagues on the other side completely ignore what happened during the Reagan years. In their zeal to say that President Reagan caused the budget deficits, they ignore the impact of the marginal tax rate reductions that occurred during those years.

The reason I know a little bit about this is because I was one of a handful who worked very hard to convince President Reagan to cut the marginal tax rates, which at that point topped out at 70 percent in this country. He cut the maximum rate down to 28 percent by 1986.

I remember all the arguments that were raised then by our colleagues on the other side; and they basically centered on the fact that if you cut taxes like that, you will run us into huge deficits because by cutting taxes, you will cut revenues. Those were the arguments raised by our colleagues on the other side. They have completely glossed over what really happened in saying that all of the subsequent deficits occurred because of Ronald Reagan and his tax cuts.

The real facts are that Ronald Reagan’s tax cuts—those marginal tax rate reductions from 70 percent down to 28 percent, by 1986—helped to lead us into an unprecedented era of prosperity we still enjoy today, and that the resulting fiscal restraints that came about after those cuts did not decrease, except for one single year. In fact, annual revenue to the Treasury actually almost doubled during the Reagan years.

The fact is, those tax cuts led to greater revenues because more people saved their money. Instead of the federal government spending it, most people invested their money, created businesses, opportunities, and jobs for others. In the end, we actually received more tax revenues.

Well, then, how did we get the big deficits? In part, the deficits came from Reagan’s increases in military spending. But let’s stop and think about that for a minute. That spending has been highly criticized. But defense is the only area where he literally increased spending that I can recall. All of the other increases in spending came from our friends on the other side and liberals with the additional spending, which was not anywhere near as high as the percentage of the budget that John F. Kennedy was spending, we have probably saved trillions of dollars over the years since the cold war came to an end.

It is kind of amazing to me because our liberal friends in this body are constantly talking about balancing the budget. It never ceases to amaze me because in 1994, when they controlled both Houses of Congress, and President Clinton was President, their budget projections showed $200 billion in deficits every year ad infinitum. Tell me that isn’t true. I know it is. I was here—$200 billion every year, henceforth in the future. Basically, President Clinton said there was not much we could do about it.

And then, all of a sudden, the first Republican Congress in almost 40 years came into being, and we started pushing for a balanced budget, which we couldn’t achieve after achieving our wish. Our liberal friends are trying to claim they balanced the budget. Give me a break.

I am talking about liberals on both sides of the aisle. If you just look at last year, the people in these two bodies could not control spending and it went up in whopping fashion. The reason it went up is because there was no pressure to control spending because we had a surplus, and we could just tap into that surplus at will.

I might also add that President Clinton used the surpluses for “emergency” spending that exceeded $20 billion a year. Frankly, almost everything they wanted to spend on, from a liberal perspective, suddenly became an emergency. Some of those programs were emergencies, but certainly not all.

I guess what I am saying is, if we do not give the taxpayers back some of this $5.6 trillion projected surplus—and I have to say $1.6 trillion of the $5.6 trillion isn’t very much—if we do not give them back some of that surplus, I guarantee you the wonderful Members of Congress, especially those on the liberal side—but I have to say some conservatives, too; all of us are to blame—we will spend every stinking dime of it. Americans are going to be the worse off for it.

When I hear these analyses done by our friends on the other side, they never give credit for the dynamic effects of cutting marginal tax rates. They always use static budgetary figures that never take into consideration economic stimuli that comes from cutting taxes and giving people a break.

Of course, they have been able to get away with it for years because, for all of the time I have been here, and I have been here for 25 years—there has never been a conservative control of either House of Congress. It has always
been under the control, if you look at the numbers, of the left. And the left believes in spending. They believe the Federal Government is the last answer to everything.

They believe the Federal Government is the one answer to all our problems, big and small. The Federal Government, they believe, is going to take care of all of us. They ignore the economic fact that there are some dynamics in economics that do occur when you give incentives to the American people.

We have an $8 trillion projected surplus. Most economists, including OMB, including CBO, indicate that this may be a conservative figure. It may be even beyond that if we do what is right. One of the things we can do to make sure it is a conservative figure and to make sure we might even get more money in revenue is to cut marginal tax rates because it does work to do so. If we have the guts and the brains and the ability to do that, the American economy is going to be much better off.

President Bush has said he doesn’t want a spending increase of more than 4 percent in the total budget. He has also said he will be reasonable with regard to the spending needs of Congress. He has also said that the Federal Government is going to defend the budget surplus by putting $2.6 trillion into Social Security and Medicare. I think such a kick out of the lockbox arguments on both sides because there is no lockbox. There is never going to be a lockbox. The fact is, if we save that money, unless we reform Medicare and Social Security, we are going to have to take that money and either spend it, which is what Congress will probably do, or we are going to pay down the national debt, which is what we should do to an extent.

Even if you save the $2.6 trillion for Social Security and Medicare, that is not going to do much good unless we reform those programs. Everybody knows there are approximately 40 million people on Medicare now. That is going to rise to 80 million people by the year 2005. If we don’t do something now to reform Medicare, it won’t make any difference how much money we put in there. It will not be enough. Social Security has some of the same problems.

When Social Security came into existence there were 46 workers. If I recall correctly, for everybody receiving Social Security. Today, it is 3.4 workers for everybody on Social Security, going down to 3, maybe 2.9 in the next 10 years, 2.9 workers for everybody receiving Social Security.

What future for our kids have unless we reform these programs and make them work and make them live within their means? I hear all these comments about a lockbox and how we have to save Medicare and Social Security. Yet I don’t see a lot of effort being made, at least by the left and maybe some of us on the right, being made to save these programs, to reform them, and make them work. I am very concerned about these issues.

President Bush is willing to set aside $2.6 trillion of the projected surplus. He wants $1.6 trillion for a tax cut, and that still leaves a considerable amount for other problems we have. That surplus won’t be there if we keep taxing and spending as we have a tendency to do.

Last year was a perfect illustration, as we just spent ourselves into a blind alley. The President actually handled the budget, those who handle the appropriations process, are having a heck of a time trying to hold the more moderate-to-liberal members among us from spending this Nation into bankruptcy.

Yet all we hear is, shouldn’t we cut taxes? When you have a $5.6 trillion projected surplus, by gosh, you know the taxpayers are paying too much in taxes. It is the time to give them some of these taxes back. Is this $1.6 trillion tax cut exorbitant? Hardly. It is about half in relative terms what John F. Kennedy did and only a third of what Ronald Reagan did. It is not a great big ballooning tax cut. The fact is, if we cut taxes, this economy will be stimulated, it will be spurred on to higher revenue.

The so-called “budget surplus” is really an overcollection of taxes which belongs to the American people. There is no question about it. One of the things we need to understand is that the budget surplus is not the result of some brilliant new goods or services the Federal Government sells. The Government’s revenues come from collections from the American people. The Federal Government hasn’t created this surplus.

Some on the other side would say their massive increases of taxes, such as the 1993 tax increase, have helped. I suspect that is possibly true. Then again, doesn’t that argue in my favor and mean the point I am actually making: we are taxing the American people far too much when you have these kinds of surpluses? There are some on the other side who have never seen a spending bill they didn’t fall in love with. There are some on the other side who have never said, in the whole time I have known them—and I think we could pick them out rather easily—they have never said: Where are we going to get the money to pay for these programs?

There are some on the other side who really do want us to have the Federal Government take care of everybody from the cradle to the grave. That sounds wonderful except it would make this United States an Asian country like so many others that have taken that type of philosophy and put it into practice.

What we have to do as Members of Congress is to support this President. The American people did elect him. In fact, they voted overwhelmingly and groaning and grouching about Florida. The facts are that George Bush did win Florida. He probably won New Mexico, too. Because Florida was where it was at, they didn’t contest New Mexico. He probably won a few other States. If you look at some of the reports that have come in, there is no reason for anybody on the other side to be complaining at this particular point.

Some have said Gore received a half million more votes. Well, that is irrelevant because we have an electoral college system where we have a direct election by 50 States, not by 280 million people, and unless you vote for a particular candidate in their respective States. There is a genius to that system because it makes our system for running for President a truly national election rather than a series of regional elections.

Under this system, a candidate can’t afford to ignore any State, any of the 50 States, when he or she is running for President.

If you need any further proof, just look at the last election. Wyoming, with three electoral college votes, made the difference. I might add, Vermont would have made the difference with three. North Dakota would have made the difference with three, or Alaska with three votes. Every State was in play. There was a great deal of the Federal election system, a candidate can’t afford to ignore any State, any of the 50 States, when he or she is running for President.

Our electoral college system requires a national, not a regional, campaign. Why is that important? Because the Founding Fathers were afraid, in fact, they said, that the Federal Government, the more rural States, would be completely obliterated by those who had all the money and the population. So they gave a little advantage to the small States by having the House of Representatives elected proportionately but the Senate with equal rights of suffrage for every State. In other words, Utah, with 2.1 million people, has the same number of Senators as California with 32 million. The reason was because they wanted to have the Senate not represent the country as a whole. Why? Senators have 6-year terms, so they can rise above politics occasionally.

The fact is, our electoral college system works very well because Presidential campaigns have to be national, not regional! The media would not control the Federal election completely, which they would, because only the 10 or 12 largest States would control the country. What it means is that George Bush, if we had a direct popular election, would have had a lot more time in New York, a lot more time in California, a lot more time in Michigan, a lot more time in Illinois. He would have picked up those 500,000 votes or more. He didn’t spend a lot of time in States he knew he was going to lose. He had to try to make sure he ran a national campaign and picked up enough votes to win the electoral college, so that no 6, or 8, or 10, or 12 States, at the most, would control everything in this country. The media would not control the Federal election in this country. Nobody doubts for a minute that the media is one-sided. Everybody in America
knows the media are certainly tilted to the left. It is awfully hard to even get a job in the media unless you are on the left. We all know that; the media knows that; there isn’t even a question about it.

So, an electoral college system does work. It makes it a national election, not a regional election. The media can’t control the election. You have to campaign in all of the respective States, and, literally, it makes a lot of sense. This proposition proved that more than ever before.

I hear these arguments that George Bush is taking us down the road to destruction because he wants to give the American people some of their money back. George Bush is absolutely right on his tax cut. There should not be a

$5.6 trillion surplus without a realization that the American people are being taxed and overtaxed. I have to tell you I don’t do it for the sake of maybe to ‘do good’ with all that money. In the end, we will kill this economy deader than a doornail.

So what President Bush is fighting for out in the hinterland right now is extremely important. It will make the difference as to whether we have another 17 or 18 years of economic prosperity, with continual rises in productivity and other benefits that are economic in nature, or whether we start descending a step up the ladder as a nation. I believe that is one reason he was elected. I believe that is one reason we need to support him.

I have heard a lot about bipartisanship around here. In all honesty, this is a good chance for everybody to show bipartisanship and support the President in the one program that he really thinks is the centerpiece of his agenda. We are going to try to do something on education, but let’s be honest about that; the Federal Government affects only about 7 percent of all public education in this country; 93 percent of all educational funds come from the States. That is where they ought to come from, and that is where the power ought to be, and that is where the authority ought to be. But President Bush is going to do what he can in education. That will probably be the next bill on the floor after bankruptcy.

That the Bush tax cut legislation is the same as Ronald Rea- gan’s. When Reagan came in, people laughed at first when he started talking about a 25-percent marginal tax rate reduction over a 3-year period. But you can’t do it today. It was the Reagan marginal tax rate reductions that almost doubled the revenues. It was Congress’ spending that put us into the huge deficits we had. Plus, he did increase the military, but we ended the cold war, which saved us trillions of dollars over the years.

Then we had a battle for the balanced budget amendment year after year. We knew we would always lose that battle. There was only one time we had a chance of winning. It had to be waged, and it got the American people thinking, my gosh, they are right, we should balance the budget. It was the 1997 capital gains rate reductions, that Senator Lautenberg and others in the Congress fought so hard to get, which helped to stabilize the economy. It helped in so many ways. It was the productivity that grew out of those issues. I think Alan Greenspan, to a large degree, has done very remarkable work at the Fed. I think Bob Rubin did a very good job in stabilizing world markets as Treasury Secretary. But it was the first Republican Congress in almost 40 years that insisted on balancing the budget, and President Clinton was brought reluctantly with us. We insisted on balancing the budget, and we were able to finally do it. Our colleagues on the left are now claiming they are the ones who did it. Go figure!

As bad as spending was last year, it could have been far worse. We had to fight every inch of the way to control it, to the extent that we could. It would have gone completely out of control. It is not all the left’s fault; some of the blame is on the right as well. All of these factors came together to bring us to the point now where we have a balanced budget and a projected $5.6 trillion surplus. I suggest there will still be not more if we cut tax rates by $1.6 trillion, as President Bush would like to.

I get a little tired of this class warfare that goes on around here, too. It gets very old to hear that “the upper 1 percent” is going to benefit so much and those making $25,000 a year will get no benefits out of this program. That is not true. All levels of taxpayers are going to get tax cuts from the Bush plan.

A family of four earning $35,000 a year or less will pay nothing in taxes. There is a good reason that taxpayers with even lower incomes are not going to get much benefit from the tax cut they don’t pay any taxes to begin with, as far as income taxes are concerned. They do pay through the nose, especially if they are self-employed, on Social Security, FICA taxes, there is no question about it. We need to do something about that, but not without some reform of the Social Security system.

If you look back at it, the upper 5 percent of income-taxpayer pay 50 percent of all the income taxes in this country. All Bush wants to do is reduce the top rate from 39.6 percent down to 25 percent, and the other three brackets corresponding, with the lower ones being reduced the most.

Guess what the bottom 50 percent pay in Federal income taxes. Less than 5 percent of Federal income taxes. So naturally I and those benefiting from marginal rate reductions will be those who pay taxes. Naturally, there will be people who are wealthy and who will benefit from that tax rate reduction. But these people don’t take that money and put it into socks or mattresses, they put it into productive uses, by and large, and in the process create more opportunity, jobs, high-technology, and they keep the United States strong. These economic programs that have made us the greatest Nation in the world.

Yes, those who pay taxes are going to get tax reductions. Those who don’t are going to get plenty of benefits from the Federal Government. We do need to do something to save Social Security and Medicare, no question about it. I, for one, hope we have the guts to do something about that over the next few years. But when I hear these comments all based on a static economic analysis, never considering the dynamism we have all seen occur since 1982, just completely ignoring that and acting as though it doesn’t exist, and coming out with these doomsday scenarios trying to undermine what President Bush is trying to do, which is to just get the taxpayers a little bit back. In comparison to John F. Kennedy and Ronald Reagan, the Bush tax cut is half of the Kennedy tax cut and one-third of the Reagan tax cut. If you want to put it in relative terms.

I hear these doomsday scenarios that we should not cut taxes because we have so much for which we need to spend that money. I am not speaking of my friend from North Dakota. I think he literally wants to do what is right, but he is using the static economic analyses that aren’t necessarily accurate.

You can use figures to make any point you want. But there is one figure you can’t ignore, and that is a $5.6 trillion surplus that virtually all of the major economic analytical groups say is going to be there. If that is so, then you have to draw the conclusion that the American people are paying too much in taxes and that they deserve tax breaks under these circumstances.

I want to see us go toward a more dynamic economic analysis, at least have both sides of it so we do not just have this stultification to any kind of tax rate reduction that is being argued by our friends on the other side.

I hope they are not arguing these basic budgetary principles, that I think are there, just so you can actually make it tough for President Bush. He has only been in office a couple months.

Frankly, it would be a crime to not give his program a chance to work since he is our President. It would be a crime to not work in a bipartisan fashion to do what needs to be done. Literally, it would be a crime not to give this President some support. We have done it for President Clinton and it is time now to do it for President Bush. It is time to do it for President Bush. We are doing it in the final analysis, it is for everybody in our society, and really for many places in the world that depend
upon the economic stability of the United States of America. I make these points because I get concerned when I hear one-sided arguments on the budget, one-sided arguments on tax rate reductions, one-sided arguments on Medicare and Social Security, arguments based on static analyses that never take into consideration actual real-world results, one-sided arguments that ignore the facts in this country that tax rate reductions work, and one-sided arguments that ignore the objection, it is so ordered.
The fact is, we all have to do our best to analyze this the best we can, but we should not ignore the econometricians, though not conservative, who have proven that tax rate reductions do work, and we should not ignore the fact that restraint in spending does work, too. We have not had much of that around here, even with a Republican Congress.
I suggest the absence of a quorum.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.
The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.
Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.
Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I want to take a few more minutes to respond to some of the comments of my friend and colleague from North Dakota.
The Senator from North Dakota keeps talking about a Bush tax cut of more than $1.6 trillion. He can talk about any number he wants, but the President has made it clear that he is committed to a budget that would reduce the tax cut, spending on the next 10 years.
Budget Committee Chairmen DOMENICI and NUSSELE have committed to producing a budget that reduces tax collections by $1.6 trillion over 10 years.
The House and Senate Republican leadership are determined to allow taxpayers to keep more of their own money—$1.6 trillion—over the next 10 years. All the above have agreed that any changes to the President's tax relief proposal—adding provisions, removing provisions, changing provisions—would have to be accommodated within a budget that reduces Federal revenue collections by $1.6 trillion over the next 10 years.
Let's now look at why the number is not $2.4 trillion, $2.5 trillion or $2.6 trillion.
The claimed additional interest cost of $500 billion on the tax cut is a red herring argument; interest is included in the budget; trying to tie interest cost to the tax cut is inconsistent with past practice on spending increases and tax cuts.
Moreover, Mr. President, adding interest to these tax cuts assumes that the every dollar of the tax cut would be paid back if the taxes were not cut. In reality, every Member of this Chamber very well knows that if we do not send this money home to the taxpayers who were overcharged in the form of too high of taxes, most of the surplus will be spent by Congress. There is no interest savings when the alternative to tax cuts is spending increases. All we have to do is look at last year for an illustration.
The claimed additional revenue loss of $200 billion connected with the alternative minimum tax will have to be addressed within the context of the $1.6 trillion figure. It is already accounted for in the President's budget. The President, the Vice President, and the Secretary of the Treasury have made it clear that if the AMT is taken care of, some other feature of the President's tax plan would be reduced to make it fit in the $1.6 trillion figure.
The claimed additional revenue loss of $100 billion for the retroactive portion of the tax cut will also have to be addressed within the context of the $1.6 trillion figure.
The claimed additional revenue loss of $50 billion for tax extenders is an example of double counting; extenders are already addressed in the President's budget.
The bottom line is that the numbers used by the other side are bogus arguments to support their ultimate goal: very little tax cut and much higher spending.
The President's budget shows that you can pay down the Federal debt, return some of the surplus to the people as tax relief, and provide targeted spending increases. I think we ought to talk facts, not fiction. That is what I am trying to do.
I suggest the absence of a quorum.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.
The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.
Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HATCH). Without objection, it is so ordered.
Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as if in morning business.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The remarks of Mr. LUGAR pertaining to the introduction of S. 506 are reported, "The Bush plan calls for a $700 million reduction from this year's $19.7 billion Energy Department spending." Nearly half "of those proposed cuts were aimed at the efficiency and renewable-energy programs. They are currently budgeted at $1.18 billion. The research is focused on a range of programs, from high-mileage, hybrid motor-engines and more energy-efficient industrial processes to new building designs that conserve energy."
I hope the Bush administration will realize the impracticality of cutting alternative energy and energy conservation programs at a time when we have a shortage of domestic energy supply sources and are overly reliant on foreign energy supplies.
Beyond the short-term, emergency measures we are working to pass today, we need to develop a broader, long-term energy policy that will attempt to address the multiple energy problems we are facing. I will work with my colleagues to develop such legislation, legislation that must include renewable energy and conservation measures, increased vehicle efficiency, as well as efforts to diversify our fuel supply sources in an environmentally sustainable manner. This
would include advancing clean coal technologies, for example.

I have introduced legislation to provide a 5-year extension of the wind energy production tax credit. This will help develop a non-fossil infrastructure to relieve burden on other fuel sources and help bring overall energy prices down. I understand that President Bush has announced his support for this type of incentive.

I also am considering legislation to pursue exploration not of the Arctic Refuge, but of Alaska's North Slope, where 35 trillion cubic feet of natural gas have already been identified as readily available. Such legislation would include provisions to develop the pipeline infrastructure to bring that natural gas to the lower 48 States. We must pursue exploration and development, but must do so in a safe and environmentally sustainable manner.

Mr. President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Roberts). The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. DeWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the question be suspended.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DeWINE. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now be in a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation has adopted rules governing its procedures for the 107th Congress. Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, on behalf of myself and Senator Hollings, I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the Committee's rules be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

1. Meetings of the Committee.

The regular meeting dates of the Committee shall be the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Additional meetings may be called by the Chairman as he may deem necessary or pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 3 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

2. Meetings of the Committee, or any subcommittee, including meetings to conduct hearings, shall be open to the public, except that the Chairman, or any subcommittee, on the same subject for a period of no more than 14 calendar days may be closed to the public on a motion made and seconded to go into closed session to discuss only whether the matters enumerated in subparagraphs (A) or (B) would be considered the meeting to be closed, followed immediately by a record vote in open session by a majority of the members of the Committee, or any subcommittee, when it is determined that the matter to be discussed or the testimony to be taken at such meeting or meetings—

(A) will disclose matters necessary to be kept secret in the national defense or the confidential conduct of the foreign relations of the United States;

(B) will disclose any matter of Committee staff personnel or internal staff management or procedure;

(C) will tend to endanger public safety or national security; or

(D) will disclose the identity of any informer or law enforcement agent or will disclose any information relating to the investigation or prosecution of an individual offense that is required to be kept secret in the interest of effective law enforcement;

(E) will disclose any information obtained by the Government on a confidential basis, other than through an application for such person for a specific Government financial or other benefit, and is required to be kept secret in order to prevent undue injury to the competitive position of such person; or

(F) may divulge matters required to be kept confidential under other provisions of law or Government regulations.

3. Each witness who is to appear before the Committee or any subcommittee shall file with the Committee, at least 24 hours in advance of the hearing, a written statement of his testimony in as many copies as the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee prescribes.

4. Field hearings of the full Committee, and any subcommittee thereof, shall be scheduled only when authorized by the Chairman and ranking minority member of the full Committee.

II. QUORUMS

1. Twelve members shall constitute a quorum for official action of the Committee when reporting a bill, resolution, or nomination. Proxies shall not be counted in making a quorum.

2. Eight members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business as may be considered by the Committee, except for the reporting of a bill, resolution, or nomination. Proxies shall not be counted in making a quorum.

3. For the purpose of taking sworn testimony a quorum of the Committee and each subcommittee thereof, when authorized by the Chairman and ranking minority member of the full Committee.

III. PROXIES

When a record vote is taken in the Committee on any bill, resolution, amendment, or any other matter, the votes of the members present shall be counted, and any member who is not able to attend the meeting may submit his/her vote by proxy, in writing or by telephone, or through personal instructions.

IV. BROADCASTING OF HEARINGS

Public hearings of the full Committee, or any subcommittee thereof, shall be televised or broadcast only when authorized by the Chairman and the ranking minority member of the full Committee.

V. SUBCOMMITTEES

1. Any member of the Committee may sit on a subcommittee during its hearings, or another meeting but shall not have the authority to vote on any matter before the subcommittee unless he/she is a Member of such subcommittee.

2. Subcommittees shall be considered de novo whenever there is a change in the chairmanship, and seniority on the particular subcommittee shall not necessarily apply.

VI. CONSIDERATION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

It shall not be in order during a meeting of the Committee to move to proceed to the consideration of any bill or resolution unless the bill or resolution has been filed with the Clerk of the Committee not less than 48 hours in advance of the Committee meeting, in as many copies as the Chairman of the Committee prescribes. This rule may be waived with the concurrence of the Chairman and the Ranking Member.

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee on Finance for the 107th Congress be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

RULES OF PROCEDURE

Rule 1. Regular meeting day of the Committee shall be the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, except that if there be no business before the committee the regular meeting shall be omitted.

Rule 2. Committee Meetings.—(a) Except as provided by paragraph 3 of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate (relating to special meetings called by a majority of the committee) and sub-section (b) of this rule, committee meetings, for the conduct of business, for the purpose of holding hearings, or for any other purpose, shall be called by the chairman. Members will be notified of committee meetings at least 48 hours in advance, unless the chairman determines that an emergency situation requires a meeting on shorter notice. The notification will include a written agenda together with materials prepared by the staff relating to that agenda. After the agenda for a committee meeting is published and distributed, no nongermane items may be brought up during that meeting unless at least two-thirds of the members present agree to consider those items.

(b) In the absence of the chairman, meetings of the committee may be called by the ranking majority member of the committee who is present, provided authority to call meetings has been delegated to such member by the chairman.

Rule 3. Presiding Officer.—(a) The chairman shall preside at all meetings and hearings of the committee except that in his absence the ranking majority member of the committee who is present, provided authority to call meetings has been delegated to such member by the chairman.

(b) Notwithstanding the rule prescribed by subsection (a) any member of the committee may preside over the conduct of a hearing.

Rule 4. Quorum.—As provided in subsection (b) one-third of the membership of the committee, including not less
than one member of the majority party and one member of the minority party, shall constitutes a quorum for the conduct of business. (b) Notwithstanding the rule prescribed by subsection (a) of this rule, a majority shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

Rule 5. Reporting of measures of Recommendation and of reports of the committee on which any subcommittee is reconstituted under paragraph (a) of this rule (relating to limitation on use of proxy voting to report a measure or matter), members who are unable to be present may have their vote recorded by proxy.

(b) At the discretion of the committee, members who are unable to be present and whose vote has not been cast by proxy may be polled for the purpose of recording their vote in any rollcall taken by the committee.

Rule 7. Order of Motions. —When several motions are before the committee dealing with the same or overlapping matters, the chairman may specify the order in which the motions shall be voted upon.

Rule 8. Bringing a Matter to a Vote. —If the chairman determines that a motion or amendment has been adequately debated, he may call for a vote on such motion or amendment, and the vote shall then be taken by rollcall. Any committee votes to continue debate on such motion or amendment, as the case may be. The vote on a motion to continue debate on any motion or amendment shall be taken without debate.

Rule 9. Public Announcement of Committee Votes. —Pursuant to paragraph (b) of Rule XXVI, the following Rules of the Senate (relating to public announcement of votes), the results of rollcall votes taken by the committee on any measure (or amendment thereto) or matter shall be announced publicly not later than the day on which such measure or matter is ordered reported from the committee.

Rule 10. Subpoenas. —Subpoenas for attendance of witnesses and the production of memoranda, documents, and records shall be issued by the chairman, or by any other member of the committee designated by him.

Rule 11. Nominations. —In considering a nomination, the Committee may conduct an investigation of or inquiry into the nominee's experience, qualifications, and suitability, to serve in the position to which he or she has been nominated. To aid in such investigation or review, each nominee may be required to submit a sworn detailed statement including biographical, financial, policy, and other information which the Committee may request. The Committee may specify which items in such statement are to be received on a confidential basis. Witnesses called to testify on the nomination may be required to testify before the Committee.

Rule 12. Open Committee Hearings. —To the extent required by paragraph 5 of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate (relating to limitations on open hearings), each hearing conducted by the committee shall be open to the public.

Rule 13. Announcements of Hearings. —The committee shall undertake consistent with the provisions of paragraph (a) of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate (relating to notice of committee hearings) to issue public announcements of hearings it intends to hold at least one week prior to the commencement of such hearings. Rule 14. Testimony. —No witness who is scheduled to testify at any hearing must submit his written testimony to the staff director not later than noon of the business day immediately before the last business day preceding the day on which the testimony is scheduled to appear. Such written testimony shall be confined to the general character and summary of the principal points covered in the written testimony. Having submitted his written testimony, the witness shall be allowed not more than ten minutes for oral presentation of his statement.

(b) Witness may not read their entire written testimony, but must confine their oral presentation to a summation of their arguments.

(c) Witnesses shall observe proper standards of decorum and propriety while presenting their views to the committee. Any witness who violates this rule shall be dismissed, and his testimony (both oral and written) shall not appear in the record of the hearing.

(d) In scheduling witnesses for whose vote has not been cast by proxy may be polled for the purpose of recording their vote in any rollcall taken by the committee.

Rule 15. Audiences. —Persons admitted into the audience for open hearings of the committee shall conduct themselves with the dignity, decorum, courtesy and propriety traditionally observed by the Senate. Demotions of approval or disapproval of any statement or act by any member or witness are not allowed. Persons creating confusion or distractions or otherwise disrupting the orderly proceeding of the hearing shall be expelled from the hearing room.

Rule 16. Broadcasting of Hearings. —(a) Broadcasting of open hearings by television or radio coverage shall be allowed upon approval by the chairman of a request filed with the staff director not later than noon of the day before the day on which such coverage is desired.

(b) If such approval is granted, broadcasting coverage of the hearing shall be conducted unobtrusively and in accordance with the standards of courtesy and decorum traditionally observed by the Senate.

(c) Equipment necessary for coverage by television or radio coverage shall be installed in, or removed from, the hearing room while the committee is in session.

(d) Additional lighting may be installed in the hearing room in order to raise the ambient lighting level to the lowest level necessary to provide adequate television coverage of the hearing at the current state of the art of television coverage.

(e) The additional lighting authorized by subsection (d) of this rule shall not be directed in the direction of any witness or any member of the committee or of any witness, and at the request of any such member or witness, offending lighting shall be extinguished.

(f) No witness shall be required to be photographed at any hearing or to give testimony while the broadcasting (or coverage) of that hearing is being conducted.

(g) Any member of the committee may at any time during the hearing order that any such witness who does not wish to be subjected to radio or television coverage, all equipment used for coverage shall be turned off.

Rule 17. Subcommittees. —(a) The chairman, subject to the approval of the committee, shall appoint legislative subcommittee to hold hearings when the full committee is holding hearings.

Rule 18. Transcripts of Committee Meetings. —An accurate record shall be kept of all markups of the committee, whether they be open or closed to the public. This record, marked as uncorrected, shall be available for inspection by Members of the Senate, or members of the committee together with their staffs, at any time. This record shall be published or made public in any way except:

(a) By majority vote of the committee after all members of the committee have had a reasonable opportunity to correct their remarks for grammatical errors or to accurately reflect statements made.

(b) Any member does release his own remarks made in any markup of the committee provided that every member or witness whose remarks are contained in the record be given a reasonable opportunity before release to correct their remarks.

Notwithstanding the above, in the case of the adoption of an amendment of an existing legislation is given a reasonable opportunity before release to correct their remarks.
the Senate, the record shall not be published or made public in any way except by majority vote of the committee after all members of the committee have had a reasonable opportunity to correct the remarks for grammatical errors or to accurately reflect statements made.

Rule 19. Amendment of Rules.—The foregoing rules may be added to, modified, amended or suspended at any time.

THE ADMINISTRATION’S REFUSAL TO ADJUST 2000 CENSUS DATA

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise today to express my disappointment over the decision announced this week by Commerce Secretary Donald Evans to release raw census data without adjustment for the undercount of an estimated three million Americans.

By law, the Census Bureau is required to provide census figures to the States for the purpose of redistricting by April 1, 2001; a deadline that is nearly four weeks away. Only last week, I joined with 47 of my Senate colleagues in a letter to Secretary Evans urging him to delay a decision to release the 2000 census figures until after the Commerce Department’s self-imposed March 5, 2001 deadline to allow the appropriate Senate Committees an opportunity to hold hearings. My intent in signing the letter was not to delay the statutory deadline, but rather to request that there be Congressional input.

I was interested that the President, in his first budget proposal, said, “Our Nation has a long and honorable commitment to assisting individuals, families, and communities who have not fully shared in America’s prosperity.” I believe this is true, which is why failing to count all Americans has serious consequences for State, local, and Federal Government.

There are approximately 1,327 Federal assistance programs that use population data in some way. The breadth of the programs affected that touch families and businesses throughout the nation clearly spells out the need to ensure that all Americans are counted. Federal and State funds for schools, employment services, housing assistance, road construction, day care facilities, hospitals, emergency services, programs for seniors, and much more are distributed based on census figures. The use of raw census data, without adjustment for the undercount, will result in the unfair distribution of Federal funds.

A March 1, 2001 memorandum to Secretary Evans from the acting director of the Census Bureau recommended using unadjusted census data for redistricting purposes. According to the memo, “The primary reason for arriving at this conclusion is the apparent inconsistency in population growth over the decade as estimated by the Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation, ACE, files and analysis. These differences cannot be resolved in the time available for the Committee’s work.” In other words, the Executive Steering Committee for ACE Policy ran out of time and could not determine whether the uncorrected data is more accurate than corrected data.

As a member of the Committee on Governmental Affairs, I provide legislative support and oversight over the Census Bureau. Moreover, as a Senator from Hawaii, I knew that the percentage of people undercounted in my state during the 1990 Census, 1.9 percent, was higher than the national average. The largest percent of the state’s undercount by race was projected to be Asians and Pacific Islanders. I was so concerned that Hawaii would once again have a higher than average undercount that, last March, I held a forum in Hawaii on issues facing Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders related to the 2000 Census. I urged Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders to participate in the 2000 Census in order to ensure accurate data and statistics especially since this information directly impacts our lives for the next ten years.

I call upon the Secretary to make available to the public the detailed information that the Census Bureau has compiled to date, including overcounts and undercounts. Again, I am disappointed with the Administration’s decision in this matter.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO LAURIE LAWSON

• Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, Laurie Lawson was a outstanding representative of farm women in Darlington, SC, and he drew upon that experience as our State’s executive director of the Farm Service Agency. After 8 years at the helm, he has stepped down. Farmers knew that Mr. Lawson would respond to their needs with knowledge and compassion, and work effectively to open lines of communication between the farming community and Federal agencies. Whatever the matter at hand—whether it was drought relief or the tobacco settlement—Laurie Lawson played an important role on behalf of South Carolina farmers. I know he is looking forward to spending more time with his grandchildren and keeping up with his beloved Clemson Tigers. However, my staff and I will greatly miss his expertise on agricultural issues and feel honored to have worked with such a dedicated public servant.

A TRIBUTE TO HAROLD HOWRIGAN

• Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am very fortunate to be one of only one hundred individuals chosen to represent my fellow Americans here in the Senate. As a result of this work, I have the opportunity to meet many, many people. Occasionally I have come to know people who are so giving of themselves, so devoted to their life’s work, that they truly serve as an inspiration. I would like to take a few moments to recognize one such individual, Harold Howrigan of Fairfield, VT.

Harold has been a dairy farmer in Vermont his entire life and has been a Director of the St. Albans Cooperative Creamery for over four decades as the long-time President of the co-op. He has been actively involved with dairy promotion on State, national, and international levels, and has worked with practically every dairy farm organization that I know, including Dairy Management Inc., the National Milk Producers Federation, the U.S. Dairy Export Council, the National Dairy Board, the Vermont Farm Bureau, and the Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact Commission.

Harold and his wife, Anne—a former school teacher, who is still a very active tutor, mentor and volunteer in the cause of education have also devoted themselves to educating future generations about agriculture, starting with their five children and grandchildren. They are very special friends of my wife Marcelle, my children and me.

Most recently, Harold has been honored as the recipient of what some call the “Nobel Prize” of the dairy industry, the Richard E. Lyng award from the National Dairy Promotion and Research Board. This award recognizes an individual for their “distinguished service to dairy promotion and research.” I can’t think of another individual more deserving of this honor than Harold Howrigan.

In a recent interview Harold said, “family farmers are the best, hardest working people in the world . . . it’s a business and a way of living that is second to none in this country.” I couldn’t agree more and I thank Harold for the tremendous work he has done for the dairy industry in Vermont and across the country. He is an expert and unselfish counselor on agriculture he has provided to me and my staff over many years.

I ask that an article about Harold be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the St. Albans (VT) Messenger, Feb. 26, 2001]

TO HAROLD HOWRIGAN: CONGRATULATIONS

(Emerson Lynn)

Occasionally, something happens that is so right that when you learn about it, you throw the table and say, yes, that’s what should have happened.

That’s our response to the news that Harold Howrigan was the recipient of the Richard E. Lyng Award for “distinguished service to dairy promotion and research.” The award, which is only given out periodically, is the industry’s equivalent to the Nobel Prize.

There is not a person in the industry, anywhere, who deserves the award more. That there is not a person in the world who has worked harder for the betterment of agriculture than Harold Howrigan cannot be questioned. Whether it is for dairy promotion and research, or, as he would say, his way of life.

Occasionally I have come to know people who are so giving of themselves, so devoted to their life’s work, that they truly serve as an inspiration. I would
and has sat on its board for two decades. If there is an issue that involves the industry’s $350 million that sustains our communities. And he understands the importance of pushing the industry’s efforts far past Franklin County’s borders.

But what he understands best is the meaning of the words he once heard from his school’s nun: “Much has been given to you, and much will be expected from you.” It can be safely said that he has met her expectations.

SALUTING DOVER’S POLICE CHIEF

• Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a true local hero in my State, Dover’s Police Chief Keith Faulkner.

Chief Faulkner retired his badge earlier this month after an unprecedented 28 years of service on the Dover Police Department. His service and leadership truly were unique. He joined the police force as a student cadet and is the first and only such officer to rise to the rank of Chief of Police.

Personally, I have to admit I know what it must feel like when a police officer’s long-serving, trusted partner retires. Keith Faulkner proudly first put on his Dover Police uniform the same year I took office as a U.S. Senator. Chief Faulkner and I have been through a lot together, and I will greatly miss his advice, counsel and support.

Fortunately, Chief Faulkner isn’t going far. He already has started a new venture at nearby Delaware State University in Dover as associate director of public safety. DSU just formed a police department last year, and I am confident the University, its students and faculty will benefit immensely from his nearly three decades of law enforcement experience.

Chief Faulkner is widely credited with restoring and strengthening the Dover Police Department’s reputation as a leading law enforcement agency in our State. Under his command, Dover achieved the coveted national accreditation, a distinction shared by only about 700 police forces nationwide. He also presided over the institutionalization of community policing on the Dover police force, which has contributed to reducing crime and boosting the confidence of local residents in the police. In fact, for the first time ever, crime rates for violent and non-violent crimes are down for the past two straight years.

And his commitment to public service goes beyond Dover. Keith has served as Vice-Mayor on the Smyrna Town Council, Chair of the Delaware Police Chiefs’ Council, and sits on my independent Military Academy Review Board to interview and select the high school students I appoint to our national military service academies.

Of the heartwarming stories of this tribute to Chief Faulkner is not to wish him a “happy retirement!” I am confident he will continue to be a leader in our State on law enforcement issues. And I am hopeful that his role as a public servant has only just begun.

I wish Keith and his family many more years of good health, safety and good fortune.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:01 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce individual income tax rates.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled joint resolution:

S.J. Res. 6. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the rule submitted by the Department of Labor under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, relating to ergonomics.

The enrolled joint resolution was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first time and referred to the Committee on Finance:

H.R. 4. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce individual income tax rates; to the Committee on Finance.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The following bill was read the first time and referred to the Committee on Finance:

H.R. 3. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce individual income tax rates; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-956. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Regulations Division, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Final Rule Establishing the Western Area (2000R-25P)” (RIN1512-AA07) received on March 8, 2001; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-956. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Regulations Division, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Formulas of Denatured Alcohol and Rum (2000R-294P)” (RIN1512-AB37) received on March 8, 2001; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-958. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Second Quarter Federal Excise Tax Rates April 1, 2001” (Rev. Rul. 2000-16) received on March 8, 2001; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-959. A communication from the Program Analyst of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Formulas of Denatured Alcohol and Rum (2000R-294P)” (RIN1512-AB60) received on March 8, 2001; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-960. A communication from the Program Analyst of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Formulas of Denatured Alcohol and Rum (2000R-294P)” (RIN1512-AB60) received on March 8, 2001; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-961. A communication from the Program Analyst of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (39)” (RIN2120-AA65(2001-0018)) received on March 8, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-961. A communication from the Program Analyst of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (43)” (RIN2120-AA65(2001-0019)) received on March 8, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-961. A communication from the Program Analyst of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Establishment of Class D Airspace; Sacramento Mather Airport, CA” (RIN2120-AA66) received on March 8, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-961. A communication from the Program Analyst of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Establishment of Class E Airspace; Monroe City, MO” (RIN2120-AA66) received on March 8, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-961. A communication from the Program Analyst of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Modification of Class D and E Surfaces Areas; En Airport, CA” (RIN2120-AA66) received on March 8, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-961. A communication from the Program Analyst of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Establishment of Class D Airspace; Sacramento Mather Airport, CA” (RIN2120-
INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. INOUYE): S. 502. A bill to provide for periodic Indian needs assessments, to require Federal Indian programs evaluations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. ENGLE): S. 503. A bill to amend the Safe Water Act to provide grants to small public drinking water system; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself, Mr. INOUYE, and Mr. BINGAMAN): S. 504. A bill for administrative procedures to extend Federal recognition to certain Indian groups, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. KENNEDY): S. 505. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide increased opportunity for investment in rural areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI: S. 506. A bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, to provide for a land exchange between the Secretary of Agriculture and the Alaska Native Corporation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI (for himself, Mr. AKAKA, and Mr. BINGAMAN): S. 507. A bill to implement further the Act (Public Law 94-241) approving the covenant to establish a commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. LUGAR: S. 508. A bill to authorize the President to promote posthumously the late Raymond Ames Spruance to the grade of Fleet Admiral of the United States Navy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI: S. 509. A bill to establish the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Area in the State of Alaska, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SANTORUM: S. 510. A bill to amend the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act to provide additional benefits for certain textile textiles; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SNOWE: S. 511. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of document with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastal trade for the vessel A.J., to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. Voinovich, Mr. Breaux, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Durburry, Mr. Chapin, Mrs. Lincoln, Mrs. Huchinson, and Mr. Rockefeller): S. 512. A bill to foster innovation and technological advancement in the development of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and to assist the States in simplifying their sales and use taxes; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. VOINOvICH (for himself and Mr. DeWINE): S. Res. 56. A resolution honoring the memory of James A. Rhodes as a gifted political servant and statesman; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BOND (for himself, Mr. HOLINGS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DeWINE, Mr. Daschle, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. DODD, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. COLINS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KORH, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LUGAR, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. WETTSTON): S. Res. 57. A resolution to express the sense of the Senate that the Federal investment in programs that provide health care services to uninsured and low-income individuals in medically underserved areas be increased in order to double access to care over the next 5 years; to the Committee on Appropriations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 230

At the request of Mr. BAucus, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 230, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit to holders of qualified bonds issued by Amtrak, and for other purposes.

S. 396

At the request of Mr. MURkOWsKI, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 366, a bill to amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to increase the amount of funds available for certain agricultural trade programs.

S. 393

At the request of Mr. FRist, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHINsON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 393, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage charitable contributions to public charities for use in medical research.

S. 45

At the request of Mr. MURkOWsKI, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 45, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the President should designate the week of March 18 through March 24, 2001, as “National Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week.”

S. RES. 45

At the request of Mr. HUTCHINson, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 45, a resolution honoring the men and women who serve this country in the National Guard and expressing condolences of the United States Senate to family and friends of the 21 National Guardsmen who perished in the crash on March 3, 2001.

At the request of Mrs. CARNAHAN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 45, supra.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DeWINE (for himself, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. HATCH, Mr.
“(1) for conduct relating to an abortion for which the consent of the pregnant woman has been obtained or for which such consent is implied by law in a medical emergency; and

(2) for conduct relating to any medical treatment of the pregnant woman or her unborn child; or

(3) of any woman with respect to her unborn child.

(d) In this section—

(1) the terms ‘child in utero’ and ‘child, who is in utero’ mean a member of the species homo sapiens, at any stage of development, who is carried in the womb; and

(2) the term ‘unborn child’ means a child in utero.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such subchapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 919 the following:

“919a. Causing death of or bodily injury to unborn child.”

By Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. INOYE):

S. 562. A bill to provide for periodic Indian needs assessments, to require Federal Indian program evaluations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, today I am pleased to be joined by Senator BINGAMAN and Senator INOYE in introducing the Indian Needs Assessment, Program Evaluation and Policy Coordination Act of 2001 to bring about needed reforms in the way Indian programs are designed and funded.

As the annual funding debates over Indian programs show us year after year, rational and equitable funding decisions are made more difficult because of the lack of accurate and up-to-date information about the needs of tribal governments and tribal members.

The ability of the Congress to target unmet needs and make available adequate funds for tribes and tribal members is directly related to the quantity and quality of information available about the type and degree of demand for federal programs and services.

Within two years of the enactment of this act, and every 5 years thereafter, each Federal agency or department is required to conduct an “Indian Needs Assessment.” INA, aimed at determining the needs of tribes and Indians eligible for programs and services administered by such agency or department.

To facilitate information collection and analysis, the bill requires the development of a uniform method, criteria and procedures for determining, analyzing, and compiling the program and service needs of tribes and Indians.

The resulting “Indian Needs Assessment” are to be submitted with the Committees on Appropriations and Indian Affairs of the Senate, and the Committees on Appropriations and Resources of the House of Representatives.

In addition to a Needs Assessment, the bill also requires that each Federal and/or departmental agency providing services to Indians file an “Annual Indian Program Evaluation,” AIEP, with these same committees.

The AIEP will measure the performance and effectiveness of the programs under the jurisdiction of that agency or department, and include recommendations as to how such programs can be improved.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the Record and urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the provisions in this measure.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:
SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Indian Needs Assessment and Program Evaluation Act of 2001”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS, PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the United States and the Indian tribes have a unique legal and political government-to-government relationship;

(2) Federal departments and agencies providing programs and services to Indians are to consult with tribal governments in establishing and conducting the needs assessment required under subsection (b); and

(3) Federal departments and agencies charged with administering programs and providing services to, or for the benefit of, Indians have not furnished Congress with adequate information necessary to assess such programs on the needs of Indians and Indian tribes;

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are to—

(1) ensure that Indian needs for Federal programs and services are known in a more certain and predictable fashion;

(2) require that Federal departments and agencies carefully review and monitor the effectiveness of the programs and services provided to Indians;

(3) provide for more efficient and effective cooperation and coordination of, and accountability for, the Federal departments and agencies providing programs and services, including technical and business development assistance, to Indians; and

(4) provide Congress with reliable information regarding Indian needs and the evaluation of Federal programs and services provided to Indians.

SEC. 3. INDIAN TRIBAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT.

(a) INDIAN TRIBAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT.—

(i) GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall contract with an appropriate entity, in consultation and coordination with the Indian tribes, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Attorney General, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and the heads of any other relevant Federal departments or agencies, for the development of a uniform method and criteria, and uniform procedures for determining, analyzing, and compiling the program and service assistance needs of Indian tribes and Indians by each such department or agency. The needs assessment shall address, but not be limited to, the following:

(A) The location of the service area of each program;

(B) The size of the service area of each program;

(C) The total population of each tribe located in the service area;

(D) The total population of members of other tribes located in the service area.

(ii) Analysis.—(A) The analysis of Federal programs and services available to Indians nationwide.

(B) The determination of the quality of assistance, to Indians; and

(c) TRIBAL ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS.—Not later than February 1 of each calendar year, each Federal department or agency shall develop and publish in the Federal Register a list of all programs and services offered by such department or agency for which Indian tribes or tribal members are or may be eligible, and shall provide a brief explanation of the program or service.

(d) CONSTRAINTS.—Any information received, collected, or gathered from Indian tribes concerning program function, operations, or need in order to conduct an INA or an AIPE shall be used only for the purposes of this Act set forth in section 2(b).

SEC. 4. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall develop and submit to the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Appropriations of the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate a report detailing the utilization of the Program and service assistance for which Indian tribes and their members are eligible.

(b) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation and coordination with the Indian tribes, shall file a Strategic Plan for the Coordination of Federal Assistance for Indians (in this Act referred to as the “Strategic Plan”).

(c) CONTENTS OF STRATEGIC PLAN.—The Strategic Plan required under subsection (b) shall contain the following:

(1) Identification of reforms necessary to the laws, regulations, policies, procedures, practices, and systems of the Federal departments or agencies involved.

(2) Proposal for implementing the reforms identified in paragraph (1).
Today, I and Senator ENSIGN introduce legislation that would ensure the safety of drinking water supplies. Why I and Senator ENSIGN are introducing the Small Community Safe Drinking Water Funding Act.

However, the cost of putting this infrastructure in place is staggering. The Environmental Protection Agency has recently estimated that to meet the Nation’s needs, our communities’ drinking water infrastructure will require an investment of more than $150 billion over the next 20 years. While communities of all sizes face the crisis in drinking water infrastructure, the greatest burden is on small communities.

For example, the per-household cost for water infrastructure improvements is almost four times higher for small systems than for large ones.

One reason for this disproportionate impact is that small public drinking water systems are so numerous—representing nearly 95 percent of all systems in Nevada and most western states.

In my home State of Nevada, the percentage is even greater. Upwards of 98 percent of public drinking water systems in the Silver State are small systems.

Also, because small communities lack the tax base and economies-of-scale of larger communities, they typically incur much higher per-household costs in upgrading their drinking water infrastructure improvements.

In Nevada alone, small communities will need to invest hundreds of millions of dollars over the next 20 years in drinking water infrastructure.

The dilemma faced by small communities has been highlighted recently by EPA’s new drinking water standard for arsenic.

Arsenic is a naturally occurring contaminant that impacts drinking water supplies in many States throughout the west and northeast. The public health threat posed by arsenic in drinking water is well-established by scientists.

Despite the public health need, many small communities will find it extremely difficult to finance improvements needed to meet the arsenic standard.

This is because EPA estimates that compliance with this standard will increase annual household water costs in communities of less than 10,000 people from between $38 to $327—an increase in water costs roughly 10 times greater than for communities with more than 10,000 people.

In Nevada, we have very few communities of more than 10,000. We have Las Vegas, Reno, Henderson, Sparks, Elko, Carson City. This has a tremendous impact in Nevada.

Due to these costs to small communities, some have called for the standard to be rolled back. In fact, the Bush administration has held up the implementation of the regulation, and is currently considering whether or not to nullify it.

A roll-back of the new arsenic drinking water standard would be a serious mistake.

The old drinking water standard for arsenic had not been revised in over 55 years. In 1999, the National Academy of Sciences reviewed the scientific data on arsenic and urged EPA to implement a lower, more protective standard as quickly as possible.

The new EPA arsenic standard—the one currently under review by the Bush Administration—was set at the very level as the standard adopted by the World Health Organization almost a decade ago.

Undoing EPA’s new arsenic standard would deny millions of American families access to safe drinking water.

Rolling back this standard is simply the wrong way to ensure clean, reliable, and affordable water to all Americans.

The right way to address the new arsenic standard, as well as the crisis this country faces with its drinking water infrastructure, is for the Federal Government to provide a helping hand to communities to meet their drinking water needs.

Take my home State of Nevada for example. The city of Fallon, a small, rural community in the northwest part of the State, has been wrestling with high levels of naturally-occurring arsenic in its public water supply for decades. When I served in the State legislature in the 1960s, this was a problem. It still is.

Despite the difficulties involved in solving its arsenic problem, the city is not asking for a roll-back of EPA’s new arsenic standard.

On the contrary, the city very much wants to meet the new standard so that it can provide safe drinking water to its citizens.

What the city needs, in order to accomplish this, is our financial help. It is a national problem, and we should help.

I should add, even though there is naturally occurring arsenic in the water in Fallon, it may have been exacerbated by a Federal project, the first Bureau of Reclamation project in the history of the country, in 1902, when it sent water from the Truckee River into Churchill County. It may have raised the arsenic level higher than it would have been otherwise.

Currently, the primary source of Federal assistance for local drinking water infrastructure is the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund. This fund—which I, along with others on the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, helped to add to the Safe Drinking Water Act when it was amended in 1996—has been an overwhelming success.

Since its inception, the Fund has allowed States to provide more than 1.200 low-interest loans totaling over $2.3 billion for upgrading and installing drinking water projects.

However, many small and disadvantaged communities are left out of the State revolving fund program.

Many of these communities do not attempt to participate in the program because they lack the financial resources to meet the terms of loans. Although we added a provision to the act in 1996 allowing loans to be subsidized for disadvantaged communities, some number of States have not taken advantage of it.

Therefore, many small, cash-strapped communities receive little or no financial assistance from the Federal Government, at a time when they are faced with costly improvements to systems like that of Fallon, NV.

Today, I and Senator ENSIGN introduce a bill to address the needs of communities that face the greatest difficulties in ensuring clean drinking water for their residents.

It will ensure that our Nation’s small, disadvantaged communities have access to the financial help they need to provide safe, reliable, and affordable drinking water.

This bill, the Small Community Safe Drinking Water Act, accomplishes this goal by establishing a program to provide almost $750 million annually to Indian tribes and States, so they can make grants to public water systems that serve small communities.

I would like to highlight several key aspects of the bill:

First, the Small Community Safe Drinking Water Act provides substantial flexibility to States.

Each State choosing to participate in the grant program will receive an allocation of money from EPA, based on the drinking water infrastructure needs of that State.

The State can then distribute this money as grants according to the State’s own prioritization of communities’ needs.

Second, the act streamlines the workload associated with a new grant program by taking advantage of procedures already in place through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund program.

The identification of communities in most need of grant support is coordinated with the annual “Intended Use Plans” already required of States by the State revolving fund.
States can also administer grants through the same agencies that currently administer State revolving fund loans.

Third, the drinking water treatment needs of Indian tribes and Alaskan native villages are addressed through a $22.5 million EPA-administered grants program modeled after the one established for States.

This money will be targeted, in the form of grants, to those small communities determined to be in most need of drinking water improvements.

Finally, the act ensures that small, disadvantaged communities receiving grants have access to technical assistance through non-profit organizations.

These organizations have established relationships with small communities, as well as a solid track record in helping these communities to solve their drinking water problems.

These organizations will be able to assist small communities to plan, implement, and maintain the drinking water projects funded through grants.

Nevada’s small communities are facing a drinking water infrastructure crisis.

These communities, and other small communities nationwide, confront increasing demand for clean, reliable, and affordable drinking water.

But it is simply too costly for small communities, alone, to address this water infrastructure crisis.

There is a financial helping hand from the Federal Government.

The bill I and Senator ENSKI are introducing today will provide this much-needed Federal helping hand.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this important legislation and work with us to see that it is swiftly enacted.

By Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself, Mr. INOUYE, and Mr. BINGAMAN):

S. 504

(1) To remove the Federal acknowledgment procedures to extend Federal recognition to certain Indian groups, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I am pleased to be joined by Senators INOUYE and BINGAMAN in introducing the Indian Tribal Federal Recognition Administrative Procedures Act of 2001. From the first days of the republic, the Congress has acted to recognize the unique legal and political relationship the United States has with the Indian tribes. Reforming the process of Federal recognition is the purpose of the legislation I am introducing today.

Federal recognition is critical to tribal groups because it triggers eligibility for services and benefits provided by the United States because of their status as members of federally recognized Indian tribes.

I want to be clear, I am not advocating for the approval of every petition for Federal acknowledgment, and I am not opposing that the petitions receive a limited or cursory review. I am concerned with the viability of the current recognition process and am interested in seeing fairness, promptness, and finality brought into that process while providing basic assurances to already-recognized tribes regarding their inherent rights.

Federal recognition may be accomplished in two ways: through the enactment of federal legislation; or through the administrative process that occurs, or more accurately does not occur, within the Branch of Acknowledge ment and Research, BAR.

Over the years, the length of time the Bureau has taken to process certain petitions and the process for which applications for recognition are considered has increased. At a hearing on similar legislation in 2000, one group testified that its petition has been pending since 1970.

The process in the Department of the Interior is time consuming and costly, although it has improved from its original state. It has frequently been referred to as a “paper mill” by staff and resources which are needed to fairly and promptly review all petitions.

The case on active consideration, including those with proposed findings, have been in the process for anywhere from 2 to 27 years. As with any decision-making body, fairness and timeliness are the keys to maintaining a credible system which holds the confidence of affected parties. I believe that it is in the interests of all parties to have a clear deadline for the completion of the recognition process.

In 1978, the Department of the Interior promulgated regulations to establish criteria and procedures for the recognition of Indian tribes by the Secretary of Interior.

Since that time tribal groups have filed 250 letters of intent and petitions for review and consideration. Of those, 51 have been resolved, 34 by the BAR.

The remaining petitions are in various stages of consideration by the Department either ready for active status or are already placed on active status.

In the last twenty years, the Committee on Indian Affairs has held several oversight hearings on the Federal recognition process. At those hearings the record clearly showed that the process does not work. At a Committee on Indian Affairs hearing in 1995, the Bureau testified that at the current rate of review and consideration, it would take several decades to eliminate the entire backlog of tribal petitions.

The record from numerous previous hearings reveals a clear need for the Congress to address the problems affecting the recognition process.

The bill I am introducing today will go a long way toward resolving the problems which have plagued both the Department of the Interior and tribal petitioners over the years.

This bill, the Indian Tribal Federal Recognition Administrative Procedures Act of 2001, provides the required clarification and changes that will help tribal petitioners and the United States in providing fair and orderly administrative procedures to extend Federal recognition to eligible Indian groups. The principal purpose is to remove the Federal acknowledgment process from the BAR and transfer the responsibility for the process to a temporary and independent Commission on Indian Tribal Recognition.

This bill provides that the Commission will be an independent agency, composed of three members appointed by the President, and authorized to hold hearings, take testimony, and reach final determinations on petitions for recognition.

The bill provides strict but realistic time-lines to guide the Commission in the review and decision-making process. Under the existing process, some petitioners have waited ten years or more for even a cursory review of their petition.

This bill will allow for a cost-effective process for the BIA and the petitioners, it will provide definite time-lines for the administrative recognition process, and sunsets the Commission in 12 years.

To ensure fairness, the bill provides for appeals of adverse decisions to the federal district court here in the District of Columbia.

To ensure that the views and comments of all affected parties are considered, the bills directs the Commission to consider evidence and materials submitted by states, local communities, and State attorneys general.

To ensure promptness, the bill authorizes adequate funding for the costs of processing petitions through the Commission.

The bill also provides for the transfer of functions to the Commiss ion, and requires the Department to file their petitions with 8 years after the date of enactment and requiring the Commission to complete its work within 12 years from enactment.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD, and urge my colleagues to join me in enacting this much-needed reform legislation.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 504

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Indian Tribal Federal Recognition Administrative Procedures Act of 2001.”

SEC. 2. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are as follows:

(1) To remove the Federal acknowledgment process from the Bureau of Indian Affairs and transfer the responsibility for the process to an independent Commission on Indian Tribal Recognition.

(2) To establish a Commission on Indian Tribal Recognition to review and act upon documented petitions submitted by Indian groups that apply for Federal recognition.
(3) To establish an administrative procedure under which petitions for Federal recognition filed by Indian groups will be considered.

(4) To provide clear and consistent standards of administrative review of documented petitions for Federal acknowledgment.

(5) To clarify evidentiary standards and expedite the administrative review process by providing adequate resources to process documented petitions.

(6) To ensure that when the Federal Government extends acknowledgment to an Indian tribe, the Federal Government does so with a consistent legal, factual, and historical basis.

(7) To extend to Indian groups that are determined to be Indian tribes the protection, services, and benefits available from the Federal Government pursuant to the Federal trust responsibility with respect to Indian tribes.

(8) To extend to Indian groups that are determined to be Indian tribes the immunities and privileges available to other federally acknowledged Indian tribes by virtue of their status as Indian tribes with a government-to-government relationship with the United States.

(9) To extend to Indian groups that are determined to be Indian tribes the immunities and privileges available to other federally acknowledged Indian tribes by virtue of their status as Indian tribes with a government-to-government relationship with the United States.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—The term "acknowledgment" means a determination by the Commission on Indian Tribal Recognition that an Indian group constitutes an Indian tribe, extends a government-to-government relationship with the United States.

(2) AUTONOMOUS.—(A) IN GENERAL.—The term "autonomous" means the exercise of political influence or authority independent of the control of any other Indian governing entity.

(B) WITH RESPECT TO.—With respect to a petitioner, the term shall be understood in the context of the history, geography, culture, and social organization of the petitioner.

(3) BUREAU.—The term "Bureau" means the Bureau of Indian Affairs of the Department.

(4) COMMISSION.—The term "Commission" means the Commission on Indian Tribal Recognition established under section 4.

(5) COMMUNITY.—(A) IN GENERAL.—The term "community" means any group of people, living within a reasonable territory, that is able to demonstrate:

(i) consistent interactions and significant social relationships exist within the membership; and

(ii) the members of that group are differentiated from and identified as distinct from nonmembers.

(B) CONTEXT OF TERM.—The term shall be understood in the context of the history, culture, and social organization of the group, taking into account the geography of the region in which the group resides.

(C) DETERMINATION.—With respect to a period of history of a group, the term "continuous" or "continuously" means extending from 1900 throughout the history of the group to the present substantially without interruption.

(6) DEPARTMENT.—The term "Department" means the Department of the Interior.

(7) DOCUMENT.—The term "documented petition" means the detailed, factually expositional and argumentative, and including all documentary evidence, necessary to demonstrate the arguments specifically address the mandatory criteria established in section 5.

(8) HISTORICALLY, HISTORICAL, HISTORY.—The terms "historically," "historical," and "history" refer to the period dating from 1900.
Commission have been appointed and confirmed by the Senate.

(2) QUORUM.—Two members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

(3) RULES.—The Commission may adopt such rules (consistent with the provisions of this Act) as may be necessary to establish the procedures of the Commission and to govern the manner of operations, organization, and personnel of the Commission.

(4) PRINCIPAL OFFICE.—The principal office of the Commission shall be in the District of Columbia.

(d) DUTIES.—The Commission shall carry out the duties assigned to the Commission by this Act, to the extent that the duties have not been assigned to the Secretary, unless the Commission otherwise designates such duties.

(e) POWERS AND AUTHORITY.—

(1) POWERS AND AUTHORITIES OF CHAIRPERSON.—Subject to such rules and regulations as may be adopted by the Commission, the Chairperson may—

(A) appoint, terminate, and fix the compensation (without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 33 of title 5, or any other provision of law, relating to the number, classification, and General Schedule rates) of an Executive Director of the Commission;

(B) procure, as authorized by section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, temporary and intermittent services to the same extent as is authorized by law for agencies in the executive branch, but at rates not to exceed the daily rate equal to the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5116 of title 5, United States Code; and

(C) in general, make any of the facilities and services of the executive branch, but at rates not to exceed the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pays prescribed for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5116 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) GENERAL POWERS AND AUTHORITIES OF COMMISSION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may hold hearings and sit and act at such times as the Commission considers to be appropriate.

(B) OTHER AUTHORITIES.—As the Commission may consider advisable, the Commission may—

(i) take testimony;

(ii) have printing and binding done;

(iii) enter into contracts and other arrangements, subject to the availability of funds;

(iv) make expenditures; and

(v) take other actions.

(C) OATHS AND AFFIRMATIONS.—Any member of the Commission may administer oaths or affirmations to witnesses appearing before the Commission.

(3) INFORMATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may secure directly from any officer, department, agency, or instrumentality of the Federal Government such information as the Commission may require to carry out this Act. Each such officer, department, agency, or instrumentality shall furnish, to the extent permitted by law, such information, suggestions, estimates, and statistics directly to the Commission, upon request of the Chairperson.

(B) FACILITIES, SERVICES, AND DETAILS.—

(A) Upon the request of the Chairperson, to assist the Commission in carrying out the duties of the Commission, the head of any Federal department, agency, or instrumentality may—

(i) make any of the facilities and services of that department, agency, or instrumentality available to the Commission; and

(ii) detail any of the personnel of that department, agency, or instrumentality to the Commission, on a nonreimbursable basis.

(C) MAIL.—The Commission may use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as other departments and agencies of the United States.

(f) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—(A) The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Commission.

(B) TERMINATION OF COMMISSION.—The Commission shall cease to exist upon the date that is 12 years after the date of the first meeting of the Commission.

(g) APPOINTMENTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Secretary shall continue to exercise those authorities vested in the Secretary relating to supervision of Indian recognition regulated under part 83 of title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations until such time as the Commission is organized and prescribes regulations. The Secretary shall provide staff and support assistance to facilitate an orderly transition to regulation of Indian recognition by the Commission.

SEC. 5. DOCUMENTED PETITIONS FOR RECOGNITION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) LETTERS OF INTENT AND DOCUMENTED PETITIONS.—Subject to subsection (d) and except as provided in paragraph (3), Indian groups may submit to the Commission letters of intent and documented petitions requesting that the Commission recognize the group as an Indian tribe.

(2) HEARING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Indian groups that have been denied or refused recognition as an Indian tribe under regulations prescribed by the Secretary shall be entitled to an adjudicatory hearing under section 9 before the Commission, if the Commission determines that the criteria established by this Act changes the merits of the Indian group's documented petition submitted to the Department.

(B) HEARING RECORD.—For purposes of paragraph (a), the Commission shall review the administrative record, which includes the documented petition that formed the basis of the determination to the Indian group by the Secretary.

(C) TREATMENT OF SECRETARY’S FINAL DETERMINATION.—For purposes of the adjudicatory hearing, the Secretary's final determination shall be considered a preliminary determination for purposes of this section.

(D) OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED CONCERNING EVIDENCE OF CRITERIA.—A statement and an analysis of facts and an explanation submitted under this section may establish that, for any given period of time for which evidence of criteria is lacking, such absence of evidence corresponds in time with official acts of the Federal Government which prohibited or penalized the expression of Indian identity. For such periods of time, the absence of evidence shall not be the sole basis for declining to acknowledge the petitioner.

(3) EXCLUSION.—The following groups and entities shall not be eligible to submit a documented petition under this section:

(A) CERTAIN ENTITIES THAT ARE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE SERVICES FROM THE BUREAU.—Indian tribes, the Pueblo de los Indios, and Alaska Native entities that are recognized by the Secretary as of the date of enactment of this Act as eligible to receive services from the Bureau.

(B) CERTAIN SPLINTER GROUPS, POLITICAL FACTIONS, AND COMMUNITIES.—Splinter groups, political factions, communities, or groups of any character that separate from the main body of an Indian tribe at that, at the time of that separation, is recognized as an Indian tribe and of which the Secretary, unless the group, faction, or community is able to establish clearly that the group, faction, or community has functioned throughout history as an Indian tribe, shall not be recognized as an Indian tribe.

(C) CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS THAT HAVE PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED DOCUMENTED PETITIONS.—Groups, clans, or committees in interest of any of the following items:

(i) a relationship between any government and an Indian tribe that has functioned throughout history as an Indian tribe; and

(ii) a relationship between any government and a political group described in paragraph (2)(A).

(D) CERTAIN GROUPS SUBJECT TO TERMINATION.—Any Indian group whose relationship with the Federal Government was prevented by any Act of Congress.

(i) TRANSFER OF DOCUMENTED PETITION.—(A) BY GENERAL.—The Secretary shall transfer to the Commission all documented petitions and letters of intent pending before the Department.

(B) CESSATION OF CERTAIN AUTHORITIES OF SECRETARY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, on the date of the transfer under subparagraph (A), the Secretary and the Department shall cease to have any authorization to recognize or acknowledge, on behalf of the Federal Government, any Indian group as an Indian tribe.

(C) DETERMINATION OF ORDER OF SUBMISSION OF TRANSFERRED DOCUMENTED PETITIONS.—Documented petitions transferred to the Commission under subparagraph (A) shall, for purposes of this Act, be considered as received and submitted to the Commission in the same order as those documented petitions were submitted to the Department.

(D) CERTIFICATION BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary shall certify to the Commission that a petition request the Secretary to recognize or acknowledge an Indian group as an Indian tribe.

(E) DOCUMENTED PETITION FORM AND CONTENT.—Except as provided in paragraph (c), any documented petition submitted under subsection (a) by an Indian group shall be in a readable form that clearly indicates that the petition is a documented petition submitted to the Commission under this Act.

(2) STATEMENT OF FACTS.—A statement and an analysis of facts submitted under this section may establish that, for any given period of time for which evidence of criteria is lacking, such absence of evidence corresponds in time with official acts of the Federal Government which prohibited or penalized the expression of Indian identity. For such periods of time, the absence of evidence shall not be the sole basis for declining to acknowledge the petitioner.

(3) EXCLUSION.—The following groups and entities shall not be eligible to submit a documented petition under this section:

(A) CERTAIN ENTITIES THAT ARE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE SERVICES FROM THE BUREAU.—Indian tribes, the Pueblo de los Indios, and Alaska Native entities that are recognized by the Secretary of the interior as of the date of enactment of this Act as eligible to receive services from the Bureau.

(B) CERTAIN SPLINTER GROUPS, POLITICAL FACTIONS, AND COMMUNITIES.—Splinter groups, political factions, communities, or groups of any character that separate from the main body of an Indian tribe at that, at the time of that separation, is recognized as an Indian tribe and of which the Secretary, unless the group, faction, or community is able to establish clearly that the group, faction, or community has functioned throughout history as an Indian tribe.
(C) RELATIONSHIP OF PETITIONER WITH A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF A STATE.—Dealings of the petitioner with a county or political subdivision of a State in a relationship based on the Indian identity of the petitioner.

(D) IDENTIFICATION OF PETITIONER ON THE BASIS OF CERTAIN RECORDS.—An identification of the petitioner as an Indian entity by an anthropologist, historian, or other scholar.

(E) IDENTIFICATION OF PETITIONER BY CERTAIN EXPERTS.—An identification of the petitioner as an Indian entity by experts in the field of anthropology, archaeology, or history.

(F) IDENTIFICATION OF PETITIONER BY ANOTHER AUTHORITY OR ORGANIZATION.—An identification of the petitioner as an Indian entity by another authority or organization.

(G) IDENTIFICATION OF PETITIONER BY ANOTHER AUTHORITY OR ORGANIZATION.—An identification of the petitioner as an Indian entity by another authority or organization.

(H) IDENTIFICATION OF PETITIONER BY A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT OR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION.—An identification of the petitioner as an Indian entity by a foreign government or an international organization.

(I) OTHER EVIDENCE OF IDENTIFICATION.—Such other evidence of identification as may be presented by a person or entity other than the petitioner or a member of the membership of the petitioner.

(II) IDENTIFICATION OF PETITIONER BY A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT OR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION.—An identification of the petitioner as an Indian entity by a foreign government or an international organization.

(A) IN GENERAL.—A statement of facts and an analysis of such facts establishing that a predominant portion of the membership of the petitioner

(i) comprises a community distinct from those communities surrounding that community;

(ii) has existed as a community from historical times to the present.

(B) EVIDENCE OF EXERCISE OF POLITICAL INFLUENCE OR AUTHORITY.—Evidence of exercise of political influence or authority over its members as an autonomous entity from historical times until the time of the documented petition. The Commission may rely on one or more of the following items in determining whether a petitioner meets the criterion described in the preceding sentence:

(i) MOBILIZATION OF MEMBERS.—The group is capable of mobilizing significant numbers of members and significant resources from its members for group purposes.

(ii) ISSUES OF PERSONAL IMPORTANCE.—Most of the membership of the group consider issues acted upon or taken by group leaders or governing bodies to be of personal importance.

(iii) POLITICAL PROCESS.—There is widespread knowledge, communication, and involvement in political processes by most of the membership.

(iv) LEVEL OF APPLICATION OF CRITERIA.—The group meets the criterion described in paragraph (2) at a more than a minimal level.

(v) EVIDENCE OF SOLIDARITY.—There are intragroup conflicts which show controversy over valued group goals, properties, policies, processes, or decisions.

(vi) CHAIN OF GROUP LEADERS.—A continuous line of group leaders with a description of the means of selection or acquisition by a majority of the group’s members.

(B) EVIDENCE OF EXERCISE OF POLITICAL INFLUENCE OR AUTHORITY.—The Commission shall consider the petition to have met the requirement of paragraph (2)(B) if the petitioner has provided evidence that demonstrates any one of the following:

(i) RESIDENCE OF MEMBERS.—More than 50 percent of the members of the group reside in a particular geographical area exclusively or almost exclusively composed of members of the group, and the balance of the group maintains consistent social interaction with some members of the community.

(ii) MARRIAGES.—Not less than ½ of the marriages of the group are between members of the group.

(iii) DISTINCT CULTURAL PATTERNS.—Not less than 50 percent of the members of the group maintain distinct cultural patterns including language, kinship, or religious organizations, or religious beliefs or practices.

(iv) COMMUNITY SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS.—Distinct community institutions encompassing 50 percent of the members of the group, such as kinship organizations, formal or informal economic cooperation, or religious organizations.

(v) APPLICABILITY OF CRITERIA.—The group has met the criterion in paragraph (3) using evidence described in paragraph (3)(B).

(C) AUTONOMOUS ENTITY.—A group that has met the requirements of paragraph (3)(A) at any point in time shall be considered to have provided sufficient evidence to demonstrate the criterion described in subparagraph (A) at that point in time.

(4) GOVERNING DOCUMENT.—A copy of the then present governing document of the petitioner shall be required to prove a statement describing in full the Commission for a determination of tribal membership in the then current governing procedures of the petitioner.

(5) LIST OF MEMBERS.—A list of all then current members of the petitioner, including the full name (and maiden name, if any), date, and place of birth, and then current residential address of each member, a copy of each available former member list described on the criteria defined by the petitioner, and a statement describing the methods used in preparing those lists.

(B) REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP.—In order for the Commission to consider the members of the group to be members of an Indian tribe for the purposes of the documented petition, the membership shall be required to consist of established descendancy from an Indian group that existed historically, or from historical Indian groups that combined and functioned as a single autonomous entity.

(C) EVIDENCE OF TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP.—Evidence of tribal membership required by the Commission shall include the following items:

(i) DESCENDANCY ROLLS.—Descendancy rolls prepared by the petitioner for purposes of distributing claims money, providing allotments, or other purposes.

(ii) CERTAIN OFFICIAL RECORDS.—Federal, State, or other official records or evidence identifying then present members of the petitioner, or ancestors of then present members of the petitioner, as being descendants of a historic tribe or historic tribes that combined and functioned as a single autonomous political entity.

(iii) ENROLLMENT RECORDS.—Church, school, and other similar enrollment records identifying then present members or ancestors of then present members as being descendants of a historic tribe or historic tribes that combined and functioned as a single autonomous political entity.

(iv) AFFIDAVITS OF RECOGNITION.—Affidavits of recognition by tribal elders, leaders, or the tribal governing body identifying then present members or ancestors of then present members as being descendants of 1 or more historic tribes that combined and functioned as a single autonomous political entity.

(v) OTHER RECORDS OR EVIDENCE.—Other records or evidence based upon firsthand evidence of historians, and genealogists with established expertise on the petitioner or Indian entities in general,
identifying then present members or ancestors of then present members as being descendents of 1 or more historic tribes that combined and functioned as a single autonomous political entity.

(c) EXCEPTIONS.—A documented petition from an Indian group that is able to demonstrate by a preponderance of the evidence that the group was, or is the successor in interest to, a—

(1) party to a treaty or treaties; or

(2) group acknowledged by any agency of the Federal Government as eligible to participate under the Act of June 18, 1934 (commonly referred to as the “Indian Reorganization Act of 1934”, 48 Stat. 964 et seq., chapter 375; 25 U.S.C. 461 et seq.);

(3) group for the benefit of which the United States took into trust lands, or which the Federal Government has treated as having collective rights in tribal lands or funds; or

(4) group that has been denominated a tribe by an Act of Congress or Executive order, shall be required to establish the criteria set forth in this section only with respect to the period beginning on the date of the applicable action described in paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (4) and ending on the date of submission of the documented petition.

(d) DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION.—

(1) DOCUMENTED PETITIONS.—No Indian group may submit a documented petition to the Commission under section 6(a)(2) or under paragraph (1) or (2) of section 6(a)(3) after the date of the first meeting of the Commission.

(2) LETTERS OF INTENT.—In the case of a letter of intent, the Commission shall publish in the Federal Register a notice of such receipt, including the name, location, and mailing address of the petitioner. A petitioner who has submitted a letter of intent or has been acknowledged by any agency of the Federal Government to have a letter of intent transferred to the Commission under section 5 shall be required to submit a documented petition within 3 years after the date of the first meeting of the Commission to the Commission. No letters of intent will be accepted by the Commission after 3 years after the date of the first meeting of the Commission.

SEC. 6. NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF DOCUMENTED PETITION.

(a) PETITIONER.—

(1) GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after a documented petition is submitted or transferred to the Commission under section 6(a)(3), the Commission shall—

(A) publish a notice of receipt in writing to the petitioner; and

(B) publish in the Federal Register a notice of that receipt, including the name, location, and mailing address of the petitioner and such other information that—

(i) identifies the entity that submitted the documented petition and the date the documented petition was received by the Commission; and

(ii) indicates where a copy of the documented petition may be examined; and

(iii) for a transferred documented petition that is a transferred documented petition that is subject to the special provisions under paragraph (2).

(b) SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR TRANSFERRED DOCUMENTED PETITIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to a documented petition that is transferred to the Commission under section 6(a)(3), the Commission shall notify by any means provided to the petitioner, shall, in addition to providing the information specified in paragraph (1), inform the petitioner whether the determining petition constitutes a documented petition that meets the requirements of section 5.

(B) AMENDED PETITIONS.—If the petition described in paragraph (A) is not a transferred documented petition, the Commission shall notify the petitioner that the petitioner may, not later than 120 days after the date of the notice, submit to the Commission an amended petition that is a documented petition for review under section 7.

(c) EFFECT OF DOCUMENTED PETITION.—To the extent practicable, the submission of an amended petition by a petitioner by the date specified in this paragraph shall not affect the order of consideration of the petition by the Commission.

(b) OTHERS.—In addition to providing the notification required under subsection (a), the Commission shall notify, in writing, the Governor and attorney general of, and each federally recognized Indian tribe within, any State in which the petition relates.

(c) PUBLICATION; OPPORTUNITY FOR SUPPORTING OR OPPOSING SUBMISSIONS.—

(1) PUBLICATION.—The Commission shall publish the notice of receipt of each documented petition (including any amended petition submitted pursuant to subsection (a)(2)) in a major newspaper of general circulation in the town or city located nearest the location of the petitioner.

(2) OPPORTUNITY FOR SUPPORTING OR OPPOSING SUBMISSIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Each notice published under paragraph (1) shall include, in addition to the information described in subsection (a), an opportunity for other parties involved with the petitioners to submit factual or legal arguments in support of, or in opposition to, the documented petition.

(B) COPY TO PETITIONER.—A copy of any submission made under subparagraph (A) shall be provided to the petitioner within 90 days upon receipt by the Commission.

(3) RESTRICTIONS.—Subparagraph (A) shall be provided an opportunity to respond within 90 days to any submission made under subparagraph (A) before a determination on the documented petition.

SEC. 7. PROCESSING THE DOCUMENTED PETITION.

(a) REVIEW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Upon receipt of a documented petition submitted or transferred under section 6(a)(3) or submitted under section 6(a)(2)(B), the Commission shall conduct a review to determine whether the petitioner is entitled to be recognized as an Indian tribe.

(2) CONTENT OF REVIEW.—The review conducted under paragraph (1) shall include consideration of the documented petition, supporting evidence, and the factual statements contained in the documented petition.

(b) OTHER RESEARCH.—In conducting a review under this subsection, the Commission may—

(A) initiate other research for any purpose relative to analyzing the documented petition and obtaining additional information about the status of the petitioner; and

(B) consider such evidence as may be submitted by interested parties.

(b) INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED PREPARATORY TO AN ADJUDICATORY HEARING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Commission makes a determination under subsection (b)(1)(B) that the petitioner should proceed to an adjudicatory hearing, the Commission shall—

(A) not later than 30 days after the date of such determination, provide written notification to the petitioner that includes a list of any deficiencies or omissions that the Commission relied on in making a determination under subsection (b)(1)(B); and

(B) not later than 30 days after the conclusion of the preliminary hearing under subsection (b)(1)(B), provide written notification to the petitioner that includes a list of any deficiencies or omissions that the Commission relied on in making a determination under subsection (b)(1)(B).

(2) SUBJECT OF ADJUDICATORY HEARING.—

The list of deficiencies and omissions provided by the Commission to a petitioner that includes a list of any deficiencies or omissions that the Commission relied on in making a determination under subsection (b)(1)(B) is the subject of the adjudicatory hearing. The Commission may not make any additions to the list after the Commission issues the list.

SEC. 8. ADJUDICATORY HEARING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the conclusion of a preliminary hearing under section 7, the Commission shall provide a petitioner who is subject to section 7(b)(1)(B) an adjudicatory hearing. The subject of the adjudicatory hearing shall be the list of deficiencies and omissions provided by the Commission to the petitioner pursuant to sections 554, 556, and 557 of title 5, United States Code.

(b) TESTIMONY FROM STAFF OF COMMISSION.—If a petition is pending under subsection (a), the Commission shall require testimony from the acknowledgement and research
staff of the Commission or other witnesses involved in the preliminary determination. Any such testimony shall be subject to cross-examination by the petitioner.

(e) Review by Attorney.—In any hearing held under subsection (a), the petitioner may provide such evidence as the petitioner considers appropriate.

(f) Decision by Commission.—Not later than 60 days after the conclusion of any hearing held under subsection (a), the Commission shall—

(1) make a determination concerning the extension or denial of Federal acknowledgment of the petitioner as an Indian tribe to the petitioner;

(2) publish the determination of the Commission under paragraph (1) in the Federal Register; and

(3) deliver a copy of the determination to the petitioner, and to every other interested party.

SEC. 10. APPEALS.

(a) In General.—Not later than 60 days after the date that the Commission publishes a determination under section 9(d), the petitioner may appeal the determination to the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

(b) Attorney Fees.—If the petitioner prevails in an appeal made under subsection (a), the petitioner shall be eligible for an award of reasonable attorney fees and costs under section 504 of title 5, United States Code, or section 2412 of title 28, United States Code, whichever is applicable.

SEC. 11. EFFECT OF DETERMINATIONS.

A determination by the Commission under section 9(d) that an Indian group is recognized by the Federal Government as an Indian tribe shall not have the effect of depriving or diminishing—

(1) the right of any other Indian tribe to govern the reservation of such other tribe as that reservation existed before the recognition of that Indian group, or as that reservation may exist thereafter;

(2) any property right held in trust or recognized by the United States for that other Indian tribe as that property existed before the recognition of that Indian group; or

(3) any previously or independently existing claim of any owner or successor in possession of any property right held in trust by the United States for that other Indian tribe before the recognition by the Federal Government of that Indian group.

SEC. 12. IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS.

(a) Eligibility for Services and Benefits.—

(1) In General.—Subject to paragraph (2), upon recognition by the Commission of a petitioner as an Indian tribe under this Act, the Indian tribe shall—

(A) be eligible for the services and benefits from the Federal Government that are available to other federally recognized Indian tribes by virtue of their status as Indian tribes with a government-to-government relationship with the United States; and

(B) have the responsibilities, obligations, privileges, and immunities of those Indian tribes.

(2) Programs of the Bureau.—

(A) In General.—The recognition of an Indian group as an Indian tribe by the Commission under this Act shall not create an immediate entitlement to programs of the Bureau in existence on the date of the recognition.

(B) Availability of Programs.—

(i) In General.—The programs described in subparagraph (A) shall become available to the Indian tribe upon the appropriation of funds.

(ii) Requests for Appropriations.—The Secretary and the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall forward budget requests for funding the programs for the Indian tribe pursuant to the needs determination procedures established under subsection (b).

(iii) Needs Determination and Budget Request.—

(A) In General.—Not later than 180 days after an Indian group is recognized by the Commission as an Indian tribe under this Act, the appropriate officials of the Bureau and the Indian Health Service of the Department of Health and Human Services shall consult and develop in cooperation with the Indian tribe, and forward to the Secretary or the Secretary of Health and Human Services, an appropriate budget request to the appropriate officials of the Indian tribe and a recommended budget required to serve the newly recognized Indian tribe.

(B) Submission of Budget Request.—Upon receipt of the information described in paragraph (1), the appropriate Secretary shall submit to the President a recommended budget along with recommendations, concerning the information received under paragraph (1), for inclusion in the annual budget submitted by the President to the Congress pursuant to section 1108 of title 31, United States Code.

SEC. 13. ANNUAL REPORT CONCERNING COMMISSION ACTIVITIES.

(a) List of Recognized Tribes.—Not later than 90 days after the first meeting of the Commission, and annually on or before each January 30 thereafter, the Commission shall publish in the Federal Register a list of all Indian tribes that—

(A) are recognized by the Federal Government; and

(B) receive services from the Bureau.

(b) Annual Report.—

(1) In General.—Beginning on the date that is 1 year after the date of the first meeting of the Commission, and annually thereafter, the Commission shall prepare and submit a report to the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives that describes the activities of the Commission.

(2) Content of Reports.—Each report submitted under this subsection shall include, at a minimum for each year that is the subject of the report—

(A) the number of documented petitions pending at the beginning of the year and the names of the petitioners;

(B) the number of documented petitions received during the year and the names of the petitioners;

(C) the number of documented petitions the Commission approved for acknowledgment during the year and the names of the acknowledged petitioners;

(D) the number of documented petitions the Commission denied for acknowledgment during the year and the names of the petitioners; and

(E) the status of all pending documented petitions on the date of the report and the names of the petitioners.

SEC. 14. ACTIONS BY PETITIONERS FOR ENFORCEMENT.

Any petitioner may bring an action in the district court of the United States for the district in which the petitioner resides, or in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, to enforce the provisions of this Act, including any time limitations within which actions are required to be taken, or decisions made, under this Act. The district court shall issue such orders (including writs of mandamus) as may be necessary to enforce the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 15. REGULATIONS.

The Commission may, in accordance with applicable requirements of title 5, United States Code, promulgate and publish such regulations as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

SEC. 16. GUIDELINES AND ADVICE.

(a) Guidelines.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the first meeting of the Commission, the Commission shall make available to Indian groups suggested guidelines and format of documented petitions, including general suggestions and guidelines concerning where and how to research information that is required to be included in a documented petition. The examples included in the guidelines shall not preclude the use of any other appropriate format.

(b) Research Advice.—The Commission may, upon request, provide advice to any petitioner with respect to the research of the petitioner concerning the historical background and Indian identity of that petitioner. The Commission shall not be responsible for conducting research on behalf of the petitioner.

SEC. 17. ASSISTANCE TO PETITIONERS.

(a) Grants.—

(1) In General.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services may award grants to Indian groups seeking Federal recognition as Indian tribes to enable the Indian groups to—

(A) conduct the research necessary to substantiate documented petitions under this Act; and

(B) prepare documentation necessary for the submission of a documented petition under this Act.

(2) Treatment of Grants.—The grants made under this subsection shall be in addition to any other grants the Secretary of Health and Human Services is authorized to provide under any other provision of law.

(b) Competitive Award.—The grants made under subsection (a) shall be awarded competitively on the basis of objective criteria established by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

SEC. 18. PROTECTION OF CERTAIN PRIVILEGED INFORMATION.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon the effective date of this Act, when responding to any request for information on petitions and related materials filed by a group seeking Federal recognition as an Indian tribe under this Act pursuant to section 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations, including petitions and related materials transferred to the Department of Health and Human Services located within the Department that have yet to be transferred to the Commission, the Department of Health and Human Services shall exclude materials identified by the petitioning group as information related to religious practices or sacred sites, and which the group is forbidden to disclose except for the limited purpose of Department and Commission review.

SEC. 19. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) Commission.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Commission to carry out this Act (other than section 17) such sums as are necessary for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2014.

(b) Secretary of HHS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out section 17 such sums as are necessary for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2014.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. KENNEDY):—

S. 505. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to regulate certain .50 caliber sniper weapons in the same manner as machine guns and
other firearms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise on behalf of myself, Senator SCHUMER, and Senator KENNEDY to re-introduce the Military Sniper Weapon Regulation Act. This bill, which I first introduced with Senator LIEBERMAN in 1999, will reclassify powerful .50 caliber military sniper rifles under the National Firearms Act, thus making it much more difficult for terrorists, drugsmoke cults, and criminals to obtain them. I am confident that this measure will be hard to aim at that distance, the law will be effective at that distance.

The weapon can penetrate several inches of steel, concrete, or even light armor. In fact, many ranges used for target practice do not even have enough safety features to accommodate these guns, it is just too powerful.

Recent advances in weapons technology allow this gun to be used by civilians against armored limousines, bunkers, and even aircraft. In fact, one advertisement for the gun apparently promoted the weapon as able to "wreck several million dollars' worth of jet aircraft with one or two dollars' worth of cartridge."

The law is clear that one dealer told undercover GAO investigators "You'd better buy one soon. It's only a matter of time before someone lets go a round on a range that travels so far, it hits a school bus full of kids. The government will definitely ban .50 calibers. This gun is just too powerful."

When I first introduced this bill, I commented that a study by the General Accounting Office revealed some eye-opening facts about how and where this gun is used, and how easily it is obtained. The GAO reports that many of these guns wind up in the hands of domestic and international terrorists, religious cults, outlaw motorcycle gangs, drug traffickers, and violent criminals.

One doomsday cult headquartered in Montana purchased 10 of these guns and stockpiled them in an underground bunker, along with thousands of rounds of armor-piercing ammunition. At least one .50 caliber gun was recovered by Mexican authorities after a shoot-out with an international drug cartel in that country. The gun was originally purchased in Wyoming, so it is clear that the guns are making their way into the hands of criminals worldwide.

Another .50 caliber sniper rifle, smuggled out of the United States, was used by the Irish Republican Army to kill a large number of British soldiers. And another .50 caliber gun is also readily available, even over the Internet. Bullets for these guns include "armor piercing incendiary" ammunition that explodes on impact, and even "armor piercing tracer" ammunition that lights up the skies over Baghdad during the Persian Gulf war.

Several ammunition dealers were willing to sell armor piercing ammunition to an undercover GAO investigator. For said he wanted the ammunition to pierce an armored limousine or maybe to "take down" a helicopter. In fact, our own military helps to provide thousands of rounds of .50 caliber ammunition, by essentially giving away tons of spent cartridges, many of which are then refurbished and sold on the civilian market.

This bill will begin the process of making these guns harder to get and easier to track. Current law classifies .50 caliber guns as "long guns," subject to the least government regulation for any firearm. Sawed-off shotguns, machine guns, and even handguns are more highly regulated than this military sniper rifle. In fact, many states allow possession of .50 caliber guns by those as young as 14 years old, and there is no regulation on second-hand sales.

Essentially, this bill would re-classify .50 caliber guns under the National Firearms Act, which imposes far stricter standards on powerful and destructive weapons. For instance:

NFA guns may only be purchased from a licensed dealer, and not second-hand. This will prevent the sale of these guns at gun shows and in other venues that make it hard for law enforcement to track the weapons.

Second, purchasers of NFA guns must fill out license transfer applications and provide fingerprints to be processed by the FBI in detailed criminal background checks. By reclassifying the .50 caliber, Congress will be making a determination that sellers should be more careful about to whom they give these powerful, military guns.

ATF reports that this background check process takes about 60 days, so prospective gun buyers will face some delay. However, legitimate purchasers of 27,000 gun can certainly wait that long.

Clearly, placing a few more restrictions on who can get these guns and how is simply common sense. This bill will go a long way toward the same use or possession of .50 caliber weapons. The .50 caliber shooting club will not face extinction, and "legitimate" purchasers of these guns will not lose their access—even though that, too, might be a reasonable step, since I cannot imagine a legitimate use of this gun.

The bill will simply place stricter requirements on the way in which these guns can be sold, and to whom. The measure is meant to offer a reasoned solution to making it harder for terrorists, drugsmoke cults and criminals to obtain these powerful weapons. If we are to continue to allow private citizens to own and use guns of this caliber, range, and destructive power, we should at the very least take greater care in making sure that these guns do not fall into the wrong hands.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 505

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Military Sniper Weapon Regulation Act of 2001."

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds that—

(1) certain firearms originally designed and built for use as long-range .50 caliber military weapons are increasingly sold in the domestic civilian market;

(2) the intended use of these long-range firearms, and an increasing number of models derived directly from them, is the taking of human life and the destruction of material, including armored vehicles and such components of the national critical infrastructure as radars and microwave transmission devices;

(3) these firearms are neither designed nor used in any significant number for legitimate sporting or hunting purposes and are clearly distinguishable from rifles intended for sporting and hunting use;

(4) extraordinarily destructive ammunition for these weapons, including armor-piercing and armor-piercing incendiary ammunition, is freely sold in interstate commerce; and

(5) the virtually unrestricted availability of these firearms and ammunition, given the uses intended in their design and manufacture, present a serious and substantial threat to the national security.

SEC. 3. COVERAGE OF .50 CALIBER SNIPER WEAPONS UNDER NATIONAL FIREARMS ACT.

(a) In General.—Section 5845(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (defining firearm) is amended by striking "(6) a machine
gun; (7) any silencer (as defined in section 921 of title 18, United States Code); and (8) a destructive device," and inserting "(6) a 50 caliber sniper weapon; (7) a machine gun; (8) any Silencer (as defined in section 921 of title 18, United States Code); and (9) a destructive device.".

(b) 50 CALIBER SNIPER WEAPON.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 5845 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by redesignating subsections (d) through (m) as subsections (e) through (n), respectively, and by inserting after subsection (c) the following new subsection:

(d) 50 CALIBER SNIPER WEAPON.—The term "50 caliber sniper weapon" means a rifle capable of firing a center-fire cartridge in 50 caliber, .50 BMG caliber, any other variant of 50 caliber, or any metric equivalent of such caliber.

(2) MODIFICATION TO DEFINITION OF RIFLE.—Subsection (c) of section 5845 of such Code is amended by inserting "or from a bipod or other support" after "shoulder".

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 5811(a) of such Code is amended by striking "section 5845(e)" and inserting "section 5845(d)".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI:

S. 506. A bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, to provide for exchange between the Secretary of Agriculture and the Huna Totem Corporation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation today on behalf of the Huna Totem Corporation and the residents of Hoonah, Alaska.

This bill would require the Huna Totem Corporation to convey ownership of approximately 1,999 acres of land to the United States Forest Service. In exchange for these lands the Huna Totem Corporation will be allowed to select other lands readily accessible to Hoonah in order to fulfill their ANCSA entitlement. This legislation allows for the exchange of lands to be of equal value and provides for additional compensation if needed. Lastly, the legislation requires that any potential timber harvested from land acquired by Huna Totem Corporation not be available for export.

Within the proposed corridor and has had a lasting impact on the values of the residents who live there today.

Turnagain Arm, once a critical transportation link, has the world's second largest tidal range. Visitors can stand along the shore lines and actually watch 30 foot tides move in and out of the arm. On occasion, the low roar of an oncoming bore tide can be heard as a wall of water sweeps up the Turnagain Arm.

The city of Hoonah is located in Southeast Alaska on the northeastern part of Chichagof Island. Hoonah has been the home of the Huna people since the last advance of the great ice mass of the McNeil River Hills. In the late 1800's, the Huna people to look for new homes. The city of Hoonah is located in Southeast Alaska on the northeastern part of Chichagof Island. Hoonah has been the home of the Huna people since the last advance of the great ice mass of the McNeil River Hills. In the late 1800's, the Huna people to look for new homes. Since the Huna people had traditionally used the Hoonah area each summer as a subsistence harvesting area, it was natural for them to settle in the area now called Hoonah. The community has a population of approximately 918 residents and is located forty miles from Juneau, Alaska's capital city.

Within the city of Hoonah is located the Huna Totem Corporation, an Alaskan Native Corporation formed pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, ANCSA. Huna Totem is the largest Tlingit Indian Village Corporation in Southeast Alaska. Under the terms of ANCSA each village corporation had to select lands within the core townships or townships in which all or part of the Native village is located.

In 1975, Huna Totem filed its ANCSA land selections within the two mile radius of its corporate headquarters, the city of Hoonah as mandated by ANCSA. Since the community of Hoonah is located along the shoreline at the base of Hoonah Head Mountain, the surrounding lands are steep hillsides, cliffs, or are designated watered for hydroelectric power sources. Most of the acres, approximately 1,999, of this land are not suitable for economic purposes due to the topography and watershed limitations.

Therefore in order for the Huna Totem Corporation to receive full economic benefit of the lands promised to them under ANCSA, and for the city of Hoonah to protect its watershed, alternative lands must be sought for Huna Totem to seek revenue from.

The legislation I am offering today would achieve these goals. By authorizing a land exchange between the Huna Totem Corporation and the U.S. Forest Service the residents of Hoonah will be able to maximize the benefits promised under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI:

S. 509. A bill to establish the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Area in the State of Alaska, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a bill to establish the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Corridor in my State of Alaska.

The national heritage corridor, when enacted, will include the first leg of the Iditarod National Historic Trail and most of the Seward Highway National Scenic Byway. National heritage designation will give us the ability to tell the American public about the critical role that this transportation corridor played in shaping the traditions and values of the residents of south-central Alaska. From native trade-routes to shipping ports, from trails to highways, these are the themes of our national heritage and the settling of the North.

This would be the first among the 16 existing national heritage areas that highlight the experience of settling the northern frontier. The fact that it would be one of a kind strengthens the case for designation.

Unlike any of the existing national heritage areas, the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Corridor will highlight the experience of the northern frontier—of transportation and settlement in a harsh landscape, of the gold rush and resource development in a remote area. These are the themes of the proposal, themes that are part of who we are as a nation. The proposed heritage corridor wonderfully expresses these themes.

Within the proposed heritage corridor there are a number of small historic communities that developed around transportation and the gold rush. Dwarved by the sweeping landscapes around them, these small communities are today still strong enough to compete for the annual salmon runs. As usual, the fall migration of wildlife, the deep snows of winter, and the rush of springtime melt. National heritage designations are about the relationships that people develop with their surroundings. On the northern frontier in the proposed corridor and has had a lasting impact on the values of the residents who live there today.

Turnagain Arm, once a critical transportation link, has the world's second largest tidal range. Visitors can stand along the shore lines and actually watch 30 foot tides move in and out of the arm. On occasion, the low roar of an oncoming bore tide can be heard as a wall of water sweeps up the Turnagain Arm.

A traveler through the alpine valleys and mountain passes of the heritage corridor can witness a landscape shaped by powerful geologic forces: re-treating glaciers, earthquake subsid-eence, and avalanche. The area is home to variety of wildlife: Dall sheep, Beluga whales, moose, bald eagles, trumpeter swans, and Arctic terns to name a few.

Bounded by saltwater on either side, the proposed corridor has been an important transportation route from the resource rich Kenai Peninsula into the rest of Alaska. Alaskan natives established trade routes following river valleys and around like the fjord-like lakes. Later, Russian fur-traders, gold rush stampenders, missionaries, and others arrived all seeking access into the resource-rich land. The famous Iditarod Trail to Nome, which was used to haul mail in and gold out, started on the Kenai Peninsula.

A series of starts and stops by railroad entrepreneurs eventually culminated in the completion of the Alaska Railroad from Seward to Fairbanks by the federal government. President Harding boarded the train in Seward in 1923 to drive the golden spike at Nenana (and died on the boat returning to Seattle). It was only in the last half of this century that the highway from Seward to Anchorage was opened. Before then the small communities of the area were linked to the rest of Alaska by wagon trail, rail, and by boat across Turnagain Arm and the Kenai River.

The Heritage corridor contains one of the earliest mining regions in Alaska. Russians left evidence of their search for gold at Bear Creek near Hope. In 1895, discovery of a rich deposit at Canyon Creek precipitated the Turnagain Arm Gold Rush, predating the stampede to the Klondike.

The early settlements and communities of the area are still very much as they were in the past. But, as in the early days, this is a region where "nature is boss," and historic trails and...
Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

Representatives of the United States of America sent the bill be printed in the RECORD, as ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as in its entirety, immediately after my remarks and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. Therefore, without objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

March 9, 2001

Congressional Record — Senate
S2129

Evidence of mining history are often embedded and nearly hidden in the landscape. What can be seen stands as powerful testimony to the human fortitude, perseverance, and resourcefulness that is America’s proudest heritage from the people who settled the Alaskan last frontier.

People living in the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm Corridor share a sense that it is a special place. In part, this is simply because of the sheer natural beauty; but it is also because the Alaska’s Kenai Mountains are relatively recent. Memories of the times when the inhabitants were dependent on their own resources, and on each other, are still very much alive.

Communities are small, but they are alive with volunteerism. All have active historical societies. Groups in Seward and Girdwood have organized to rebuild the Iditarod Trail. In town of Hope citizens constructed a museum of mining history, building it themselves out of logs and donated materials. Local conducted historic building surveys, written books and short histories, collected and published old diaries, and created web pages to record and share the history of their communities. Seward, the corridor’s gateway, has created a delightful array of visitor opportunities that display and interpret the region’s natural setting, Native culture, and history. National heritage area designation would greatly encourage and expand these good works.

Mr. President, it is important to note that this national heritage area is a local grass roots effort and it will remain a locally driven grass roots effort. Decisions will be made by locals, not by Federal bureaucrats. The only role of the Federal Government is to provide technical expertise, mostly in the areas of the interpretation of the many historic sites and tremendous natural resource features that are found throughout the entire region. There will be no Federal land ownership by the Federal Government or by the local management entity that is charged with putting together a coordinated plan to interpret the heritage area. The heritage area is about local people working together.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the bill be printed in the RECORD, in its entirety, immediately after my remarks and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. Therefore, without objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 509

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled

SEC. 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress find that—

(1) The Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm transportation corridor is a major gateway to Alaska and includes a range of transportation routes used first by indigenous people who were followed by pioneers who settled the nation’s last frontier;

(2) the natural beauty and scenic splendor of the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm corridor is outstanding; vistas of nature’s power include evidence of earthquake subsidence, recent avalanches, recent landslide action along the Turnagain Arm, which has the world’s second-greatest tidal range;

(3) the cultural landscape formed by indigenous people settlement, transportation and modern resource development in this rugged and often treacherous natural setting stands as powerful testimony to the human fortitude, perseverance, and resourcefulness that is America’s proudest heritage from the people who settled the frontier;

(4) there is a national interest in recognizing, preserving, promoting, and interpreting these resources;

(5) the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm region is geographically and culturally cohesive because it is defined by a corridor of historic routes—trail, water, railroad, and roadways through a distinct landscape of mountains, lakes, and fjords;

(6) national significance of separate elements of the region include, but are not limited to, the Iditarod National Historic Trail, the Seward Highway National Scenic Byway, and the Alaska Railroad National Scenic Railroad;

(7) national heritage area designation provides for the interpretation of these routes, as well as the national historic districts and numerous historic routes in the region as part of the whole picture of human history in the wider transportation corridor including early Native trade routes, connections by waterway, mining trail, and other routes;

(8) national heritage area designation also provides communities within the region with the necessary “grass roots” regional coordination and partnerships with each other and with borough, State, and Federal agencies; and

(9) national heritage area designation is supported by the Kenai Peninsula Historical Society, the Seward Historical Commission, the Kenai Peninsula Borough, the State Division of Parks and Recreation, the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Area, the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm Heritage Area, the Iditarod National Historic Trail, the Hope Borough, the Anchorage Marketing Council, and the Anchorage Municipal Assembly.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to recognize, preserve, and interpret the historic and modern resource development and cultural landscapes of the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm corridor, and to promote and facilitate the public enjoyment of these resources; and

(2) to foster, through financial and technical assistance, the development of coordination and partnerships among the communities and borough, State, and Federal Government entities.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act—

(1) HERITAGE AREA.—The term “Heritage Area” means the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Area established by section 4(a) of this Act.

(2) MANAGEMENT ENTITY.—The term “management entity” means the 11 member Board of Directors of the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Corridor Communities Association.

(3) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—The term “management plan” means the management plan for the Heritage Area.

(4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 4. KENAI MOUNTAINS-TURNAGAIN ARM NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Area.

(b) BOUNDARIES.—The Heritage Area shall comprise the lands in the Kenai Mountains and Turnagain Arm region generally depicted on the map entitled “Kenai Peninsula-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Corridor,” numbered “Map KMTA—1,” and dated “August 1999.” The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the Alaska Regional Office of the National Park Service and in the offices of the Alaska State Heritage Preservation Officer.

SEC. 5. MANAGEMENT ENTITY.

(a) The Secretary shall enter into a cooperative agreement with the management entity, to carry out the purposes of this Act. The cooperative agreement shall include information relating to the objectives and management of the Heritage Area, including the following:

(1) A discussion of the goals and objectives of the Heritage Area;

(2) An explanation of the proposed approach to conservation and interpretation of the Heritage Area;

(3) A general outline of the protection measures, to which the management entity commits.

(b) Nothing in this Act authorizes the management entity to assume any management authorities or responsibilities on Federal lands.

(c) Representatives of other organizations shall be invited and encouraged to participate with the management entity in the development and implementation of the management plan, including but not limited to the State Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation; the State Division of Mining, Land and Water; the Forest Service; the State Historic Preservation Office; the Kenai Peninsula Borough; the Municipality of Anchorage; the Alaska Railroad; the Department of Transportation; and the Anchorage Marketing Council.

(d) The Secretary shall coordinate efforts with the management entity and the non-profit corporation shall be established under the bylaws of the management entity.

SEC. 6. AUTHORITIES AND DUTIES OF MANAGEMENT ENTITY.

(a) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

(1) In general.—Not later than 3 years after the Secretary enters into a cooperative agreement with the management entity, the management entity shall develop a management plan for the Heritage Area, taking into consideration existing Federal, State, borough, and local plans.

(2) CONTENTS.—The management plan shall include, but not be limited to—

(A) comprehensive recommendations for conservation, funding, management, and development of the Heritage Area;

(B) a description of agreements on actions to be carried out by Government and private organizations to protect the resources of the Heritage Area;

(C) a list of specific and potential sources of funding to protect, manage, and develop the Heritage Area;
(D) an inventory of the resources contained in the Heritage Area; and
(E) a description of the role and participation of other Federal, State, and local agencies that have jurisdiction on lands within the Heritage Area.

(b) PRIORITIES.—The management entity shall give priority to the implementation of actions, goals, and policies set forth in the cooperative agreement with the Secretary and the heritage plan, including assisting communities within the region in—
(1) developing programs which recognize important resource values in the Heritage Area; and
(2) encouraging economic viability in the affected communities;
(3) establishing and maintaining interpretive exhibits in the Heritage Area;
(4) improving and interpreting heritage trails;
(5) increasing public awareness and appreciation for the natural, historical, and cultural resources and modern resource development of the Heritage Area;
(6) restoring historic buildings and structures that are located within the boundaries of the Heritage Areas; and
(7) ensuring that clear, consistent, and appropriate signs identifying public access points and sites of interest are placed throughout the Heritage Area.

(c) PUBLIC MEETINGS.—The management entity shall conduct 2 or more public meetings each year regarding the initiation and implementation of management actions for the Heritage Area. The management entity shall place a notice of each such meeting in a newspaper of general circulation in the Heritage Area and shall make the minutes of the meeting available to the public.

SEC. 7. DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.

(a) The Secretary, in consultation with the Governor for his designees, is authorized to enter into a cooperative agreement with the management entity. The cooperative agreement shall be prepared with public participation.
(b) In accordance with the terms and conditions of the cooperative agreement and upon the request of the management entity, and subject to the availability of funds, the Secretary may provide administrative, technical, financial, design, development, and operation assistance to carry out the purposes of this Act.

SEC. 8. SAVINGS PROVISIONS.

(a) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to grant powers over zoning or management of land use to the management entity of the Heritage Areas for the Heritage Area.
(b) EFFECT ON AUTHORITY OF GOVERNMENTS.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to modify, enlarge, or diminish any authority of the Federal, State, or local governments to manage or regulate any use of land as provided for by law or regulation.

(c) TRANSPORTATION.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to obstruct or limit business activity on private development or resource development activities.

SEC. 9. PROHIBITION ON THE ACQUISITION OR REAL PROPERTY.

The management entity may not use funds appropriated to carry out the purposes of this Act to acquire real property or interest in real property.

SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) FIRST YEAR.—For the first year $350,000 is appropriated to be used for the purposes of this Act, and is made available upon the Secretary and the management entity completing a cooperative agreement.
(b) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated not more than $1,000,000 to carry out the purposes of this Act for any fiscal year after the first year. Not more than $10,000,000 in the aggregate, may be appropriated for the Heritage Area.

(c) MATCHING FUNDS.—Federal funding provided under this Act shall be matched at least 25 percent by other funds or in-kind services.

(d) SUNSET PROVISION.—The Secretary may not make any grant or provide any assistance under this Act beyond 15 years from the date that the Secretary and management entity complete a cooperative agreement.

By Mr. LUGAR:
S. 598. A bill to authorize the President to posthumously the late Raymond Ames Spruance to the grade of Fleet Admiral of the United States Navy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, at 10:25 a.m. on June 4, 1942, a Japanese armada including four carriers was steaming east towards Midway Island, 1150 miles west of Pearl Harbor in the Central Pacific. Its objectives: Invade the strategically situated atoll, seize the U.S. Air Force, and annihilate the Japanese to destroy what remained of our Pacific fleet after the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor the preceding December. At 10:30 a.m. three of the four Japanese carriers and their aircraft were a day’s march before. It was Spruance, who, when one Japanese fighter cover had swatted down torpedo bomber squadrons from the U.S. carriers Enterprise, Hornet, and Yorktown—the final, fatal mission for 35 of 41 American planes and 68 of 82 pilots and gunners. But their courageous attack had drawn the fighters down to deck level, leaving the skies nearly empty for the 37 U.S. dive bombers who then appeared and, in five fateful minutes, changed the course of history. By nightfall, the fourth Japanese carrier, too, was a blazing wreck, a fitting coda to a day that reversed forever the military fortunes of Imperial Japan.

"So ended," wrote Churchill, "the battle of June 4, rightly regarded as the turning point of the war in the Pacific." With Sir Winston, of course, the question at times was whether the event could rise to the level of his prose. Midway measured up. "There were a hundred battles where the bravest and ablest were eliminated, at one crucial juncture, with little hint from the mod-est man on stage about his personal involvement, at one crucial juncture after another, in making that victory possible. Only years later did I really understand how large a role Raymond Spruance had played on the stage of actual events, starting at Midway. His very presence at the battle—replacing the flamboyant William ‘Bull’ Halsey, temporarily shore-bound with a skin condition—had been a double plus. Yet it was Spruance, with no prior carrier combat experience, who at the key moment made the crucial command decision to launch all available aircraft, which led to the devastation of the Japanese carriers. It was Spruance who then preserved that turning-point victory, instinctively resisting Japanese attempts over the next two days to lure the American fleet into a trap—a trap subsequent U.S. intelligence was confirmed is August. It was Spruance, as famed Navy historian Samuel Eliot Morison would write, who "emerged from the battle one of the greatest admirals in American naval history."

It was also Spruance who, when complimented on Midway years after the War, would say, "There were a hundred Spruances in the Navy. They just happened to pick me for the job." Herman Wouk’s masterful ‘War And Remem-brance’ has the best rejoinder, which the author puts in the mouth of a fictional wartime adversary: “In fact, there was only one Spruance and luck gave him, at a fateful hour, to America.” Speaking in their own voices, Wouk and other Americans of faith would quarrel only with the word "luck."

Midway would prove but the first of many Spruance-led successes. As Commander of the newly formed Fifth Fleet, he would lead operations in the Gilberts, then in the Marshallis, and then in the Marianas, including the invasion of Saipan. (Among the fighting men under Spruance’s overall command during this 1943-44 period was a young aviator—the war’s youngest commissioned Naval pilot—named George Bush). Spruance would then command 1945’s crucial, hard-fought invasions of Iwo Jima and Okinawa, the latter involving some 1,200 vessels and 548,000 men, an amphibious operation on a scale surpassed only by Normandy.

Throughout, he maintained the unassuming attitude that downplayed his
own role at Midway. Unlike some of his contemporaries (and in marked con-trast to the spirit of our own age), Spruance avoided publicity and abjured self-promotion, which he saw as a threat to effective command. “A man’s judgment may be questioned; but, when he can forget himself and any reputation he may have acquired, and can concentrate wholly on making the right decision.” These are words to live by for any leader. Spruance, both during the war and in his later service as President of the Naval War College and Ambassador to the Philippines, lived them as few other leaders in any age and any field of endeavor have managed.

One consequence was that he forswore levels of recognition and reward accorded others who, though fully worthy, were certainly no more worthy than he. Serious historians and scholars, however, never doubted the merits of the man whose biography is aptly titled “The Quiet Warrior.” Among all the war’s combat admirals “there was no one to equal Spruance,” wrote Morison. “He envied no man, regarded no one as rival, won the respect of all with whom he came in contact, and went ahead in his quiet way winning victories for his country.”

That was surely enough for Spruance, who passed away in December 1969. But I do not think it should be enough, and that our countrymen, who are the beneficiaries of the victories he won. That is why I have introduced legislation authorizing and requesting President Bush to promote Raymond Spruance—the “quiet warrior”—under whom the President’s father once served—to the five-star rank of Fleet Admiral of the United States Navy. I believe this posthumous honor should be the fitting, and final, promotion served by the men who served in that conflict.

Typically, Spruance stayed away from these controversies. His one comment came in 1965, when he wrote a friend:

“So far as my getting five-star rank is concerned, if I could have had it along with Bill Halsey, I would have had it instead of Bill Halsey, I would have been very unhappy over it.

Well, Raymond Spruance can now have five-star rank “along with Bill Halsey.” He deserves it, the more so because he did not seek it. It is an oversight that he was not given it earlier. But these are reasons enough to correct that oversight now.

And there are other reasons we should pay Raymond Spruance this posthumous honor, reasons that have as much to do with us as with him. What we choose to honor says a great deal about who we are. Much of what our political and popular culture “honors” today—with celebrity and fortune and swarms of media attention is the foolish and flighty, the sensational and self-indulgent. Too often, the pursuits made possible by freedom are unworthy of the sacrifices that preserved freedom itself.

Those sacrifices were made by earlier generations inspired by a simpler, sturdier set of values, values that included duty to country and, when necessary, self-sacrifice on her behalf. If we cherish and would preserve the blessings of freedom, we must hold up before our children—who daily see too many less worthy models—those who willingly made the sacrifices that kept freedom alive.

No one served the values of freedom more fully or nobly, and with less thought of personal praise or fame, than Raymond Spruance. On any list of the great Allied military leaders of World War II, his character and his contributions to victory stand in the very first rank. It is simple justice to correct that oversight now.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 511. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel AJ, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

S. 512. A bill to foster innovation and technological advancement in the development of the Internet and electronic commerce, and to assist the States in simplifying their sales and use taxes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CHAFEE, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mr. ROCKEFELLER):

By Mr. SANTORUM:

S. 509. A bill to amend the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act to provide trade benefits for certain textile covers; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 510

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CERTIFICATE OF DOCUMENTATION.

Notwithstanding section 27 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1920 (46 U.S.C. App. 883), section 8 of the Act of June 19, 1866 (24 Stat. 81, chapter 421; 46 U.S.C. App. 289), and sections 12106 and 12108 of title 46, United States Code, the Secretary of Transportation may issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel AJ, United States official number 596914.  

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CHAFEE, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mr. ROCKEFELLER):

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the moratorium should be extended. Also, this legislation moves toward a solution to the growing web of tax compliance problems that faces virtually everyone who would do business across State lines, sellers and customers alike.

Despite some setbacks, Internet technology and commerce will continue to be a real growth engine for our economy. The past holiday season, retail sales over the Internet jumped 76 percent from the same period a year earlier. A recent University of Texas study estimated that $830 billion in revenues were generated by the Internet economy in 2000, up 58 percent from 1999 levels. Together, this information suggests that Internet sales are not going to be either temporary or insignificant, and neither are the compliance problems.

We believe that the approach embraced in our bill would help create a climate in which Web-based firms and Main Street businesses can co-exist and compete on fair and even terms. Any new form of commerce presents a challenge to the rules and structures that have grown up around the old. The automobile required the reform of traffic-control rules designed for the horse-and-buggy era. And the Internet is no exception. The Internet has raised vexing questions about privacy and property rights. It has raised similarly vexing questions regarding the revenue systems of States and localities and the idiosyncracies of this nation. Clearly, the Internet does not fit neatly into these systems as they have evolved over the last two hundred years.

This disconnect has created tensions on all sides. On one side are the vital new businesses. Internet service providers, Web-based businesses and the rest, worried that they will be singled out as cash cows and subjected to new and unfair taxes. On the other side are State and local governments worried about the erosion of their tax bases and their ability to pay for the schools, police, garbage collection and more that their taxpayers need and expect. In between are Main Street merchants who collect sales taxes from their customers and worry about unfair competition from Web-based business that do not have to collect these taxes. And we shouldn’t overlook the citizens and taxpayers, who appreciate the convenience and opportunities of the Web but who also care about their Main Street merchants, and about their schools and other local services.

All of these concerns are understandable and valid. Our job in Congress is to try to address the problem in a fair and constructive way.

The solution begins with a recognition of the problem. Collecting a sales tax in a face-to-face transaction on Main Street or at the mall is a relatively simple process. The seller collects the tax and remits it to the State or local government. But with remote sales—such as catalog and Internet sales, it’s more difficult. States cannot require a seller to collect a sales tax unless the business has an actual location or sales people in the State. So most States, and many localities, have laws that require the local buyer to send an equivalent “use tax” to the State or local government when he or she does not pay taxes at the time of purchase.

The reality, of course, is that customers almost never do that. It would be a major inconvenience, and people do not believe that they are paying sales taxes in that way. So, despite the requirement in the law, most simply don’t do it. This tax, which is already owed, is not paid. For years, State and local governments could accept this loss because catalog sales were a relatively minor portion of overall commerce. The rapid growth of Internet sales is changing all that.

Internet and catalog sellers correctly argue that collecting sales taxes would be a significant burden for them. Understandably, they contend that it would be difficult for them to have to comply with tax laws from thousands of different jurisdictions. States and thousands of local governments have sales taxes, with different tax rates and bases, all of which vary in who is responsible for knowing what is taxable and what is non-taxable. They have a point.

However, there are some remote sellers who know they enjoy an advantage over Main Street businesses and simply refuse to pay taxes on sales they make online. They sell a product without collecting the tax, whereas Main Street businesses must collect the local sales tax. Main Street businesses claim that is unfair, and they have a point, too.

As I have said before, all sides in this debate have valid points, and that is the premise of the bill we introduce today. There are three basic principles underlying the Internet Tax Moratorium and Equity Act.

First, we believe that this new Internet technology will remain a real growth engine for our economy, and the solution must begin by putting the worries of Web-based entrepreneurs to rest. They should not be concerned about new and discriminatory tax burdens, and they should not be singled out as cash cows. Congress should make this clear. That’s why our bill would extend the existing moratorium, which is set to expire on October 21st, through December 31st. That will help remove some of the anxiety about the approaching expiration date, while giving all stakeholders—State and local governments, Internet sellers, and the bricks and mortar retail community, time to work together to develop a real solution for the sales and use tax compliance problems now facing many businesses and their customers.

Second, State and local governments should be encouraged to simplify their sales tax systems so they apply to remote sellers. And third, once States have reduced the burden on sellers by simplifying their sales and use tax systems, then it is only fair that remote sellers do their part and collect any use tax that is owed, just as local merchants collect sales taxes. This simple step would free the consumer from the burden of having to report such taxes individually. It would also level the playing field for traditional retailers and others that already collect and remit such taxes, and it would protect the ability of State and local governments to provide necessary services for their residents in the future.

Specifically, the Internet Tax Moratorium and Equity Act would do the following:

Extend the existing moratorium on Internet access, multiple and discriminatory taxes through December 31, 2005.

Put Congress on record as urging States and localities to streamline their sales and use tax systems. Among other things, a dramatically simplified sales and use tax system would allow remote sellers to use information provided by the States to easily identify the single applicable rate for each sale, as well as provide sellers relief from liability for relying on incorrect information.

Require such a simplified tax system to include: uniform definitions for goods and services, uniform procedures for the treatment of exempt purchases, and uniform rules for attributing transactions to particular tax jurisdictions, as well as uniform audit procedures and a seller’s option for a single audit.

Authorize States to enter into an Interstate Sales and Use Tax Compact through which member States would adopt the streamlined sales and use tax system. Congressional authority and consent to enter into such a Compact would expire if it has not occurred by January 1, 2006.

Authorize States that adopt the Compact to require remote sellers with more than $3 million in annual gross sales to collect and remit sales and use taxes. And if twenty States have adopted such a Compact, unless Congress has acted to disapprove the Compact by law within a period of 120 days after the Congress receives it.

Prohibit States that have not adopted the simplified sales and use tax system from gaining benefit from the authority extended in the bill to require sellers to collect and remit sales and use taxes on remote sales.

Because our COMPACT would free the consumer from the burden of having to report such taxes individually. It would also level the playing field for traditional retailers and others that already collect and remit such taxes, and it would protect the ability of State and local governments to provide necessary services for their residents in the future.

Moreover, the competitive crisis facing local retailers is also growing more
urgent. In testimony before the Commerce Committee in the last Congress, a representative from a large retailer testified that his company is incorporating a separate business to put the business on the Internet. It will do so in a manner that will enable them to avoid taxes. Even though the retailer has locations in every State and therefore would be required to collect such taxes on Internet sales, it believes that such avoidance is needed to compete with other large competitors that will be making those sales tax-free. This scenario could play out over and over again unless we act quickly and decisively. If we don’t act, the large retailers will survive, the small Main Street businesses will continue to struggle, and there will be a massive loss of revenues to fund schools and other basic services. Let me conclude by reiterating that this is an issue that Congress must address. Now is the time for Congress to begin the process of finding a long-term solution to the problem this year before the moratorium expires. We believe that our legislation strikes a proper balance between the interests of the Internet, State and local governments, local retailers and remote sellers. It is workable and fair, and I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this much-needed bipartisan legislation. I ask unanimous consent to have the following two statements put in the Record, one from a group of organizations representing States and localities, and the other from the E-Fairness Coalition.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

[From National Governors’ Association, National Conference of State Legislatures, Council of State Governments, National Association of Counties, United States Conference of Mayors, and International City/County Management Association, March 2001]

STATEMENT ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE “INTERNET TAX MORATORIUM AND EQUITY ACT” SPONSORED BY SENATORS DORGAN, ENZI, VONOIVICH, GRAHAM, BREAUX, HUTCHISON, CHAFEE, THOMAS, LINCOLN, DURBIN AND ROCKEFELLER

Our organizations representing the nation’s state and local governments support the goals of Senate Dorgan, Enzi, Vonoivich, Graham, Breaux, Hutchinson, Chafee, Thomas, Lincoln, Durbin and Rockefeller.

Our organizations representing the nation’s state and local governments support the goals of Senators Dorgan, Enzi, Vonoivich, Graham, Breaux, Hutchinson, Thomas, Chafee, Lincoln, Durbin and Rockefeller to provide for a level playing field for all retail sales taxation. We believe that it is critically important to substantially simplify and harmonize sales and use taxes, that allow for the collection of the appropriate applicable state and local sales and use tax.

State and local governments recognize the need to simplify the current sales and use tax collection systems to benefit the national economy through the removal of unnecessary complexity. The nation’s state and local sales and use taxes are the single most important source of support for public education in America. We regard it as critical that the Congress support efforts to prevent erosion of this revenue source essential to funding state and local governments. The efforts of the more than 30 states to simplify their systems will dramatically reduce the complexity and cost of collection for all sellers is evidence of our commitment to adapt to the new economy. We would oppose any effort to extend the moratorium, unless and until Congress acts to restore the authority of states and local governments to ensure that all vendors are treated equally.

We support federal legislation that ensures that any federal simplified sales and use tax collection process will be developed and implemented on the state and local level and grant to those states the authority to require out-of-state sellers to collect and remit sales and use taxes. Preservation of state and local sovereignty is a cornerstone of our federal system; this legislation promises an important opportunity to restore this element.

We look forward to working with Senators Dorgan, Enzi, Vonoivich, Breaux, Graham, Hutchinson, Thomas, Chafee, Lincoln, Durbin, Rockefeller and others to further refine legislative language to achieve this end.

E-FAIRNESS,
Hon. BYRON DORGAN,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR DORGAN: I am writing to congratulate you on the introduction of the Internet Tax Moratorium Equity Act.”

The E-Fairness Coalition includes brick-and-mortar and online retailers, real estate, and retail and real estate associations, as well as publicly and privately owned shopping centers, the National Association of Realtors, and members of the high-tech community such as Gateway and Vertical Net. The Coalition advocates a level playing field with respect to sales and use tax collection for all sellers, including bricks-and-mortar as well as Internet-based.

We have been working for over 18 months to help provide comprehensive solutions to the questions surrounding Internet taxation. We continue to believe that federal legislation is necessary in order to provide for tax equity amongst all retailers. Your bill is important because it promotes the continued growth of the Internet by extending the current moratorium on Internet access fees and multiple and discriminatory taxes. However, it also provides clear and reasonable simplification guidelines that once adopted would allow the states to require that remote sellers collect sales taxes just as Main Street retailers collect sales taxes.

On behalf of the nation’s retailers and real estate interests—and the 1 in 5 American workers whose jobs depend on you for leadership on this important issue. Our Coalition looks forward to continuing to work with you to provide a level playing field for all retailers and all consumers.

Sincerely,
LISA COWELL,
Executive Director.

On behalf of:
Alabama Retail Association.
American Booksellers Association.
American Jewelers Association.
Ames Department Stores.
Atlantic Independent Booksellers Association.
CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.
Circuit City Stores, Inc.
Electronic Data Systems Corporation.
First Washington Realty Trust, Inc.
Florida Retail Federation.
Gateway Companies, Inc.
General Growth Properties, Inc.
Georgia Retail Association.
Great Lakes Booksellers Association.
Home Depot.
Illinois Retail Merchants Association.
International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC).
International Mass Retail Association (IMRA).
Kentucky Retail Association.
Kimco Realty Corporation.
K-Mart Corporation.
Lowe’s Corporation, Inc.
The Macerich Company.
Michigan Retailers Association.
Mid-South Booksellers Association.
Missouri Retailers Association.
Mountains & Plains Booksellers Association.
National Association of College Stores.
National Association of Convenience Stores.
National Association of Industrial and Office Properties (NAIOP).
National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts (NAREIT).
National Association of Realtors (NAR).
National Community Pharmacists Association.
National College Stores Association.
National Retail Federation.
Newspaper Association of America.
North American Retail Dealers Association.
Northern California Independent Booksellers.
Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association.
Performance Warehouse Association.
RadioShack Corporation.
Regency Realty Corporation.
Retailers Association of Massachusetts (RAM).
ShopKo.
Simon Property Group.
Southeast Booksellers Association.
Southern California Booksellers Association.
South Carolina Merchants Association (SCMA).
Target, Inc.
Taubman Centers, Inc.
The Gap, Inc.
The Macerich Company.
The Musicland Group, Inc.
The Real Estate Roundtable.
The Rouse Company.
Variety Wholesale.
Westfield America, Inc.
Virginia Retail Merchants Association.
Wal-Mart.
Weinberger Realty Investors.
Westfield America, Inc.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I rise in strong support of the Internet Tax Moratorium and Equity Act introduced today by Senator DORGAN. I am an original cosponsor and I encourage each of my colleagues to join me as a cosponsor of this bill. We had to take a look at the Internet sales tax issue for people who might be using legislative vehicles to develop huge loopholes in our current system. We are federally mandating states into a sales tax exemption. We need to preserve the system for those cities, towns, counties, and states that rely on the ability to collect the sales tax they are currently getting.

There are some critical issues here that have to be solved to keep the stability of state and local governments—just the stability of it—not to increase sales tax, just protect what is there right now. I believe the Internet Tax Moratorium and Equity Act is a monumental step forward in protecting, yet enhancing, the current state and local sales tax system.
Internet. At the same time, we must also be sensitive to issues of basic competitive fairness and the negative affects our action or inaction can have on brick-and-mortar retailers, a critical economic sector and employment force in all American communities, especially in rural states like Wyoming. In addition, we must consider the legitimate need of state and local governments to have the flexibility they need to generate resources to adequately fund their programs and operations.

If the loophole exists, I can share a method for local retailers to avoid sales tax collection too—but creating this loophole will lead to others—pay attention here. Sales tax collection and federal and state income tax could be in the same boat, if sales tax collection is no longer necessary on Internet sales purely by virtue of the sale over the Internet. Why shouldn’t an employee whose check is written on the Internet and transmitted directly to his bank account, while his income tax would be Internet tax loopholes—tax collection exemptions forced by an all-knowing federal government.

As the only accountant in the Senate, I have a unique perspective on the dozens of proposals that are introduced in Congress each year. In addition, my service on the state and local level and my experiences as a small business owner enable me to consider these bills from more than one viewpoint.

I understand the importance of protecting and promoting the growth of Internet commerce because of its potential economic benefits. It is a valuable resource because it provides access on demand. In addition, it is estimated that the growth of online businesses will create millions of new jobs nationwide in the coming years. Therefore, I do not support a tax on the use of Internet itself.

I do have concerns about using the Internet as a sales tax loophole. Sales taxes go directly to state and local governments and I am very leery of any federal legislation that bypasses their traditional ability to raise revenue to perform needed services such as school funding, road repair and law enforcement. I will not force states into a huge new exemption. While those who advocate a permanent loophole on the collection of a sales tax over the Internet claim to support the principles of tax reduction, they are actually advocating a tax increase. Simply put, if Congress continues to allow sales over the Internet to go untaxed and electronic commerce continues to grow as predicted, revenues to state and local governments will fall and property taxes will have to be increased to offset lost revenue or states who do not have or believe in state income taxes will be forced to start one.

After months of hard work, negotiations, and compromise, the Internet Tax Moratorium and Equity Act has been introduced. I would like to commend Senator Dorgan on his commitment to finding a solution and working with all parties to find that solution. The bill extends the existing moratorium on Internet access, multiple, and discriminatory taxes for an additional four years through December 31, 2005.

Throughout the last several years, we have heard that catalog and Internet companies say they are willing to allow and collect sales tax on interstate sales (regardless of traditional or Internet sales) if states will simplify their tax collection systems to one location in that state. I think that is a reasonable request. I have heard the argument that computers make it possible to handle several thousand tax entities, but from an auditing standpoint as well as simplicity for small business, I support one rate per state. I think the states should have some responsibility for redistribution not a business forced to do work for government. Therefore, the bill would put Congress on record as urging states and localities to collect all Internet sales and use tax system, which would include a single, blended tax rate with which all remote sellers can comply. You need to be aware that states are prohibited from gaining benefit from the moratorium in this bill. Therefore, I require sellers to collect and remit sales and use taxes on remote sales if the states have not adopted the simplified sales and use tax system.

Further, the bill would authorize states to require all sellers on the Internet to follow the Uniform Sales and Use Tax Compact through which members would adopt the streamlined sales and use tax system. Congressional authority and consent to enter into such a compact would expire if it has not occurred by January 1, 2006. The bill also authorizes states to require all other sellers to collect and remit sales and use taxes on remote sales unless Congress has acted to disapprove the compact by law within a period of 120 days after the Congress receives it. We introduce this bill because we do not think there is adequate protection now. It is very important we do not build electronic loopholes on the Internet, an ever-changing Internet, one that is finding new technology virtually every day. What we know as the Internet today is not what we will be using by the time the moratorium is finalized. More and more people are using the Internet.

Mr. President, I recognize this body has a constitutional responsibility to regulate interstate commerce. Furthermore, I understand the desire of several Senators to protect and promote the growth of Internet commerce. Internet commerce is an exciting field. It has a lot of growth potential. The new business will continue to create millions of new jobs in the coming years.

The exciting thing about that for Wyomingites is that our merchants do not have to go where the people are. For people in my state, that means their products are no longer confined to a local market. They do not have to rely on expensive catalogs to sell merchandise to the big city folks. They do not have to travel all the way to Asia to display their goods. The customer can come to us and buy the goods he or she wants. It is a remarkable development, and it will push more growth for small manufacturers in rural America, especially in my state. We have seen some of the economic potential in the Internet and we want this kind of progress. It is a valuable resource because it provides access on demand. It brings information to your fingertips when you want it and how you want it.

I was the mayor of a small town, Gillette, Wyoming, for 8 years. I later served in the State House for 5 years and the State Senate for 5 years. Throughout my public life, I have always worked to reduce taxes, to return more of people’s hard-earned wages to them.

I am not here to argue in favor of taxes. There were times in Gillette when we had to make tough decisions. I was mayor during the boom time when the size of our town doubled in just a few years. We had to build and expand the critical services such as police, fire, schools, and public health. Our revenue sources would cover the necessary public services—important services like sewer, water, curb and gutter, filling in potholes, shoveling snow, collecting garbage, and mostly water. It is a tough job because the impact of your decision is felt by all of your neighbors. Hardly any of those problems is solved without money. When you are the mayor of a small town, you are on call 24 hours a day. You are in the phone book. People can call you at night and tell you that the city sewer is backing up into their house. I was fascinated how they were always sure that it was the city’s sewer that was doing it. Therefore, it is important that we do not bring our own historic source of revenue. They provide services you really depend on. Remember you cannot flush your toilet over the Internet. The point is that the government that is closest to the people is also on the shortest time line to get results. It is my job for the shortest time line to get results. I think it is the hardest work. I am very concerned with any piece of legislation that mandates or restricts local government’s ability to meet the needs of its citizens. This has the potential to create some expensive loopholes that will take away all of their revenue. The Internet Tax Moratorium and Equity Act would designate a level playing field for all involved—business, government, and the consumer.

I do strongly support this bill. The current system of collecting revenues for those towns and states should be preserved—preserved on a level playing field for all involved. I do not think we have all the answers, or we would not be making this bill. We do not want to take away the opportunity for our citizens to take advantage of the Internet with this bill. It is a reasonable request. I have heard the argument that computers make it possible to handle several thousand tax entities, but from an auditing standpoint as well as simplicity for small business, I support one rate per state. I think the states should have some responsibility for redistribution not a business forced to do work for government. Therefore, the bill would put Congress on record as urging states and localities to collect all Internet sales and use tax system, which would include a single, blended tax rate with which all remote sellers can comply. You need to be aware that states are prohibited from gaining benefit from the moratorium in this bill. Therefore, I require sellers to collect and remit sales and use taxes on remote sales if the states have not adopted the simplified sales and use tax system.
Mr. VOINOVICH (for himself and Mr. DeWINE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. 56

Whereas the Senate notes with great sorrow the death of James A. Rhodes on March 4, 2001, at the age of 91;

Whereas James A. Rhodes was born the son of a coal miner in Mingo, Ohio; in 1909;

Whereas in 1934, James A. Rhodes launched his first campaign for political office at the age of 25, and was elected ward committee-man at The Ohio State University, thereby commencing a successful public career that would span one-half century;

Whereas James A. Rhodes rose through a succession of positions of public trust to rank as one the greatest public servants of the State of Ohio;

Whereas James A. Rhodes was elected to 4 terms as Governor of Ohio, more than any other Governor in the history of the State;

Whereas James A. Rhodes was gifted not only as a public servant, but as an educator, mentor, and businessman;

Whereas James A. Rhodes was instrumental in the expansion of State supported universities, community colleges, and technical colleges in the State of Ohio;

Whereas James A. Rhodes bolstered the economic development of the State of Ohio and provided leadership for successful building programs throughout the State;

Whereas James A. Rhodes’ love and devotion to the State of Ohio was nonpareil;

Whereas the quality of life of the citizens of Ohio continues to be significantly elevated because of the life led by James A. Rhodes;

Whereas James A. Rhodes’ service to the State of Ohio and its people, regardless of statute in life, economic status, religion, or race, has inspired many young men and women to follow his example; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the life of James A. Rhodes, former Governor of the State of Ohio;

(2) is thankful that James A. Rhodes touched the lives of many men and women during his years of public service;

(3) notes that James A. Rhodes’ greatest achievement is his family, including his late wife, Helen, his surviving daughters, Suzanne and Sharon, his 9 grandchildren, and his 13 great-grandchildren; and

(4) extends support and condolences to the friends and family of James A. Rhodes upon the sad occasion of his death.

SENATE RESOLUTION 57—TO EXPRESS THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE FEDERAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO UNSURENED AND LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUALS IN MEDICALLY UNDER-SERVED AREAS BE INCREASED IN ORDER TO DOUBLE ACCESS TO CARE OVER THE NEXT 5 YEARS

Mr. BOND (for himself, Mr. Hollings, Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. DeWine, Mr. Daschle, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Dodd, Mr. Breaux, Ms. Collins, Ms. Feinstein, Mr. Kerry, Mr. Kohl, Mrs. Lincoln, Mr. Lugar, Mrs. Murray, and Mr. Wellstone) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

S. Res. 57

Whereas the uninsured population in the United States is approximately 43,000,000 and is estimated to reach over 53,000,000 people by 2007;

Whereas nearly 80 percent of the uninsured population are working families who cannot afford health insurance or cannot access employer-provided health insurance plans;

Whereas minority populations, rural residents, and single-parent families represent a disproportionate number of the uninsured population;

Whereas the problem of health care access for the uninsured population is compounded in many urban and rural communities by a lack of providers who are available to serve both insured and uninsured populations;

Whereas community, migrant, homeless, and public housing health centers have proven uniquely qualified to address the lack of adequate health care services for uninsured populations, serving over 4,900,000 uninsured patients in 2000, including over 1,000,000 new uninsured patients who have sought care from such centers in the last 3 years;

Whereas health centers serve patients below poverty level $12,000,000 patients, nearly 8,000,000 minorities, nearly 650,000 farmworkers, and almost 600,000 homeless individuals each year;

Whereas health centers provide cost-effective comprehensive primary and preventive care to uninsured individuals for less than $1.00 per day, and help to reduce the inappropriate use of costly emergency rooms and inpatient hospital care;

Whereas current resources only allow health centers to serve more than 19 percent of the Nation’s 43,000,000 uninsured individuals;

Whereas past investments to increase health center access have resulted in better health, an improved quality of life for all Americans, and a reduction in national health care expenditures;

Whereas Congress can act now to increase access to health care services for uninsured and low-income people together with or in advance of health care coverage proposals by expanding the availability of services at community, migrant, homeless, and public housing health centers; and

Whereas President George W. Bush has proposed to double the number of people served at health centers: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This resolution may be cited as the “Resolution to Expand Access to Community Health Centers (REACH) Initiative”.

SEC. 2. SENSE OF THE SENATE.

It is the sense of the Senate that appropriations for consolidated health centers under section 330 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254a) should be increased by 100 percent over the next 5 fiscal years in order to double the number of individuals who receive health care services at community, migrant, homeless, and public housing health centers.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Jack Hess, a congressional fellow in my office, be granted floor privileges today.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will state the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 56) honoring the memory of James A. Rhodes as a gifted political servant and statesman.

The Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Ohio’s greatest and most dedicated public servants, a former four-term Ohio Governor, James A. Rhodes, who passed away on March 4 of this year at the age of 91.

Though Jim Rhodes will be deeply missed, he will always, always, be remembered. My friend and colleague from Ohio, Senator VOINOVICH, and I have introduced a resolution to honor the memory of Governor Rhodes as a gifted political servant and statesman. I thank my colleague from Ohio for his work in crafting this resolution. I know Senator VOINOVICH shares my admiration and deep respect for Governor Rhodes. In fact, both Senator VOINOVICH and I traveled back to Ohio this past week to attend the final ceremony for Governor Rhodes in the rotunda of the State Capitol of Ohio.

Governor Rhodes was one of a kind—a one-of-a-kind leader, politician, husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend. No one—no one—loved Ohio more than Gov. Jim Rhodes. No one was more dedicated to making Ohio bigger, better, stronger, and safer. Jim Rhodes was a visionary. And though a lot of politicians have big visions, Governor Rhodes was different. He turned those visions into reality. That is what set him apart. That is what made him one of Ohio’s most influential political figures of the 20th century. That is what made him a legend.
Whether it is buildings, roads, airports, parks, vocational schools, community colleges, or universities, most physical infrastructure in Ohio today is attributable directly to Gov. Jim Rhodes. The simple fact is that you can’t drive in Ohio without driving on or driving past something that Jim Rhodes built—something with which he had a role to play. Without question, he will continue to touch lives every day in many, many ways.

Most of us realize that when in 1980, Ohio first elected James Rhodes as Governor, it was his 13th political race. It was because of this, because of the vastness of his experience, that he was able to govern so effectively for all of us.

It is often said that the greatness of a man can be measured by the extent and the breadth of his interests and then how he acts on those interests to turn them into reality. By that test, Governor Rhodes was indeed a great man. His interests were Ohio’s interests and, because of that, he was passionate in promoting Ohio’s economy, its tourism, its natural resources, its schools and its universities.

While that was such an important part of his legacy, we must remember that Governor Rhodes was also equally passionate in his concern for people— for all the people of the State of Ohio. No matter where he went in Ohio, everyone always thought Governor Rhodes was from where they were from. Though he was born in Jackson County and went to high school in Springfield and was mayor of Columbus, for us, he was from Greene County, and he was from Cleveland, Cincinnati, Toledo, Marietta, and every other township, village, and city in our great State.

He was one of us. He was one of us not just because he got so much done for the State; he was one of us because he knew people, understood them, and he liked them. And people liked him back. That is what made Governor Rhodes stand out and be a great governor. I will always remember Governor Rhodes for his personal generosity. He was generous with his time, energy, and especially, with his political advice. Back in 1980, when I ran for the State senate in the old 10th Senatorial District, Governor Rhodes came down and campaigned for me on four separate occasions. That was just the start. He continued to support me throughout the last 20 years, even campaigning for me in Jackson County, his home county, this past October, just a few days before the election.

The people of Jackson County were happy to see him one more time.

I admired Governor Rhodes, and I respected him. I especially respected his strong and enduring love for his wonderful family. That was such a large part of who Jim Rhodes was. He cherished the time he spent at home with his family, often advising others to go home. If you asked him for political advice, he would say: My advice is go home—and he did that.

He was married to his beautiful wife Helen for 46 years and every time I saw the Governor, whether at an Ohio State football game, or at his beloved State fair, he had one or more of his grandchildren or great-grandchildren with him. He loved his family dearly, and it showed.

As Chesterton once said:

Great men take up great space even when they are gone.

To be sure, Governor Rhodes will continue to take up great space on this Earth, touching roads, cities, airports and parks, but in the lives he touched and the lives he changed. He will continue to live on for the great work he has done for Ohio and will also continue to live on through his family.

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I rise today with my distinguished colleague, the senior Senator from Ohio, to introduce a resolution mourning the passage and honoring the life of former governor of Ohio, James A. Rhodes. Governor Rhodes passed away last Sunday at the age of 91.

Governor Rhodes began his career in public service in 1937, when he was elected to a term on the Columbus board of education. Two years later, he was elected to the Columbus city council. In 1943, he was elected Mayor of Columbus. In 1952, he successfully ran for State Auditor and in 1962, he ran for Governor of Ohio and won. He ultimately served the citizens of Ohio for four terms as governor.

As my interest in politics began to spark, Governor Rhodes’ public service inspired me to also pursue a life of service to the people of Ohio. He was my mentor and without his example and counsel I could never have become governor of Ohio. In fact, I would not have had a career in government had it not been for Jim Rhodes’ sweeping re-election victory in 1966. He had very long coattails, because he carried an unknown 30th district. GEORGE VOINOVICH to victory in an Ohio House district that was 6 to 1 democrat-to-republican. He furthered my career along when in 1978, he turned to me—a relatively unknown County Commissioner from Cuyahoga County—and asked me to be his running mate as Lieutenant Governor. Since then, Jim Rhodes and I grew close and my time with him over the years was some of the most meaningful of any person I have associated with in government.

Mr. President, when the mold after James A. Rhodes entered the political arena. There never will be another like the Governor, and he will go down in Ohio history not only because of the 16 years he served as governor, but more importantly, because of the positive impact he had on the quality of life of Ohio’s citizens and the direction of our State.

He was a good, God-fearing man who looked on his service in government as an opportunity to give witness to the Second Great Commandment—love of fellow man. He never forgot his roots in the coal fields of southeastern Ohio. He wrapped his arms around all Ohioans. He was inclusive and reached out to everyone, regardless of stature in life, economic status, religion or color of skin.

Because of his humble beginnings, he understood the importance of providing an education to every man, woman and child in Ohio, whether it was a public education or a non-public education. He initiated the Ohio Auxiliary Services program, and because of his efforts, today, there is no state in the nation that does as much for non-public schools as Ohio. He brought Ohio’s higher education system into the 20th century. His goal of having higher education within the grasp of every Ohioan—that is, no more than 30 minutes away—changed the face of higher education forever, and enabled millions of Ohioans to get the education so essential to their economic well-being.

His mantras—“jobs and progress” and “profit is not a dirty word in Ohio”—will never be forgotten by any politician who wants to be successful in Ohio. There are thousands of Ohioans working today because of the businesses the Governor brought into this state.

Jim Rhodes had his priorities in order, and his number one priority was his family. Jim Rhodes will always be a role model to me because of the way he treasured his family and encourage me and all who knew him to take care of their families. Jim’s wife Helen, his daughters and their husbands, his grandchildren and great-grandchildren were paramount in his life. He always had a special twinkle in his eye when he talked about this family.

Mr. President, Governor James A. Rhodes spoke to the basic needs and yearnings of the people of Ohio: he loved Ohio, and Ohio loved him. We may have lost him in body, but he will always be with us in spirit. Ohio will never forget Jim Rhodes.

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the Record.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution (S. Res. 56) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 56) was agreed to by unanimous consent.

The preamble was agreed to.

(Provisions of the resolution are located in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Democratic leader, pursuant to Public Law 106-550, announces the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the Communications Commission Advisory Committee: Gary G. Aguilar of South Dakota, and Jack N. Rakove of California.
Mr. DeWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Armed Services Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 45 and the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 45) honoring the men and women who serve this country in the National Guard and expressing condolences of the United States Senate to the family and friends of the 21 National Guardsmen who perished in the crash on March 3, 2001.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DeWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The resolution (S. Res. 45) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The text of the resolution is located in the RECORD of March 7, 2001, under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2001

Mr. DeWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until the hour of 1 p.m. on Monday, March 12. I further ask unanimous consent that on Monday, 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 begin a period of morning business until 2 p.m., with Senators speaking for up to 10 minutes each, with the following exceptions: Senator LUGAR, or his designee, for 30 minutes; Senator DURBIN, or his designee, for 30 minutes.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. DeWINE. Mr. President, on behalf of the leader, for the information of all Senators, the Senate will reconvene on Monday and resume the bankruptcy reform bill. Senators who have amendments are encouraged to come to the floor and offer and debate those amendments during Monday’s session. As announced by the majority leader, any votes ordered on any amendments are scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. on Tuesday. It is the hope and expectation to complete action on the bankruptcy legislation as quickly as possible next week.

ORDER FOR RECORD TO REMAIN OPEN

Mr. DeWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the RECORD remain open today until 2 p.m. for the introduction of bills, statements, and the filing of amendments.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DeWINE. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment following the remarks of Senator DURBIN under the previous order.

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

Mr. DeWINE. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DeWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2001

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, under the previous order, the Senate now stands adjourned.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 12:36 p.m., adjourned until Monday, March 12, 2001, at 1 p.m.
Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2105–S2137

Measures Introduced: Eleven bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 502–512, and S. Res. 56–57.

Measures Passed:

Honoring Memory of James A. Rhodes: Senate agreed to S. Res. 56, honoring the memory of James A. Rhodes as a gifted political servant and statesman.

Honoring National Guard: Committee on Armed Services was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 45, honoring the men and women who serve this country in the National Guard and expressing condolences of the United States Senate to the family and friends of the 21 National Guardsmen who perished in the crash on March 3, 2001.

Bankruptcy Reform: Senate continued consideration of S. 420, to amend title 11, United States Code, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Schumer Amendment No. 25, to ensure that the bankruptcy code is not used to exacerbate the effects of certain illegal predatory lending practices.

Feinstein Amendment No. 27, to place a $2,500 cap on any credit card issued to a minor, unless the minor submits an application with the signature of his parents or guardian indicating joint liability for debt or the minor submits financial information indicating an independent means or an ability to repay the debt that the card accrues.

Leahy Amendment No. 20, to resolve an ambiguity relating to the definition of current monthly income.

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Leahy Amendment No. 20, to resolve an ambiguity relating to the definition of current monthly income.

Conrad Modified Amendment No. 29, to establish an off-budget lockbox to strengthen Social Security and Medicare.

Sessions Amendment No. 32, to establish a procedure to safeguard the surpluses of the Social Security and medicare hospital insurance trust funds.

Senate will resume consideration of the resolution and amendments to be proposed thereto on Monday, March 12, 2001.

Appointments:

James Madison Commemoration Commission Advisory Committee: The Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to Public Law 106–550, announced the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the James Madison Commemoration Commission Advisory Committee: Gary G. Aguiar of South Dakota, and Jack N. Rakove of California.

Executive Communications:

Messages From the House:

Measures Referred:

Statements on Introduced Bills:

Additional Cosponsors:

Additional Statements:

Adjournment: Senate met at 10:01 a.m., and adjourned at 12:36 p.m., until 1 p.m., on Monday, March 12, 2001. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S2137.)

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.
House of Representatives

Chamber Action
The House was not in session today. The House will next meet on Monday, March 12 at 2 p.m.

Committee Meetings
No committee meetings were held.

Joint Meetings

Veterans Programs

Joint Hearing: Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs concluded joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of certain veterans organizations, after receiving testimony from Robert L. Smith, III, Blinded Veterans Association, Frederick A. Taylor, Jr., Military Order of the Purple Heart, David W. Sommers, Non Commissioned Officers Association, Ronald Ziegler, Jewish War Veterans, and Joseph L. Fox, Sr., Paralyzed Veterans of America, all of Washington, D.C.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of March 12 through March 17, 2001

Senate Chamber
On Monday, Senate will resume consideration of S. 420, Bankruptcy Reform.
On Tuesday, Senate will continue consideration of S. 420, Bankruptcy Reform, with any votes ordered to begin at 11 a.m. At 2:45 p.m., Senate will vote on or in relation to the Conrad Amendment No. 29, to be followed by a vote on or in relation to the Sessions Amendment No. 32, both relating to lockbox.
During the remainder of the week, Senate will continue consideration of S. 420, Bankruptcy Reform, and any other cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees
(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)
Committee on Appropriations: March 13, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold oversight hearings to examine the National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy, 9:30 a.m., SD–124.
March 14, Subcommittee on Defense, to hold closed hearings to review intelligence programs, 10 a.m., S–407, Capitol.
March 14, Subcommittee on Interior, to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Appropriations’ Subcommittee on the Interior on issues dealing with the wildfire program, 10 a.m., R–2359.
March 15, Subcommittee on District of Columbia, to hold hearings on the District of Columbia’s child and family services receivership, 10:30 a.m., SD–192.
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: March 15, business meeting to mark up S. 149, to provide authority to control exports, 10 a.m., SD–538.
Committee on the Budget: March 14, to resume hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2002, 10 a.m., SD–608.
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: March 13, to hold hearings on S. 415, to amend title 49, United States Code, to require that air carriers meet public convenience and necessity requirements by ensuring competitive access by commercial air carriers to major cities, 9:30 a.m., SR–253.
March 13, Full Committee, to hold hearings on S. 361, to establish age limitations for airmen, 2 p.m., SR–253.
March 14, Full Committee, to hold hearings on whether Congress should allow states to require all remote sellers to collect and remit sales taxes on deliveries into that state, provided that states and localities dramatically simplify their sales and use tax systems, 9:30 a.m., SR–253.
March 15, Full Committee, business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 9:30 a.m., SR–253.
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: March 14, business meeting to consider their fiscal year 2002 budgetary views and estimates on programs which fall within the jurisdiction of the committee and agree on recommendations it will make thereon to the Committee on the Budget, 9:30 a.m., SD–628.
March 15, Full Committee, to hold hearings on S. 26, to amend the Department of Energy Authorization Act to authorize the Secretary of Energy to impose interim limitations on the cost of electric energy to protect consumers from unjust and unreasonable prices in the electric energy market; S. 80, to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to order refunds of unjust, unreasonable, unduly discriminatory or preferential rates or charges for electricity, to establish cost-based rates for electricity sold at wholesale in the Western Systems Coordinating Council; and S. 287, to direct the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to impose cost-of-service based rates on sales by public utilities of electric energy at wholesale in the western energy market, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.
Committee on Environment and Public Works: March 15, Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to hold hearings to examine the Army Corps of Engineers management reforms, 9:30 a.m., SD–406.
Committee on Finance: March 13, business meeting to mark up the Affordable Education Act of 2001, 10 a.m., SD–215.
March 13, Full Committee, to hold hearings on issues relative to living without health insurance and identifying populations that make up the uninsured and their unique characteristics that cause them to go without health coverage, 2:30 p.m., SD–215.
March 14, Full Committee, to hold hearings on issues relating to encouraging charitable giving, 10 a.m., SD–215.

March 15, Subcommittee on Taxation and IRS Oversight, to hold hearings to examine the preservation and protection of family business legacies, 10 a.m., SD–215.

March 15, Full Committee, to resume hearings on issues relative to living without health insurance focusing on solutions including individual tax credits, employer tax credits, increased flexibility in Medicaid and the State Children’s Health Insurance Program, program expansions, and ways to improve outreach, 2:30 p.m., SD–215.

March 16, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine issues relating to international trade and the American economy, 9:30 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: March 14, business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 10:30 a.m., SD–419.

March 15, Subcommittee on European Affairs, to hold hearings to examine certification of the United States assistance to Serbia, 2 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on Indian Affairs: March 14, business meeting to consider committee’s budgetary views and estimates on the President’s fiscal year 2002 budget request for Indian programs; to be followed by hearings on S. 211, to amend the Education Amendments of 1978 and the Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988 to improve education for Indians, Native Hawaiians, and Alaskan Natives, 9:30 a.m., SR–485.

Select Committee on Intelligence: March 14, to hold closed hearings on intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH–219.

Committee on the Judiciary: March 13, to hold hearings on promoting technology and educations issues relating to turbocharging the school buses on the information highway, 10 a.m., SD–226.

March 14, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine drug treatment, education, and prevention programs, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Rules and Administration: March 14, to hold hearings on election reform issues, 9:30 a.m., SR–301.

March 15, Full Committee, to continue hearings on election reform issues, 9:30 a.m., SR–301.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: March 13, to hold hearings to examine the Administration’s proposed budget for veterans’ programs for fiscal year 2002, 9:30 a.m., SR–418.

March 14, Full Committee, to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs to examine the legislative recommendations of the Disabled American Veterans, 10 a.m., 345, Cannon Building.

House Chamber

To be announced.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, March 14 and 15, to continue hearings on federal farm commodity programs, 10 a.m. on March 14, and 9:30 a.m. on March 15, 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, March 13, 14 and 15, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education, on public witnesses, 10 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

March 14, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug and Related Agencies, on Inspector General, USDA, 9:30 a.m., 2362A Rayburn.

March 14, Subcommittee on Defense, executive, on U.S. Space Command, 9:30 a.m., and executive, on U.S. European Command, 1:30 p.m., H–140 Capitol.

March 14, Subcommittee on Military Construction, on European Military Construction, 9:30 a.m., B–300 Rayburn.

March 14, Subcommittee on Transportation, on Members of Congress, 10 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

March 15, Subcommittee on Defense, executive, on Worldwide Threat, 9:30 a.m., H–405 Capitol, and executive, on U.S. Southern Command, 1:30 p.m., H–140 Capitol.

March 15, Subcommittee on Military Construction, on Historic Properties, 9:30 a.m., B–300 Rayburn.

March 15, Subcommittee on Transportation, on Airline Delays, 10 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, March 14, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing on implementation of TRICARE benefits for Medicare-eligible military retirees, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, March 13, hearing on Department of Education Budget Priorities Fiscal Year 2002, 1 p.m., 210 Cannon.

March 14, hearing on the Department of Agriculture Budget Priorities for Fiscal Year 2002, 1 p.m., 210 Cannon.

March 15, hearing on Department of State Budget Priorities Fiscal Year 2002, 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, March 14, Subcommittee on Education Reform, hearing on Empowering Success: Flexibility and School Choice, 10:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

March 15, Subcommittee on 21st Century Competitiveness, hearing on Improving Student Achievement Through Technology, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, March 14, Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality, oversight hearing on National Energy Policy: Coal, 1 p.m., 2322 Rayburn.


March 14, Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, hearing on Digital Television: A Private Sector Perspective on the Transition, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, March 13, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing on proposals to permit payment of interest on business checking accounts and sterile reserves maintained at Federal Reserve Banks, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

March 14, Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance and Government Sponsored Enterprises, hearing on
Public Access to Stock Market Data—Improving Transparency and Competition, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform, March 15, Subcommittee on National Security, Veterans’ Affairs and International Relations, to continue hearings on Vulnerabilities to Waste, Fraud and Abuse: Inspectors General Views on Defense and National Security Programs, 9 a.m., and on Inspectors General Views on International Relations and Trade Programs, 1 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Committee on International Relations, March 14, Subcommittee on Africa, hearing on Confronting Liberia, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

March 14, Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, hearing on Prospects for Free and Fair Elections in Peru, 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.


Committee on the Judiciary, March 15, Subcommittee on the Constitution, hearing on H.R. 503, Unborn Victims of Violence Act of 2001, 10 a.m., 2237 Rayburn.

Committee on Resources, March 13, Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation and Public Lands, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 146, Great Falls Historic District Study Act of 2001; H.R. 182, Eight Mile River Wild and Scenic River Study Act of 2001; and H.R. 601, to ensure the continued access of hunters to those Federal lands included within the boundaries of the Craters of the Moon National Monument in the State of Idaho pursuant to the Presidential Proclamation 7373 of November 9, 2000, and to continue the applicability of the Taylor Grazing Act to the disposition of grazing fees arising from the use of such lands, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

March 15, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, oversight hearing on Domestic Natural Gas Supply and Demand: the Contribution to Public Lands and the OCS, 2 p.m., 1334 Longworth.


Committee on Rules, March 13, to consider a measure providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, and to approve Committee Budget Views and Estimates for Fiscal Year 2001 for submission to the Committee on the Budget, 5:30 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, March 14, Subcommittee on Aviation hearing on the FAA’s efforts to modernize the Air Traffic Control system, with emphasis on the Standard Terminal Automation Replacement System (STARS), 1:30 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

March 15, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing on Brownfields: Lessons from the Field, 9:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, March 13, hearing on H.R. 811, Veterans’ Hospital Emergency Repair Act, 1:30 p.m., 334 Cannon.

March 15, Subcommittee on Benefits, hearing on the following: H.R. 801, Veterans’ Opportunities Act of 2001; and implementation of veterans transitional housing assistance, 9 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, March 14, hearing on the Administration’s Health and Welfare Priorities, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

March 15, Subcommittee on Health, to continue hearings on Medicare Reform, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

March 15, Subcommittee on Human Resources, hearing on Welfare Reform, 11 a.m., B–318 Rayburn.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, March 13, executive, briefing on World Trade Threats, 3 p.m., H–405.

March 13, Terrorism Working Group, executive, briefing on Khobar Towers, 12:30 p.m., H–405.

Joint Meetings

Joint Meetings: March 14, Senate Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Interior, to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Appropriations’ Subcommittee on the Interior on issues dealing with the wildfire program, 10 a.m., R–2359.

Joint Meetings: March 14, Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs to examine the legislative recommendations of the Disabled American Veterans, 10 a.m., 345, Cannon Building.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
1 p.m., Monday, March 12

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: After the recognition of two Senators for speeches and the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 2 p.m.), Senate will resume consideration of S. 420, Bankruptcy Reform.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2 p.m., Monday, March 12

House Chamber

Program for Monday: Pro forma session.