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No. 51

House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 24, 2001, at 2 p.m.

Senate

MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2001

The Senate met at 12 noon and was called to order by the Presiding Officer, the Honorable JUDD GREGG, a Senator from the State of New Hampshire.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Yayeh our Adonai, how excellent is Your name in all the Earth. Today, as we return from recess and at the beginning of Jewish Heritage Week, we praise You for the immense contribution Jews have made to America. We remember the first Jewish community in Newport, Rhode Island comprised of Sephardim, persecuted Spanish and Portuguese Jews who arrived in the spring of 1658. This group of refugees began to worship together in private homes or rented buildings until a synagogue building, the Touro Hebrew Congregation, was constructed. On the wall of this synagogue is a letter from George Washington expressing his belief in religious freedom as the standard for civil liberty: "To bigotry give no sanction, to persecution no assistance." We also echo the words of Roger Williams, the founder of Rhode Island: "All men may walk as their consciences persuade them, everyone in the name of his God."

On this day we thank You for the ten Jewish Senators and their strong moral and social consciences. May Your shalom rest upon us all. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable HARRY REID, a Senator from the State of Nevada, 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.

APPPOINTMENT 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 assistant 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 JUDD GREGG, a Senator from the State of New Hampshire, to perform the duties of the Chair, STROM THURMOND, President pro tempore.

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 2 p.m. with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 5 minutes each.

Under the previous order, the time until 1 p.m. shall be under the control of the Senator from Illinois, Mr. DURBIN, or his designee.

The Senator from Nevada.

BROWNFIELDS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss an important piece of legislation that I believe we should be working on today, certainly tomorrow. This legislation, the bipartisan brownfields bill, S. 350, was reported from the Environment and Public Works Committee on February 27 by a vote of 15–3. This legislation now has 66 cosponsors. It is ready for floor action and has been for more than a month. There were a couple of people in committee who voiced concerns about specific bill language, particularly Senator Voinovich. I indicated at that time that we would work with him prior to the bill being ready for floor action to satisfy any problems he might have, and we did that. We worked with him, and I think Senator Voinovich is satisfied. Actually we worked day and night to reconcile these differences.

The bill is very important. The bill would produce almost 600,000 jobs around our country. It would increase annual tax revenues up to $2.4 billion. This is important environmental legislation. We need to move forward immediately. There has been a lot of controversy over what President Bush has done and what he has not done, but the one thing that he campaigned on was this legislation. He campaigned on the importance of this legislation. This is a

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

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The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. FEINSTEIN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina is recognized.

VISIT TO THE SENATE BY MEMBERS OF THE DUKE UNIVERSITY MEN'S NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP BASKETBALL TEAM

Mr. HELMS. Madam President, pursuant to the permission given me by the majority leader, and with the agreement of the minority leader, it is my honor to have invited the Duke University basketball team, the NCAA champions of this year, along with the wives of those who have wives, and the coaches and their wives, to come to the Senate floor.

RECESS

Mr. HELMS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess for no more than 12 minutes.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 1:04, recessed until 1:16 p.m., and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mrs. FEINSTEIN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire is recognized.

EDUCATION

Mr. GREGG. Madam President, I wish to speak in morning business on the issue of education, which the Senate will take up over the next few weeks. There has been a considerable amount of discussion on this issue within the Senate membership but even more discussion within the populace in general. The President ran for election on the issue of education and how he intended to address that issue. In fact, he considered this to be the primary issue before us as a nation—the fact that he wants an educational system which leaves no child behind. This is a goal that is laudable and which all of us should pursue. So the matter is now coming to the Senate. We have in the committee on which I serve—the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee—been able to produce a bill which came out of committee 20-0, a bipartisan bill, to try to move the issue of education along in a positive way—the Federal policy on education.

There is still much to do and, therefore, as we in this body take up the debate on the education policy during this week, there will be a considerable discussion of points that were left out of the bill as it came out of committee. I think it is important to note, as we address the issue of education, that the Federal role in education is narrow. Most elementary and secondary education issues are addressed at the local level.

The President, the Duke University basketball team is a group of young men who reflect the type of athletes, sportsmen, and good citizens to which citizens of this Nation should strive. I congratulate the leadership of Duke University for producing a basketball program that excels not only in athletic ability but as a role model for our youth and our Nation.

It is very appropriate that before an education speech we should have the opportunity to meet these fine young men who set such a good example for kids across America.

The majority of funds that are spent on education are controlled at the local level of special education. Originally, the Federal role was only picking up 6 percent of the cost. Unfortunately, both of these Federal programs have fairly significant flaws.

In the special education area, the Federal Government said it would pick up 40 percent of the cost of special education. Unfortunately, as of 4 years ago, the Federal Government was only picking up 6 percent. Due to a concerted effort by myself, quite honestly, and a number of others who set such a good example for kids across America.

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This program was begun 35 years ago. It is called title I. It helps kids with lower incomes get the same education as their peers. We have spent $120 billion on this program over its life. The vast majority of the spending has occurred in States that have seen the best results. The results have been that the educational achievement of low-income kids has actually gone down or, at best, has remained stagnant. The average fourth grader today from a low-income family reads at two grade levels lower than the average child in the same classroom. The graduation rate, the dropout rate, and the level of academic ability of kids from low-income families in each grade level have been falling back. We have left a lot of children behind even though we spent $120 billion.

We have proved unalterably that money cannot solve the problem. If it could solve the problem, it would have significantly improved or we could have achieved marginal improvement in academic achievement.

The President of the United States, President Bush, came into office saying he would change this. He has put forward a series of proposals, the purpose of which is to pass on very minimal authority to the local school districts. The money is going to be strings attached. The administration wants them to do what it says. It wants to control and direct. It is going to control the bureaucracy. The President said let’s look at the child and make our program child centered.

The second thing stressed by this administration and by those on this side of the aisle is, let’s give the local school districts, the parents, the teachers, and the principals, flexibility when they get Federal funds.

Today and, unfortunately, for a number of years, the Federal Government, especially the Congress, has believed it knows best how to educate the child in Epping, NH, or Tuscaloosa, AL, or in Cheyenne, WY. Even though we have never met the children—at least I haven’t met the ones in Cheyenne or Tuscaloosa. However, we have attached innumerable strings to the dollars we have sent out for the purpose of helping the low-income children get better educated. We have had program after program that has been categorical; it specifically says what the money should be spent for, who gets it, when they get it, and where they get it.

The amount of bureaucracy behind the Federal dollars is absolutely staggering. Some States spend almost two-thirds of their time complying with Federal regulations, which represents 7 percent of their actual spending. As a result, we have created a bureaucratic maze of disproportionate complexity. We have strings running out from the desks that intertwine, and we are pulling the strings as they attach to the people who try to teach the kids in the local school districts. The President has said: Let’s cut the strings. We have said: Cut those strings. Send the money back to the local school districts. Acknowledge the fact that parents, teachers, and principals have as much or more knowledge of how to educate the local child in their communities. Let’s give them credibility for being concerned about their kids—something this Congress over the years has not been willing to acknowledge. The money will come back in a flexible form. That is a proposal the President has suggested.

The first proposal is that it be child centered. The second proposal is that the money be flexible.

The third is that, in exchange for this new flexibility, in exchange for getting the money with very few strings attached, we are going to ask for one thing. We are going to ask that the children learn, that they have academic achievement levels which reach what the parents, the teachers, and the principals say, that low-income kids are not left behind in the academic world. That is what we will ask. Instead of controlling all the input and instead of controlling the way the money goes in and how it is spent, we will say, you can take the money, but in exchange for taking the money, you have to make sure the children learn; you have to make them academically capable of competing in the world so they have a prosperous life. Academic achievement is what we are going to request.

The fourth item is an accountability system so we can be assured that there is academic achievement. We are no longer going to allow a system to take the money and we are going to pass it down. We are going to try to pass them in a bipartisan way. Then we are going to see how they will be used in the system to produce a much better result for a large percentage of our students who, up until now, have been left behind.

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Mr. THOMAS. Madam President, I yield the floor to the Senator from Wyoming.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who seeks recognition? The Senator from Wyoming is recognized.

Mr. THOMAS. Madam President, I agree with the committee and the Senator from New Hampshire. Certainly no one in the Senate is more knowledgeable than he about the bill, about the funding, and about the opportunities we have to strengthen education in this country and empowering parents. I think these are the goals we seek to attain. Certainly all of us have to establish goals, to establish where we want to say, after you set the standards, we will expect all the kids in that classroom to achieve at the level that meets that standard.

That is the system being proposed—four new proposals, four new concepts which merge together to create a system where no child will be left behind: One, that it is child centered; two, that there is flexibility; three, that there is academic achievement; and four, that there is accountability.

We move forward with the debate on this bill, there are going to be a lot of major issues as to how we accomplish those goals. The jury is still out. There are ways this bill could be amended on this floor which would make it hard for me to support, although it came out of the committee 20-0. But there is good intention, I believe. There is a desire to reach a bipartisan agreement and move it forward. That is reflected not only in the committee bill but in the fact that over the last month we have been negotiating, in a very conscientious effort, to reach agreement on some of the more difficult issues of policy and the most difficult issue of money.

Today and, unfortunately, for a number of years, the Federal Government, especially the Congress, has believed it knows best how to educate the child in Epping, NH, or Tuscaloosa, AL, or in Cheyenne, WY. Even though we have never met the children—at least I haven’t met the ones in Cheyenne or Tuscaloosa. However, we have attached innumerable strings to the dollars we have sent out for the purpose of helping the low-income children get better educated. We have had program after program that has been categorical; it specifically says what the money should be spent for, who gets it, when they get it, and where they get it.

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Mr. THOMAS. Madam President, I yield the floor.
to be, and then, as the details come forth, see if indeed what we are proposing to do leads us towards the accomplishment of those goals. I think that is where we are.

When we talk to people about the issues in Washington, certainly education is always at the top of the list. In general terms, I want to share a little bit of my view of what we ought to be talking about. It seems to me that America at the dawn of a new century, a shining moment of opportunity certainly for all of us, a moment of hope that our families can, more fully than in the past, achieve the American dream. We dream of peace and continued prosperity in a world where every nation looks to America for leadership. We are challenged to develop new technologies that will improve our lives and find medical breakthroughs to cure cancer and AIDS and Alzheimer's; it is drug abuse; it is teenage pregnancy. Our test scores, as compared to those of children in other countries, are still too low. The achievement gap between poor and middle-income students is still too wide. Too many students do not read at their own grade level or meet minimum standards in math or science. Too many are unfairly promoted and fail further and further behind. Too many enter college unprepared and have to take remedial courses to improve their basic skills. That is wrong.

I do not have to be that way. Republicans at every level—Congress, governors, local officials—are committed to helping parents, teachers, and local leaders build a foundation of excellence and opportunity for every child. That means making sure all children have the best teachers, can learn in safe schools, and they can be right from wrong in addition to the ABCs.

Fifty years ago, the principal obstacles to learning in schools were talking out of turn or chewing gum in class. Today—just turn on the news—it is violence, drug abuse; it is teenage pregnancy. Our test scores, as compared to those of children in other countries, are still too low. The achievement gap between poor and middle-income students is still too wide. Too many students do not read at their own grade level or meet minimum standards in math or science. Too many are unfairly promoted and fail further and further behind. Too many enter college unprepared and have to take remedial courses to improve their basic skills. That is wrong.

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Education is first, last, and always, of course, about children. Success is defined by how much our children learn. We must provide every child with the tools to succeed. Teachers and local leaders have the power to use Federal dollars as they are needed to meet our children's most important needs. Those closest to the classroom, of course, after parents, the teachers and local leaders have the power to use Federal dollars as they are needed to meet our children's most important needs. Those closest to the classroom, of course, after parents, the teachers and local leaders have the power to use Federal dollars as they are needed to meet our children's most important needs. Those closest to the classroom, of course, after parents, the teachers and local leaders have the power to use Federal dollars as they are needed to meet our children's most important needs. Those closest to the classroom, of course, after parents, the teachers.

I just returned from Wyoming and have been again reminded of the difference in the needs from Sundance, WY, to Pittsburgh, PA. We ought to have the flexibility to do what needs to be done in that community to make education the most effective. Who are we to lecture our schools about what is or is not good? Our children's future should not be limited by what seems right in Washington, DC but what is wrong with the schools they attend.

We are spending more money. Republicans are for spending more money on education than the President has requested. The issue, as pointed out by an old friend from New Hampshire, is who sets the priorities. We are for more construction, putting more teachers in schools, putting more computers into schools, but we believe State and local administrators, working with parents, ought to decide on how to prioritize those issues based on their needs.

The Senate will begin debate, probably tomorrow, on the Education Opportunities Act, a bill which returns more money, more power, and more flexibility to States and local officials so they can set the educational priorities that are right for their students.

As you know, the vast majority of money for our schools comes from the State and local governments. The Federal Government provides only about 6 percent of all elementary and secondary education funds. Yet these Federal dollars require more paperwork and carry the most red tape.

I hear about this often. My wife is a special education teacher in a public high school. Special ed teachers spend more time on forms than they really should have to, almost as much as they do dealing with kids. That is wrong. That ought to be changed.

Washington has created a system that wastes about 35 cents out of every dollar that is budgeted — money that never reaches the classroom. Recently in the newspapers we read about hundreds of millions of dollars that were unaccounted for, that didn't reach the classroom to help kids. Congress needs to work to make sure the Federal dollars actually get where they can be spent and where they can be effective, with the fewest possible strings attached.

We need more innovators and fewer bureaucrats. Stop and think back to your education. Do you remember at least one teacher who made a positive difference in your lives, a positive impact. Why should such great teachers be rare? Our children deserve the best teachers, teachers who are qualified, teachers who are experts in the subjects they teach. Local officials should be able to set high teacher standards and reward the best teachers with more pay.

I want not only the best teachers but also the best schools. I am sure you do as well. To achieve that goal we must hold schools and school districts accountable. Unfortunately, reports show the schools in the District are not what we would like to see. It is what we need. Whether it is more teachers, math and science, or reading tutors, better textbooks, or need, be it more teachers, math and science, or reading tutors, better textbooks, or need, be it more teachers, math and science, or reading tutors, better textbooks, or need, be it more teachers, math and science, or reading tutors, better textbooks, or need, be it more teachers, math and science, or reading tutors, better textbooks.
sometimes—and we will argue about it at great length—the role of the Federal Government vis-a-vis State and local. We will talk about where money ought to go and what ought to be required in terms of accountability. Indeed, we should. But I really know, we should pause for a moment and ask: What do we want the outcome to be? What is it that we visualize for ourselves and our family and our community? What do we think education ought to be?

We have a responsibility as parents particularly in terms of determining how we are to be educated. The role I think for the Federal Government is to help provide some additional funding—be it a relatively small percentage. I think it is important we have some kind of testing that is common throughout the country as most of our kids move around when they graduate from college or high school. We need to ensure our schools in Casper, WY, are preparing students as well as they are in Denver or Los Angeles. That is part of today's world.

I think we have a great opportunity now for education, and one of which I hope we will certainly take full advantage. As I mentioned before, the Republican plan puts more money in education than the President asked for. But money alone does not provide a good education. I don't think you can have good education without it, but there are other requirements as well.

You have to have some accountability and much more. I am delighted and excited about the opportunity to deal with this bill, S. 1. Why? Because it was considered to be the most important issue before the Congress. This was the issue that the President talked more about than any other and it is the issue that has more to do with the future of this country. The people run the Government. The people must be prepared to do that as well as being successful in a free country and a free market.

Thank you, Madam President. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Nelson of Florida). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, it is good to be in this Chamber. I don't think we are going to take all of the 4 hours, from what I understand, unless somebody wants to join us. I have two unanimous consent requests, both of which the Senator from North Dakota is aware, and then I will proceed with a few points. It won't be much. Then I will yield, unless he prompts me to give a 2-hour speech, and we will be out.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET FOR THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FOR FISCAL YEARS 2001—2011—Resumed

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order of April 6 with respect to conferees to the budget resolution be modified to add Senator Boxer and Senator MURRAY.

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

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, pursuant to the agreement of April 6, I now have with respect to H. Con. Res. 83, the budget resolution, the Senate insist on its amendment, request a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes thereon, and the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There are now 4 hours of debate on that motion.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I don't know why we need 4 hours. If any Senator would like to speak to the issue, the appointment of conferees and sending the completed package which we voted on, 65 Senators voted aye on, to the House and seeking a conference agreement with them, that is why we are here.

I understand that under the previous order, we are going to take up H. Con. Res. 83 and that either this Senator or the majority leader will be recognized to make a motion that we insist on an amendment—have just done that—request a conference, which we have done, on the disagreeing votes and the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate. We have done that.

We now have 4 hours, which have been agreed to, to debate this issue. I don't intend to even come close to spending 2 hours on this matter. To anyone on my side of the aisle, if they want to speak, I will be here for a while. I have a ranking member wants me to be here by virtue of his speaking. If any Republican wants time, I will give it to them. If we run out of time, I will give some of his people some of my time.

Any time I may have, I will reserve at this time. Essentially, I don't need very much of it.

Now we are in the process of proceeding to conference on two budget resolutions. We begin that process with the approach we have just done that to the Senate. The House has not done that yet. They will appoint their conferees tomorrow. It is my hope that the conference can meet as soon as the House has appointed its conference, maybe as early as Wednesday.

Over the next 2 weeks the staffs of the Budget Committee on the majority side have been meeting to organize the materials for conference, to lay out any technical differences that can be resolved quickly by the conferees, and to highlight the major differences between the two resolutions. I am sure that information will be shared, and wherever the minority thinks there should be matters changed, added to, or in any way described differently, obviously, we will take that into consideration.

I don't think there are very many big secrets about the differences in the two resolutions. The House resolution sticks fairly closely to President Bush's budget submission that was submitted in some detail over the recess period. Everyone knows that over the recess, April 15 came and went, with the American public paying their taxes, with the focus being those who get extensions. Taxes are at an all-time high in terms of the total of collections by the U.S. Government. The House budget resolution assumes a tax cut over the next 11 years of over $1 trillion.

The Senate-passed budget resolution assumes a tax cut of nearly $1.3 trillion over the next 11 years, including this year's $385 billion surplus rebate, or, in some way, a refunding of $52.5 billion from the current year's surplus, and $448 billion over the next 11 years. The Senate-passed budget resolution, both in the annually appropriated and in the accounts sometimes referred to as mandatory spending, or sometimes referred to as entitlement spending.

In the area of appropriated accounts, the Senate-passed budget resolution provided nearly $688 billion in budget authority, or an 8.3-percent increase over current year funding. The House-passed budget resolution was at the President's request of about $661 billion.

When I use these two numbers, 688 and 661, the 661 is the President's 4-percent increase. That increase is in the total of Defense appropriations and nondefense appropriations. And so is the $688 billion, in which the Senate approved the 8.3 percent. That includes Defense and nondefense.

While the increase or changes in the annually appropriated accounts have received the bulk of the attention in this debate so far, I need to highlight the fact that the Senate-passed budget resolution significantly increased funding for programs referred to as mandatory spending, compared to the resolution which I introduced and upon which we commenced our debate, and that is before it was amended. We have added nearly $400 billion in so-called mandatory spending, almost all of this in the area of some kind of educational funding, principally funding for special education.

Again, almost every dollar we added back for mandatory spending we took away from the President's proposed tax cuts. It should be obvious that the major challenge before the conference will be to find a compromise in both the areas of tax cuts and spending.
I don’t think it requires a great deal of budget or political skill to figure out that an obvious compromise for the House is to reduce its tax cuts and increase its spending assumptions, and the Senate to increase its tax cuts and reduce its spending assumptions. Finding that balance will indeed be a challenge, but I am confident that within a week or so we will reach an agreement that meets the challenges of drafting a budget blueprint that will allow us to get on with putting together and implementing legislation to provide a tax cut. There will be plenty of time to argue and debate what kind of tax cut and what will be affected and how soon.

Obviously, we need to consider the reduction of debt held by the public and fund national priorities such as health care, Medicare prescription drugs, energy security needs, defense, and environmental programs.

Mr. President, at the appropriate time, as I said before, I will yield back the remainder of my time. I yield the floor at this point.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I thank my colleague, the chairman of the Senate Budget Committee. I think neither of us believes we need 4 hours for this discussion. In fact, we need a relatively brief period of time on our side. I just want to go through the decisions that were made in the Senate in contrast to what President Bush proposed in and contrast to what we proposed on our side, just to put in some perspective where we are going as we go into the conference.

I have prepared this chart in order to help me do that in as efficient a way as I can. In this column, we have what President Bush proposed. The second column is what we proposed in the Democratic alternative. The third column is what the Senate passed.

If we look at the top, this is the projection, the next 10 years, and we are all in agreement. The agencies that make these forecasts have told us we can anticipate $5.6 trillion over the next 10 years. I am quick to point out that I would not bet the farm on any 10-year forecast or any 10-year projection. The agency that made this forecast themselves warned us of its uncertainty. They have said very clearly there is only a 10-percent chance that number is going to come true. There is a 45-percent chance there will be more money, according to them. There is a 45-percent chance there will be less money.

After the performance of the economy over the last 8 weeks, since the President’s budget was proposed, I would not be willing to bet a lot more money that there is going to be less than what is forecast. With that said, that is the official forecast. Then we go to the various elements of the proposals by the President, as we have on our side, and what passed the Senate.

The next major item is the Social Security trust fund. The President forecast $2.6 trillion of Social Security surplus over this next 10 years. He allocates $2 trillion of it to paying down national debt. We allocated $2.5 trillion to paying down the debt.

By the way, we had a somewhat different forecast. The President’s forecast is a $2.6 trillion. The Congressional Budget Office said $2.5 trillion. We are compelled to use that estimate by the CBO. Numbers. So we have reserved all of the Social Security trust fund money for the Social Security trust fund because those moneys are not needed immediately. They go to pay down debt. The Senate passed $2.5 trillion.

In the Medicare trust fund, the President reserved none of it for the purpose of paying down the debt. In fact, he moved all of it—in his forecast, it is $526 billion. He moved it to an unallocated category. That is something with which we fundamentally disagree. We don’t believe that money is unallocated, uncommitted. We believe it is fully committed to the Medicare trust fund. Unless you use it for that purpose, you hasten the insolvency of the Medicare system.

So we don’t believe it is available for other spending. We don’t believe it can be used for any other purpose, nor should it be.

So in our alternative—again, there is somewhat of a different estimate from the President’s, who estimates there is over $500 billion in that category, and the CBO estimates $400 billion—we reserve it all for the Medicare trust fund. That is what the final Senate result did as well.

I should make very clear that while, in total, they reserve the full amount for the Medicare trust fund, in 4 of the years they have raided the Medicare trust fund. In 2002, 2005, 2006, and 2007, they go into the Medicare trust fund to fund other purposes. They don’t support that; we don’t believe in it. We don’t believe any private sector company could do such a thing. We don’t believe we should be doing it either. That left, under the President’s proposal $3.6 trillion and under both the Democratic alternative and what passed the Senate, $2.7 trillion available for other uses.

The President proposed, of the $3.6 trillion in his plan that was available, using $1.6 trillion for a tax cut. We proposed $755 billion, and the President was responsible for $1.2 trillion—roughly halfway in between the two proposals.

Then we go to the question of high-priority domestic needs. The President proposed $212 billion of spending for high-priority areas. We proposed on our side $744 billion. The Senate actually passed $849 billion. The Senate actually passed spending of $105 billion over and above what we on the Democratic side proposed. If you look at the constituent elements, you can see the President’s allocation over the next 10 years $13 billion—a very modest sum of new money in the President’s plan. We don’t believe that is sufficient. We proposed $139 billion to strengthen education in the country.

The Senate actually passed $308 billion, which is far more than we proposed and obviously dramatically more than the President proposed.

On prescription drugs, the President proposed $153 billion over 10 years. We proposed $311 billion, and the Senate actually passed $300 billion, very close to what we suggested.

On defense, the President proposed $62 billion above the baseline. We proposed $100 billion above the baseline. The Senate actually passed $69 billion more than is in the baseline assumption.

On agriculture, the President actually proposed a cut of $1 billion. We proposed in our Democratic alternative some $88 billion to match what our major competitors are doing for their producers or match it as closely as we can under current trade law. One can see the Senate actually passed an increase of $58 billion, again somewhere in between our proposal and the President’s proposal.

On health care coverage, the President proposed no new money. We proposed $80 billion to expand health care coverage, to begin to cover additional people who now do not have the benefit of health care coverage. The Senate actually passed $36 billion, again somewhere in between.

On environment, the President proposed very substantial cuts, $48 billion in cuts on environmental protection. We proposed an $18 billion increase. The Senate actually passed cuts of $41 billion. We believe that goes too far. We believe that is not wise given the environmental threats we face—clean air, clean water—and this is an area that should be addressed in the conference.

In a category we call “other,” the President proposed some $33 billion in spending priorities. We proposed $8 billion. The Senate actually passed $119 billion, most of that for our Nation’s veterans. Some $98 billion of what passed in the Senate was for our Nation’s veterans, $14 billion in home health care, and the rest in other items.

Next is the category of strengthening Social Security. This is where we have a very significant difference. The President proposed using $600 billion from the Social Security trust fund itself to strengthen Social Security for a short-term. We believe that is double counting. We do not believe we can take money from the trust fund itself and use it to fund private accounts or anything else. We believe that is double counting, that it hastens the insolvency of Social Security trust fund itself, and that we ought to reserve every penny of the Social Security trust fund for Social Security, and any additional money to strengthen Social Security should come from outside the trust fund itself.

That to us is the more conservative approach and one that has more prospects of working given the demographic
tidal wave we face when the baby boomers start to retire. One can see under our alternative and what passed the Senate, neither of us agreed to take money from the Social Security trust fund for that purpose.

We proposed to strengthen Social Security, non-Medicare trust fund money to strengthen Social Security in the amount of $750 billion. This is the area in which what finally passed is, frankly, most deficient. There is not a dime in what passed in the Senate to strengthen Social Security for the long term other than reserving the Social Security trust fund surpluses for Social Security. That is important. It is necessary. It is not sufficient. We simply must do more.

All of the testimony before the Senate Budget Committee made very clear that we face a demographic tidal wave just beyond the 10-year window of this budget resolution. That is when the chickens are going to come home to roost, so to speak. We see these reserve surpluses now turning to dramatic deficits. That is why we believe not only should we reserve every penny of the Social Security surplus for Social Security, but in addition to that, we ought to be using some of the general fund surplus to strengthen Social Security for the long term as well. We believe that is just common sense.

We hope very much before this conference is done that not only will we reserve the trust fund money for the trust funds but that we will make an additional commitment in a contribution from general fund surpluses that are projected.

Remember, these are projections. This is not money in the bank. This $5.6 trillion is not money in the bank. This is money that is forecast. That is why we think the President’s proposal is especially unwise because he is taking virtually all of the non-trust-fund money and committing it to a tax cut. We know thisCongress is never going to want to put the President’s proposal out of this bill. We just do not think that is wise. We do not think that is prudent.

We do not think any institution, if they were faced with a similar set of facts, would make this kind of decision. We do not think they would say we are going to take virtually all of our non-trust-fund money and put it out in a tax cut or, if you were a private sector enterprise, if you were a company promising a shareholder dividend, they would say they can pay the dividends over the years, virtually every penny outside the trust funds for the retirement funds of your employees and the health care trust funds of your employees. That is what the President has proposed.

Is that really what people would do if they were running a company? Is that what they would do? I do not think so. I believe they would pay down their debts to the full extent possible. They would invest in the future. Yes, they would have a dividend for the shareholders, but they certainly would not commit all of their non-trust-fund money for that purpose based on a 10-year forecast that the people who made the forecast themselves say is highly uncertain.

Then we have the final differences in the interest costs. The President’s interest cost is $461 billion. Ours is $490 billion. The Senate-passed package will cost $572 billion.

People say to me: Gee, what are you talking about, interest cost? What is that about?

Simply, to the extent we provide a tax cut or we spend money, that requires additional interest costs because to the extent we have a tax cut, to the extent we have additional spending, that reduces the amount that is going to pay down the debt. That means we have more debt than we would otherwise have. That means higher interest costs.

Most of the President’s additional interest cost is generated by his tax cut. In fact, his tax cut that is advertised to cost $1.6 trillion does not cost $1.6 trillion. It costs $6 trillion. It is an interest cost associated with it, at least $2 trillion.

Then, of course, there are other things that have not been factored into the President’s proposal because we know it is the fundamental difference we are going to have to reform the alternative minimum tax.

The alternative minimum tax currently affects 2 million American taxpayers. Under the President’s proposal, 35 million people are going to be affected, and it costs over $300 billion to fix it. It is nowhere in the President’s budget, but we know that cost is there. We know this Congress is never going to allow one in every four taxpayers in America to be caught up in the alternative minimum tax. It makes no sense. It will not happen, and it should not happen. It costs money to fix it. It is not in the President’s budget, but it should be because it is a hidden cost.

In addition to that, there are a whole series of other things the President has not included that also cost money. We know that certain tax breaks currently provided in law are going to be extended. Research and development is going to be extended. We certainly are not going to change the energy tax credits that are in current law in the middle of an energy crisis, and we should not.

That costs money, but it is not in the President’s proposal. Oh, it is there. It is just not funded, and that is another part of the problem of the President’s plan.

He imposes a lot of costs, but he doesn’t fund them. You can stick your head in the sand and say we will not fund them, but we know the reality is different.

Finally, on the unallocated category, the President has $845 billion; we propose nothing in the unallocated category. What actually passed the Senate was $125 billion. On the President’s side of his $845 billion, I hasten to point out that $526 billion of that is from the Medicare trust fund. His unallocated category is really much less than is advertised. About two-thirds of that money is Medicare trust fund money. All of a sudden he uncommits that money. I don’t know from where that idea came. You cannot unallocate it. There is no money left where it is supposed to be in the Medicare trust fund.

These are the fundamental differences between what President Bush proposed, what we proposed on our side, the Democratic alternative, and the Senate adopted a number. The major differences are in the areas where the President proposed a tax cut, twice as big as what we proposed. On the other hand, we proposed $900 billion more in debt reduction than the President proposed. That set of differences between the President and the Democrats. He has a tax cut that is about $800 billion more than ours. We have about $900 billion more in debt reduction than the President.

There is the fundamental difference between the two sides.

In addition to that, there are also differences in high-priority areas. Let’s review them. In education, we propose far more in new resources for education than does the President. The Senate agreed with us. In fact, it went well beyond our proposal.

On prescription drugs, we proposed twice as much as the President. And the Senate adopted a number very close to what we proposed. There is no magic to this. There is no secret in it. What the President proposed is totally inadequate. Only 25 percent of people who are Medicare eligible get any help under the President’s bill. The percentage of the people would be helped and 75 percent would not be helped. It is no wonder the Senate adopted a number very close to what the Democrats proposed. Most objectively, it is what that is necessary to provide a meaningful prescription drug benefit.

On defense, we proposed more than the President and more than what passed the Senate.

On agriculture, the final result was somewhere in between. The President proposed a cut—a cut when we are in the midst of an agricultural crisis. It is the worst we have seen in 50 years. The President is proposing less resources. He is proposing the Congress not be able to respond as we have in each of the last 3 years to pass an economic disaster bill for our Nation’s farmers. It makes no sense. We propose to be able to fund what we have been doing the last 3 years, and the Senate came somewhere in between.

On health coverage, another major difference, the President proposed no new resources. We proposed $80 billion. The Senate, again, was somewhere in between.

As I see it, those are major differences. Those are the issues that will
have to be resolved in a conference committee. The House plan is close to what the President proposed.

I say to the conferees, you will have to come pretty close to what the Senate or the House with respect to strengthening Social Security for the long term. Nothing has been done—nothing in the House or Senate versions—to strengthen Social Security for the long term. It has gotten almost no attention. It is going to receive attention. It will receive attention in this 10-year cycle when the baby boomers start to retire and the surpluses today turn into massive deficits. That is why we ought to take this opportunity with our surpluses to strengthen Social Security for the long term. That is our responsibility. That is our obligation. We ought to take it seriously. I hope the conferees will.

With that, I yield the floor.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, obviously I have on numerous occasions in the Senate Chamber discussed these issues, and on many of them I disagree with my friend. On some I agree. I certainly appreciate his thoughts as to what kind of conference report we will have to have in order for it to pass. He suggests it will have to be close to the Senate version. I don't know how anyone expects the House to accept something in the version passed by the Senate. Nonetheless, we will proceed. We will work carefully to make sure we have enough people in the Senate willing to vote on final passage.

I certainly don't go there operating on the premise discussed with the ranking member on how to get that done. We have to be careful and accept some of the Senate wishes. We certainly don't have to accept them all.

I will go back in history for a moment. The Presiding Officer is a member of the committee and will probably recall on January 23 Dr. Alan Greenspan appeared before the committee. That was the first testimony before a committee by Alan Greenspan, Chairman of the Federal Reserve, during this post-December era, where some serious changes in the American economy became very public and notorious. I have confidence that Alan Greenspan is correct in suggesting the "new economy" is here to stay and the comeback in the new economy is here to stay. The future is built on the new economy which took us through these years of prosperity and which he assumes will come back in due course and lead us to prosperity for a very significant period to come.

In this budget, we have to decide how we can be helpful. The Federal Reserve Board seems, to this Senator, to be doing a tremendous job of reducing short-term high interest rates. That is very important. It is important because it is also affecting long-term rates. Money is being made available. What is thought to be the biggest problem is investment, capital investments in capital, new economy businesses and the old economy businesses. It is thought by some that perhaps the new economy has too much inventory around to invest in new capital and new production. We will see. We keep abreast of it as best we can.

Now, what should we do? The Senate had a vote on a Hollings amendment. I am not sure we can come out of the House with $85 billion from this year's surplus because I am not sure they can figure it out. But somewhere in $85 billion to the people. I submit we ought to get a conference completed; we ought to direct the Finance Committee to start with a tax cut plan. Obviously, I don't know from where that will come. We are very careful, the way we figure it, at a tax level of 1.28. I round that to say 1.3. Every time I say 1.3, I hope everyone knows the exact number is 1.28.

The House is a little higher than 1.6 in total taxes for a 10-year period. They don't have very much allowed for this year, the year we are in, in which we have a very large surplus for the rest of Government. It does not take anything out of Social Security or Medicare.

What ought to happen is we ought to get out of the conference quickly, resolve that tax issue, resolve some of the other issues where clearly we disagree, and then we ought to prove to the American people we can get something done. I think getting something done means a tax bill that will come out of the Finance Committee under our reconciliation instructions, which we debated thoroughly and the Senate decided to do that by a 61–49 vote. We decided our committee would work under the expedited process and get us a tax bill.

I am very hopeful they will find a way to allocate back to the American people what we can do and I think that exists for the year 2001—which we said in our Senate resolution was up to $85 billion, which actually in the resolution I introduced we said up to $60 billion—but somewhere in that area. I hope they will finish a way. I hope they will apply their will to finding a way to get back in circulation somewhere between $60 billion and $85 billion, meaning this year Americans will get some tax money back in their hands.

I do not say anything to reply that is anything but the right thing to do. We ought to show the American people we are working in harmony with the Federal Reserve Board to affect the current short-term problems in the economy, hoping if we right them, and if there is a way, that will bring into play a long-term growth all of us very much desire for our people.

In addition, with that same bill under the expedited process—kind of the hurry-up-and-get-it-done process to show Americans you can do it in a timely manner, the part which is called reconciliation—I hope we will produce a tax bill for the remainder of whatever we agree upon.

In the House they say $1.6 trillion over 11 years. We say $1.3 trillion over 11 years. Whatever the number, I hope they do the early stimulus as I have described and then proceed to give us some marginal rate reductions.

Why did I start with Dr. Alan Greenspan? Because I want to close with him. This year, on January 23, and previously to this on two occasions, addressing the issue of surpluses and what we should do with it, he said: You should pay the debt down as much as possible. No. 1; No. 2, he did not just say cut taxes, he said reduce or cut marginal tax rates. How do we help the economy? That was the precursor question to the answer I just gave. First, pay down the debt as much as possible. Second, reduce or cut marginal tax rates.

I know a lot of people say: Let's help the economy. But then they say: I don't know about this marginal rate business. We would like to do other things.

It would be nice to do other things, but the truth of the matter is we are hearing from the very best that if you do have a surplus that you are going to give back to the people, and you are not in a mode of doing right-now stimulus because we already addressed that issue. I agree, and then we ought to prove to the American people we can get something done. The answer has been: To help the economy, reduce marginal rates.

I regret to say what was not said was reduce marginal rates for halfway up the structural scale. That is another half. What has been said is reduce the marginal rates. We hope when we are finished under this expedited feature we will get an early stimulus and we will get a bill that helps with the long-term economy in the mode and manner discussed by Dr. Greenspan every year for the last three when we addressed surpluses.

I do not choose today to get into an argument about how much debt reduction is the right thing. My good friend thinks we should have more than we voted in in the Senate, we should have more than I provided in the underlying proposal, and more than the President suggested. But we think we have a very good construction proposal and still can have a good number for tax cuts. We believe when you start with debts—the U.S. Government has debts taking about 17 percent of the budget—and we can say to the public he said: This cut in half. Whatever the number, it will be down to between 5 percent and 7 percent, we think we are making a giant stride in reducing the public debt.
I have in my mind showing a pie graph of where the Government money goes. People always say: Why so much to the debt? Because we have a lot of debt. How much are you going to reduce it? We are going to reduce it down to where the government debt is going to be between 5 percent and 7 percent; that is going to be the cost remaining. In my opinion that is exactly what we ought to do.

I want to close with one thought. Frankly, I am the ranking member from the other side, whom I admire and respect, I hear him talking about whether we want to agree and believe that we have the surplus of $5.6 trillion over a decade. I want to remind everybody, when the checks are down and you have sitting before you in the committee those who have figured the numbers and the variables on what might be the case, when you finally ask them which is it going to be, the $11 trillion that it might be or the $1.6 trillion that it might be or the $5.6 trillion—that 50 percent or 75 percent, I think, where the lines end up when you do a model and ask them—if you have to decide which one is right the answer is $5.6 trillion.

We can do anything we would like. We could use $2 trillion as the starting point and say that is all we can expect. Some might say, instead of $5.6 trillion, use $7.5 trillion or $8 trillion because it could be much higher. I think the number that has been chosen, $5.6 trillion, from which you will pay Medicare for sure, from which you will pay for all the Social Security indebtedness that we have—very penny that belongs in that trust fund is used to pay that debt down—when you end up doing that, I think you have a very balanced package and that leaves open the issue of how much do we spend.

Those who are interested have seen the divergence of how we spend, how we spend under what I will call the Democratic proposal, how we would do it under the Domenici proposal, and how we would do it under the Bush proposal that passed the Senate. Clearly, in the Senate, many amendments were accepted on the side of either entitlements or appropriation expectations—the amount we can use in appropriations. Many were accepted on the floor and nobody should believe we are going to take all of those and accept them all in a conference with the House which has started with the President's number. There has to be some give and some take. I think that will happen.

I look forward to chairing the conference in a spirit of getting it done as quickly as we can so we can get on with passing the bills that will carry it out and pass $858 as quickly as we can on the debate of what we ought to do and get into a mode of what we are going to do.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, there is clearly an area of major agreement between the two sides. That is the need for fiscal stimulus now. We had in our budget resolution $60 billion in budget stimulus this year, in the year 2001. Maybe it will be helpful for people to understand the differences between what I was talking about and the budget for fiscal year 2001. But we are in the year 2001 right now. So when we compare the tax cut under the Bush budget and our proposal and what passed the Senate, we are talking about the 10 years from 2002 through 2011. But if you add up the $31.1 trillion. For that period we proposed $745 billion. The Senate passed something roughly in between. But this does not cover the year 2001, the year we are in right now.

Both Senator DOMENICI in his budget proposal, and me in ours, proposed $60 billion of budget stimulus this year, financial stimulus this year, fiscal stimulus now to give a lift to this economy. What actually passed the Senate was even more, even more fiscal stimulus for the year 2001.

What Senator DOMENICI is saying is perhaps we cannot do quite that much in conference, and perhaps we cannot. But we do have $96 billion available outside of the trust funds of Medicare and Social Security, so we know we have budgeted already enough money to accommodate a fiscal stimulus of up to $85 billion without invading the trust funds of Medicare and Social Security, so we know we can do more debt reduction—perhaps not that much, but a good deal more than they have proposed, certainly more than the President has proposed.

I note that the Senate agreed with our position. The Senate provided a good deal more debt reduction than the President has said that he believes is possible. That was a good outcome. I hope the President will not shrink from this result. But the place we would not do as well is in strengthening Social Security for the long term above and beyond the trust funds themselves. All of us know just saving the trust fund money for the purposes intended is important, but it is not enough.

That is why on our side we believe not only should we reserve all of the trust fund money for the Social Security and Medicare trust funds, but then, in addition to that, ought to take money out of the Unemployment Trust Fund and use that to strengthen Social Security for the long term because that is what it is going to take to do the job and to prevent a massive buildup of debt from occurring.

I think one thing that often gets lost in the debate is the current indebtedness of our country. The gross debt is $5.6 trillion. Under the President's plan, the gross debt of the United States is going to grow to $7.1 trillion. The gross debt, under his plan, is not going to be reduced; it is going to grow. Under our plan, we are able to keep it about where it is because we are putting the money into debt reduction—both short-term and long-term; that is in the President's plan. We believe that is a wiser course.

We are reserving about 70 percent of this projected surplus for debt reduction. He reserves about 35 percent of the projected surplus for debt reduction. So that is the major difference. That is where we really have a difference of opinion.

We think we ought to put more emphasis on debt reduction, frankly, given the uncertainty of the forecast—and that is another area where we have a disagreement. Senator DOMENICI says $5.6 trillion is the number. Well, he is right in the sense that that is the number that has been given to us by the Office of Management and Budget. That is a very professional forecast. I will not argue with that for a minute. It is well done. But it is a 10-year projection—10 years. The people who made the forecasts said there is a 10 percent chance that number is going to come true.

Let's not cast that in concrete. Goodness, that should inform us; it should not lock us into decisions to use every penny of that money. I think what it should tell us is that we should be cautious. That is why we put a greater emphasis on debt reduction because, then, if the forecast does not come true, the worst that has happened is you have reduced the debt. That you anticipated. That is the worst that happens.

Under their plan—because they are using all the money, between their tax cut and other priorities—what happens if that isn't true? It risks putting us back into deficit. It risks us raiding the trust funds of Social Security and Medicare all over again. Goodness knows, we have been down that road. Do we have to repeat the 1980s all over again? I hope not. Can't we learn from the 1980s?—the time we had a rosier forecast like this one, had a big tax cut, big defense buildup, and wondered why the deficits and debts of the country multiplied geometrically? I do not want to repeat that exercise. That put our country in a deep hole. It took us 15 years to dig out. I do not want to be digging out for the next 15 years.

The difference between the 1980s and now is that in the 1980s you had time to dig out. If we make a mistake now, there is no time to dig out because in 11 years the baby boom generation starts to retire, and then these surpluses turn into big deficits as the number of people eligible for Medicare
and Social Security double. That is what is going to happen. We know it. It is not a projection. The people are alive. They have been born. They are living today. They are going to retire, and they are going to be eligible. And it is going to cost the Government a lot of money, much more than we are currently having to pay out.

So let’s be cautious. Yes, let’s be conservative. The conservative thing to do is emphasize more debt reduction and to curtail our appetite to spend and curtail the appetite to have tax cuts, which are both living for the moment. It is fun to live for the moment; especially if you are a politician, there is nothing better than to have tax cuts and spending. That is the best of all worlds. The problem with that is that we have a need to be responsible to future generations. Our generation ran up this debt. We have the obligation to pay it down and to do it before we start to retire. Goodness, the last thing we ought to be doing is shoving this debt on to our kids. We ran it up. We ought to retire it.

Mr. President, with that, I yield the floor.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I have nothing further to say. I do not think there is anyone on our side who wishes to speak. If the Senator is ready, we can yield back our time.

Mr. CONRAD. Yes. We are prepared to yield back our time on our side.

Mr. DOMENICI. I yield back any time we have reserved under the previous order.

Mr. CONRAD. I do as well.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motions are agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. NELSON of Florida) appointed Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. BOND, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. SARBANES, and Mrs. MURRAY conference on the part of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. DOMENICI. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period of 5 minutes each with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.
North Dakota and Wisconsin to continue using resident assistants for feeding and hydration, while a demonstration project is conducted in our states and others to evaluate what kind of impact the use of these staff has on the quality of feeding and hydration services provided to nursing home patients and on the recruitment and retention of nursing staff. If after the three-year demonstration project, the Secretary of Health and Human Services determines that the use of resident assistants does not result in a reduction in the quality of feeding and hydration of nursing home residents or in a decrease in the recruitment and retention of nursing staff, other nursing homes around the country would be allowed to use resident assistants to help with feeding and hydration tasks.

This legislation includes a number of safeguards designed to protect nursing home patients. For instance, nursing homes are prohibited from using resident assistants to replace long-term nursing staff or to count these assistants toward minimum nursing staffing requirements. In addition, resident assistants would have to complete a state-approved training program related to residents’ feeding and hydration tasks they would be performing. Of course, nursing homes would not be able to use resident assistants to administer medication, provide direct medical care, or perform other nursing tasks.

I recognize that this bill is not the only answer or the whole answer for addressing the staffing crisis in nursing homes. I want to work with my colleagues in Congress, nursing homes, and advocates for nursing home residents to address this larger issue of the staffing shortage.

The staffing shortage in nursing homes is not the only reason for malnutrition and dehydration of patients, but it certainly contributes to the problem. A June, 2000 Commonwealth Fund study estimated that 35 to 85 percent of nursing home patients are malnourished, in part because they do not receive enough assistance from aides while eating because the aides must assist as many as 15 to 20 patients at mealtime. According to a Los Angeles Times article earlier this week, a University of California-San Francisco professor who observed 100 nursing home residents with eating problems found that nursing home workers were often so rushed that they “shoved” food into their patients’ mouths, causing choking and coughing.

The resident assistants in North Dakota provide compassionate care and often have more time to coax their patients into eating, something that overworked certified nurse aides generally don’t have time for. I am convinced that if we reduce the number of staff in North Dakota nursing homes, which accommodate this type of care, the care facilities can no longer use resident assistants, then patients in North Dakota will suffer.

One resident assistant in North Dakota told me about a patient she feeds who has difficulty holding her head up when she eats. The resident assistant said that when she was on vacation, her patient lost seven pounds. Fortunately, after a few weeks back on the job, her patient’s weight began to go up. However, if this resident assistant was forced to leave her post permanently, that weight loss may have been long-term and ultimately life-threatening.

I believe the Medicare and Medicaid Nursing Services Quality Improvement Act is a step that Congress can take to address both the staffing shortage and the malnutrition of patients. This is not the only solution and it may not be the best solution, but I hope my colleagues will work with Senator Kiolb, Senator Conrad and me to tackle these serious issues confronting long-term care facilities and their patients.

MILITARY PERSONNEL DETAINED BY THE PRC

MR. THOMAS. Mr President, I rise today as the chairman of the Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to speak to S. Res. 66.

As we are all now aware, at 9:15 a.m. local time on April 1, 2001, a collision occurred between United States military EP-3E Airplanes II reconnaissance aircraft flying over the coast of the People’s Republic of China, PRC and one of two F-8 jet fighters from the People’s Liberation Army-Air Force sent to intercept it. Both countries agree that the collision occurred in international airspace over the South China Sea near the Chinese island province of Hainan. Due to the damage incurred in the accidental collision, the F-8 and its pilot were lost at sea and the EP-3E was reportedly damaged.

In fact, the damage to our plane was so bad that it effectuated an emergency landing at Lingshui, Hainan. Upon landing, the twenty-four United States military personnel aboard the EP-3E were removed from the aircraft by Chinese military personnel and detained in an undisclosed location, notwithstanding the fact that the crew of aircraft forced to land on foreign soil in an emergency is considered under international norms to have sovereign immunity.

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President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND]; the distinguished chairman of the Armed Services Committee [Mr. WARNER]; the Chairman of the Energy Committee [Mr. MURKOWSKI]; three members and the ranking minority member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; the distinguished Senator from Indiana [Mr. LUGAR], Mr. SMITH of Oregon and Mr. BROWNBACK, and Senator BIDEN; two Senators who I consider among the most knowledgeable on China in the Senate, Senator FEINSTEIN and Senator Baucus; and one of our newest members, Senator CLINTON.

I hope that we will act to put the Senate on record on this issue.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business Friday, April 20, 2001, the Federal debt stood at $5,713,631,148,647.61. Five trillion, seven hundred thirteen billion, six hundred thirty-one million, one hundred forty-eight thousand, six hundred forty-seven dollars and sixty-one cents.

One year ago, April 20, 2000, the Federal debt stood at $5,707,061,000,000 Five trillion, seven hundred thirteen billion, six hundred thirty-one million, one hundred forty-eight thousand, six hundred forty-seven dollars and sixty-one cents.

Fifteen years ago, April 20, 1986, the Federal debt stood at $1,962,745,000,000. One trillion, nine hundred sixty-two billion, seven hundred forty-five million.

Twenty-five years ago, April 20, 1976, the Federal debt stood at $604,399,000,000. Six hundred four billion, three hundred ninety-nine million, which reflects a debt increase of more than $5 trillion, $5,109,232,148,671. Six trillion, five hundred nine billion, two hundred thirty-two million, one hundred forty-eight thousand, six hundred forty-seven dollars and sixty-one cents during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, 25 years ago the National Medical Association and other prominent organizations endorsed the development of the Medical School at Morehouse College in Atlanta, GA. This came in light of studies that revealed first, a severe shortage of African American and other minority physicians in the United States, particularly in Georgia and second, that African Americans suffered disproportionately from medical diseases. Since its inception, Morehouse School of Medicine has worked to help solve our nation’s health care crisis by graduating top-quality physicians who dedicate themselves to serving the more than 32 million people in this country who live in medically neglected communities. More than 80 percent of Morehouse School of Medicine graduates practice in underserved communities. Each year, the School graduates five times the national average of African Americans completing their studies at accredited medical schools in this country.

Since 1975, Morehouse School of Medicine has grown from an entry class of 25 students to a current 40 students per class. Each year, over 20,000 Georgians who are disadvantaged are served by approximately 50 community health projects sponsored by Morehouse School of Medicine. These projects include prevention initiatives associated with substance abuse, teen pregnancy, geriatric services, cancer, lead poisoning and violence prevention. In addition, the School’s activities in community health promotion, Morehouse School of Medicine provides about 25,000 patient encounters for approximately 10,000 people per year in community clinics throughout the State of Georgia.

The student body of Morehouse School of Medicine continues to excel and 100 percent of the institution’s family medicine and surgery residents passed their board exams in their first sitting for 2 years in a row.

These accomplishments stem in part from the strong leadership of Morehouse School of Medicine’s founding dean and president, Louis W. Sullivan, M.D., who has been with the Medical School since its inception. Aside from his years in Washington as U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, Dr. Sullivan has dedicated his life’s work to producing top-quality physicians. During his tenure, Morehouse School of Medicine established several programs. These include a 4-year undergraduate medical education program, seven residency programs and several centers of excellence including the National Center for Primary Care, the Neuroscience Institute, the Cardiovascular Institute and the NASA/Space Medicine and Life Science Research Center, the first of its kind at a minority medical institution.

Dr. Sullivan has worked tirelessly to provide vision and direction for the institution’s future, while continuing to preserve the very best traditions of its past. Morehouse School of Medicine, the State of Georgia and our Nation are truly blessed to have his leadership.

TRIBUTE TO THE POSTAL EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE PERFORMANCE CLUSTER

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the Postal Employees of the New Hampshire Performance Cluster, a group of dedicated public servants who have been recognized for exemplary performance of service duties. On April 3rd of this year, the Postal Employees of the New Hampshire Performance Cluster were recognized with the Postal Service’s highest award, the Chief’s Operating Officer Award for overall excellence in the area of customer satisfaction.

New Hampshire Postal Employees have been honored along with four other districts in the nation receiving the Order of the Yellow Jersey Award for Excellence in customer service. This prestigious award is based on the percentage of residential customers who rated the postal service employees as excellent in four areas: overall performance, courteous and friendly clerks, consistency of mail delivery and accuracy of mail delivery.

The Postal Employees of the New Hampshire Performance Cluster have provided dedicated service to the citizens of our state. The people of our state look upon them with tremendous gratitude for all that they have done.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve the Postal Employees of the New Hampshire Performance Center in the United States.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC–1365. A communication from the General Counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Inspector General and the designation of an Acting Inspector General; to the Committee on Intelligence.

EC–1366. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulations Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Certification of Evidence for Proof of Service” (RIN2900–A556) received on April 18, 2001; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

EC–1367. A communication from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report covering those cases in which equitable relief was granted in calendar year 2000 to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

EC–1368. A communication from the Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of Inspector General Strategic Plan for 2001 through 2006; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

EC–1389. 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 “Qualified Lessee Construction Allowances For Short-Term Leases” (Rev. Rul. 2001-20) received on April 11, 2001; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–1376. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Exports to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia: Revision of Foreign Policy Controls” (RIN0694-AC39) received on April 18, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–1377. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Implementation of the Wassenaar Arrangement List of Dual-Use Items: Revisions to Microprocessors, Graphic Accelerators, and External Interconnect Equipment” (RIN0694-AC39) received on April 18, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–1378. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Entity List: Revisions and Additions” (RIN0694-AB60) received on April 18, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–1379. A communication from the Under Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, a report relating to the Impostion of Foreign Policy-Based Export Controls for Exports to Persons in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Inducitives of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (RIN0694-AB50) received on April 18, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–1380. A communication from the Chair-
to law, the annual report required by the Chemical and Biological Weapons Control and Warfare Elimination Act of 1991 for the period February 1, 2000 through January 31, 2001; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–1404. A communication from the Acting Executive Secretary, Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Assistant Administrator of the Bureau for Europe and Eurasia, Agency for International Development, to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–1405. A communication from the Acting Executive Secretary, Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Assistant Administrator of the Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, Agency for International Development, to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–1406. A communication from the Acting Executive Secretary, Agency for International Development, a report relative to the nomination for the position of Assistant Administrator of the Bureau for International Development; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM–9. A resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the State of Kansas relative to the assistance with Gulf War illness; to the Committee on Armed Services.

H. Res. 6008. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the Republic of Korea; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–1407. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed Manufacturing License Agreement with Japan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–1408. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles and defense services in the amount of $50,000,000 or more to Italy; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Whereas, Nearly 700,000 members of the United States armed forces, including 7,500 Kansans, deployed to the Persian Gulf region during 1990 and 1991 to participate in Operation Desert Storm to liberate Kuwait; and

Whereas, These Gulf War veterans have been, and continue to be, afflicted by an array of unexplained health problems. To date federal research efforts have not identified the prevalence, patterns, causes or treatments for illnesses suffered by Gulf War veterans. Yet, thousands of veterans continue to suffer from a variety of chronic symptoms; and

Whereas, The Kansas Persian Gulf War Veterans Health Initiative, a project of the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs, is funded through a grant from the Department of Veterans Affairs, pri-
marily through the efforts of Dr. Lea Stelle, has completed a scientific study of 2,000 Kansas Gulf War veterans with the results being published in the American Journal of Epidemiology. Major findings of this study in-
clude:

- Kansas Gulf War veterans have significantly more health problems than veterans who served in other areas. The study results indicate these problems may have been caused by multiple factors.
- A pattern of chronic symptoms, Gulf War illness, was identified. Thirty-four percent of Kansas Gulf War veterans report a pattern of chronic symptoms that include joint pain, respiratory problems, neuropsychologic difficul-
ties, diarrhea, skin rashes, and fatigue. Veterans who served in Kuwait had the highest rate of unexplained health problems. Veterans who served in Iraq or Kuwait (42%). In addition, veterans who served only during Desert Shield have a low rate of illness (9%), while veterans who served in other areas. The study results indicate these problems may have been caused by multiple factors.
- Veterans who served only during Desert Shield have a low rate of illness (9%), while veterans who served in other areas. The study results indicate these problems may have been caused by multiple factors.

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives be directed to provide an enclosed copy of this resolution to the Presi
dent of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and to each member of the Kansas Congressional delegation; to the Gov-
ernor of the State of Kansas, the Secretary of Health and Environment, the Secretary of Human Resources, and the Chairman of the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs; and to the National and State Commanders of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Disabled American Vet-
erans, National Retired Officers Association, National Retired Enlisted Association and the National Order of the Purple Heart.

POM–10. A resolution adopted by the Brook Park City Council in the State of Ohio relative to the steel industry; to the Com-
mittee on Finance.

Whereas, The nation faces a growing short-
age of domestic oil and face petroleum shortages in the next fifty years; and

Whereas, Natural gas has risen dramatic-
ally in price because demand has increased faster than supplies are discovered; and

Whereas, Domestic consumers are faced with increasing price spikes and lowered expectations of the market meeting the demand for energy; and

Whereas, The American association of pet-
roleum geologists, in their scientific professional learned societies, is con-
vensing in Washington, D.C., on April 23, 2001,
to address the need for a national energy supply and to look for new sources of energy; and

Whereas, The United States does not have a public policy on energy; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas, the House of Representatives concurring therin, That the legislature of the state of Kansas encourages the development of a federal energy policy that considers all possible future energy sources and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be directed to send enrolled copies of this resolution to the President of the United States; the Vice-President of the United States; Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the United States Senate; the Speaker, Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives; the Secretary of the United States Department of Energy; to each member of the Kansas Congressional Delegation; and to the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, P.O. Box 979, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74101-0979.

POM–13. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas relative to life time health care benefits for military retirees and their families; to the Committee on Armed Services.

The Concurrent Resolution No. 5011

Whereas, Insomuch as many of our citizens have risen to the defense and safeguard of our state and nation, this Concurrent Resolution recognizes our country’s unsung heroes who selflessly served our state and nation as they defended our democratic way of life and the freedoms set down by the founding fathers of this nation; and

Whereas, The state of Kansas through its Legislature acknowledges and recognizes the contribution these veterans of military service have made to the welfare of all of its citizens, and we ask the Congress of the United States to acknowledge these retired veterans by continuing to support and improve their quality of life through extended health care; and

Whereas, This population of retired veterans served during foreign and domestic crises of the 20th century, where their involvement with names such as Ardennes, Wake, Guadalcanal, Normandy, Bastogne and Iwo Jima earned accolades; while other names not so common to the American public were added during the Korean conflict, like Inchon and Choson; later came Operation Desert Storm and many more; and

Whereas, The crises these retired veterans know all too well as a battleground which tested their will to survive and return; and

Whereas, These retired veterans now constitute a significant portion of the aging population in this country and, in particular, our state; and

Whereas, These retired veterans were guaranteed through contract, both stated and implied, lifetime access to medical benefits for themselves and their immediate family members upon retirement for serving their nation unsafely and honorably for 20 years or more; and

Whereas, Prior to retirement at age 65 years, this population of our citizenry were provided health care service through the military health care system and on retirement were guaranteed federal health care benefits, these individuals that served and their family members, lost significant portions of their health care support; and

Whereas, The medical benefits which were lost through changes to Federal legislation forced these retired veterans to pay out-of-pocket for medical coverage from alternative sources; and those changes forced these citizens into omnibus national health care programs; and

Whereas, Many retired veterans and their immediate family members live on fixed incomes where the loss of medical benefits significantly affects their quality of life, disrupts their needed levels of care and puts out of reach certain health care capabilities and pharmaceutical support to which they had been previously entitled; and

Whereas, Many of these retired veterans suffering from service connected injuries, serious illnesses, or medically-related quality of life deficiencies find that their access to medical treatment facilities is now limited due to significant downsizing or in many rural areas has become nonexistent; and

Whereas, These honorable men and women of Kansas and of this nation who have sacrificed in the uniformed service of our country are deserving of the health care programs to sustain their quality of life that they were guaranteed for 20 or more years of unselshfu service; and

Whereas, The legislature of the state of Kansas has a special charge to safeguard and maintain the quality of life for its citizens that have served a retirement from military service: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, the Senate concurring therin, That the Secretary of State is hereby directed to send enrolled copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the president pro tempore of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and to each member of the Kansas Congressional Delegation.


The Joint Resolution

Whereas, The State of Wyoming generally and the western states specially are experiencing severe energy shortages, particularly a shortage of electrical energy; and

Whereas, New energy generation facilities are urgently needed to prevent these shortages and the damaging consequence of these shortages as they permeate the economy; and

Whereas, in recent years the timely construction of these necessary facilities has been obstructed through endless litigation and other delays; and

Whereas, the majority of people of the State of Wyoming desire to pursue sound energy and economic development; and

Whereas, Wyoming is blessed with natural resources, including Powder River Basin super compliant coal and Wyoming gas and oil that could solve the pending electrical energy supply crisis; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved By The Members of the legislature of the State of Wyoming

1. That the President, the Vice-President, the Congress and the Executive Branch of the federal government are urged to immediately secure the construction of critically needed, new energy generation facilities, coal, and gas pipeline and transmission facilities using Wyoming Powder River Basin super compliant coal, Wyoming gas and other available Wyoming natural resources.

2. That the United States Congress is urged to enact any legislation that will support the timely construction of energy generation facilities, transmission facilities and gas pipelines.

3. That the Secretary of State send to the President of the United States, the Vice-President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the United States Secretary of Energy and the Wyoming Congressional Delegation.

POM–15. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania relative to Medicaid; to the Committee on Finance.

The Resolution

Resolved by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania relative to Medicaid; to the Committee on Finance;

Whereas, Metal manufacturing is integral to the economy of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, employing over 72,900 workers in the primary metal industry and 66,200 workers in the fabricated metal products industry; and

Whereas, The American steel industry holds an important place in the history of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for its contribution to business and industry; and

Whereas, The American steel industry plays a vital role in our national security, which depends on a strong domestic steel economy, and in our national defense, which relies on a strong steel manufacturing base, and is of paramount concern for America and our allies; and

Whereas, The specialty steel industry, which includes stainless steel, tool steel and other alloyed metal steel, holds an important place in the history of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the United States and has made significant improvements to restructure, modernize and become a world leader in productivity and competitiveness; and

Whereas, The current economic and financial crises in Russia, which many foreign nations have involved severe devaluation of the currencies of several primary steel-producing and steel-consuming countries along with a collapse in the domestic demand for steel and specialty steel in these countries; and

Whereas, The United States Congress is urged to enact any legislation that will support the timely construction of energy generation facilities, transmission facilities and gas pipelines using Wyoming Powder River Basin super compliant coal, Wyoming gas and other available Wyoming natural resources.

Whereas, The crises have generated and will continue to generate surges of steel imports into the United states, flooding the American market with foreign steel and foreign steel products at prices severely below production cost, thereby displacing the American steel industry and its workers and families and in the marketplace while the United States, through the International Monetary Fund (IMF), continues to provide a massive financial bailout of these countries in a manner that encourages exports; and

Whereas, Imports of specialty steel from countries that are providing a massive financial bailout of these countries in the form of credit, loans, and other foreign aid, are being dumped into this country in large quantities at unfair, below-market prices, contributing significantly to reduced earnings and reductions in employment for American workers; and

Whereas, The dumping of stainless steel plate in coils and other specialty steel products is prevalent in the United States market, with the dumping of stainless steel and other specialty steel products contributing significantly to reduced earnings and reductions in employment for American workers; and

Whereas, Recent reports confirm that the imported products are being dumped into the United States.

Resolved by the Senate, the President of the Senate, the Senate majority leader, the Senate minority leader, the Speaker of the House, the House majority leader and the House minority leader:

That the United States Congress is urged to enact any legislation that will support the timely construction of energy generation facilities, transmission facilities and gas pipelines using Wyoming Powder River Basin super compliant coal, Wyoming gas and other available Wyoming natural resources.
economy, thereby requiring prompt Federal action and initiatives; and

Whereas, Recent reports confirm that 14 steel companies have filed for bankruptcy protection; the impact of this problem goes well beyond one industry; and

Whereas, Statistics over the last three years have proven that the dumping of foreign steel into the American marketplace has had a devastating economic effect on American jobs; and

Whereas, There is a serious need for improvement in the enforcement of United States trade laws to provide an effective response to this situation; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of the Philippines, in the name of the Commonwealth of the Philippines' and the American people, do hereby agree to the following:

(1) pursue enhanced enforcement of United States trade laws with respect to the surge in steel imports, using all remedies available under those laws, including duties relating to stainless steel plate in coils;

(2) continue to impose antidumping duties on imports of specialty steel from these foreign nations;

(3) work to establish a more equitable distribution of the burden of accepting imports of specialty steel from foreign nations;

(4) establish appropriate guarantees or mechanism for executive branch interagency cooperation to closely monitor imports of steel, including specialty and stainless steel plate in coils; and

(5) report to the Congress of the United States as soon as possible a comprehensive, workable plan for addressing the surge in all steel imports, including the negative effects on employment, prices and investments in the American specialty and regular steel industry; and be it further

Resolved further, That this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States, the United States Department of Transportation, and the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives.

POM–17. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Virginia relative to Interstate Route 81 corridor; to the Committee on Appropriations.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 23

Whereas, the Virginia portion of Interstate Route 81, an important north-south highway, is among the most heavily traveled and congested highways in the United States; and

Whereas, Interstate Route 81 was originally designed to accommodate 10 percent truck traffic, and the tremendous growth in vehicle and truck traffic from Interstate Route 81 has continued to grow, until the highway's traffic today is composed of approximately 40 percent trucks; and

Whereas, this large number of heavy vehicles not only contributes to traffic congestion and exacerbates the severity of highway crashes, but also increases the frequency and cost of maintenance and reconstruction on Interstate Route 81 and other highways in the corridor; and

Whereas, transporting freight from highway to highway saves fuel, reduces congestion, minimizes air and water pollution, reduces highway maintenance and construction costs, and promotes safety; and

Whereas, Interstate Route 81 is paralleled for its entire length through Virginia by a railroad, much of which was initially engineered and constructed more than 150 years ago, and is currently providing a competitive alternative to the use of Interstate Route 81 by heavy trucks; and

Whereas, the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation has concluded whether improvements to the parallel rail infrastructure are likely to result in the diversion of some of the interstate heavy truck traffic from Interstate Route 81 to the railroad, and whether investing public funds in improving the railroad infrastructure would result in measurable benefit to the public; and

Whereas, the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation study concluded that the potential for the railroad infrastructure in the Interstate Route 81 corridor could divert to the railroads as much as 10 to 25 percent of the interstate truck traffic; and

Whereas, diversion to rail of such a substantial amount of interstate traffic would reduce congestion, reduce maintenance and construction costs, reduce fuel consumption, reduce air and water pollution, reduce accidents, and is clearly in the public interest; and

Whereas, public funding of improvements to the railroad infrastructure, together with completion of the scheduled improvements to Interstate Route 81, would provide an example to the nation of the significant public benefits resulting from the use of public funds in providing a viable alternative for the transportation of interstate freight; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the United States Congress be urged to appropriate funds for improvement of rail infrastructure in the Interstate Route 81 corridor; Such improvement shall ensure that the railroad that parallels Interstate Route 81 in Virginia provides a viable alternative to the use of Interstate Route 81 for the transportation of interstate freight; and, be it

Resolved further, That the General Assembly of Virginia support the conclusions of the study by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation and command it to the United States Congress for consideration; and, be it

Resolved finally, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, the Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation, and the members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation in order that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly in this matter.

POM–18. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Washington relative to the 1946 Rescission Act; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4002

Whereas, The Philippine Islands was a territory of the United States during the First Session of the 106th Congress, and the United States Department of State, the United States Department of the Treasury, the United States Department of Justice, the United States Department of Agriculture, the United States Department of Labor, the United States Department of Commerce, the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, the United States Department of Transportation, the United States Department of Energy, the United States Department of the Interior, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Resolved, That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of the United States.

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. GRASSLEY, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the credit for electricity produced from biomass, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SPECTER, a bill to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 504 West Hamilton Street in Allen-town, Pennsylvania, as the "Edward N. Cahn Federal Building and United States Courthouse"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

At the request of Mr. Koehl, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs.
LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 99, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit against tax for employers who provide child care assistance for dependents of their employees, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. THURMOND, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAUX) was added as a cosponsor of S. 145, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to increase to parity with other surviving spouses the basic annuity that is provided under the uniformed services Survivor Benefit Plan for surviving spouses who are at least 62 years of age, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DOOD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 170, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both military retired pay by reason of their years of military service and disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability.

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 198, a bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to provide assistance through States to eligible weed management entities to control or eradicate harmful, non-native weeds on public and private land.

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 258, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the medicare program of annual screening pap smear and screening pelvic exams.

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 277, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage.

At the request of Mr. MURkowski, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 388, a bill to protect the energy and security of the United States and decrease America’s dependence on foreign oil sources to 50% by the year 2011 by enhancing the use of renewable energy resources conserving energy resources, improving energy efficiencies, and increasing domestic energy supplies; improve environmental quality by reducing emissions of air pollutants and greenhouse gases; privatize the effect of increases in energy prices on the American consumer, including the poor and the elderly; and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MURkowski, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 452, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure that the Secretary of Health and Human Services provide for the early guidance to physicians, providers of services, and ambulance providers that are attempting to properly submit claims under the medicare program to ensure that the Secretary does not target inadvertent billing errors.

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 570, a bill to establish a permanent Violence Against Women Office at the Department of Justice.

At the request of Mr. BAUCCIS, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKII) was added as a cosponsor of S. 643, a bill to implement the agreement establishing a United States-Jordan free trade area.

At the request of Mr. REED, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 656, a bill to provide for the adjustment of status of certain nationals of Liberia to that of lawful permanent residence.

At the request of Mr. THOMPSON, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 661, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the 4.3-cent motor fuel exercise taxes on railroads and inland waterway transportation which remain in the general fund of the Treasury.

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) were added as cosponsors of S. 697, a bill to modernize the financing of the railroad retirement system and to provide enhanced benefits to employees and beneficiaries.

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 697, supra.

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 183 proposed to H. Con. Res. 83, a concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2002, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2011.

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), and the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 183 proposed to H. Con. Res. 83, supra.

At the request of Mr. BOND, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DUFFY), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 210 proposed to H. Con. Res. 83, a concurrent resolution for the District of Columbia.
resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2002, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2011.

AMENDMENT NO. 211
At the request of Mr. Bingaman, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 211 proposed to H. Con. Res. 83, a concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2011.

AMENDMENT NO. 221
At the request of Mrs. Murray, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. Mikulski) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 221 proposed to H. Con. Res. 83, a concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2002, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2011.

AMENDMENT NO. 231
At the request of Mr. Dodd, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. Clinton), and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. Mikulski) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 231 intended to be proposed to H. Con. Res. 83, a concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2002, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2011.

AMENDMENT NO. 241
At the request of Mr. Kerry, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. Sanders), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Kennedy) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 241 intended to be proposed to H. Con. Res. 83, a concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2002, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2011.

AMENDMENT NO. 251
At the request of Mr. Conard, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 251 proposed to H. Con. Res. 83, a concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2002, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2011.

AMENDMENT NO. 261
At the request of Mr. DeWine, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. McCain), the Senator from Maine (Ms. Collins), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Kerry), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. Lieberman), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Kennedy) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 261 intended to be proposed to H. Con. Res. 83, a concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2002, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2011.

AMENDMENT NO. 271
At the request of Mr. DeWine, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. McCain), the Senator from Maine (Ms. Collins), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Kerry), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. Stevens), and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. Smith) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 271 proposed to H. Con. Res. 83, a concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2002, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2011.

AMENDMENT NO. 281
At the request of Ms. Landrieu, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 281 proposed to H. Con. Res. 83, supra.

AMENDMENT NO. 291
At the request of Mr. Conard, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 291 proposed to H. Con. Res. 83, a concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2002, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2011.

AMENDMENT NO. 301
At the request of Mr. Domenici, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 301 proposed to H. Con. Res. 83, a concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2002, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2011.

AMENDMENT NO. 312
At the request of Mr. Nelson of Florida, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 312 intended to be proposed to H. Con. Res. 83, a concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2002, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2011.

AMENDMENT NO. 322
At the request of Mr. Nelson of Florida, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 322 proposed to H. Con. Res. 83, a concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2002, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2011.
fiscal year 2002, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2011.

**AMENDMENT NO. 325**

At the request of Mr. Grassley, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 325 proposed to H. Con. Res. 83, a concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2002, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2011.

At the request of Mr. Inouye, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 325 proposed to H. Con. Res. 83, supra.

**AMENDMENT NO. 334**

At the request of Mr. Inhofe, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Allen), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. Breaux), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Warner), the Senator from Florida (Mr. Graham), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. Craig), the Senator from Maine (Mrs. Collins), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. Daschle), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. Durbin), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. Johnson), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. Hagel), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. Enzi), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. Murray), the Senator from California (Mrs. Feinstein), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. Wellstone), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. Nelson), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. Thomas), and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. Bingaman) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 334 proposed to H. Con. Res. 83, supra.

At the request of Mr. Schumler, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 334 proposed to H. Con. Res. 83, supra.

At the request of Mr. Inhofe, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. Grassley), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. Hagel), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. Daschle), the Senator from California (Mrs. Feinstein), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. Wellstone), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. Nelson), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. Thomas), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. Bingaman), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. Campbell), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. Akaka), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. Frist), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. Leahy) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 334 proposed to H. Con. Res. 83, a concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2002, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2011.

**STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS**

By Mr. Grassley: S. 756. bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the credit for electricity produced from biomass, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. Grassley. Mr. President, I rise today to urge the Senate to consider the legislation to help address the current energy shortage in our country. The legislation, entitled the "Growing Renewable Energy for Emerging Needs (GREEN) Act.,” will extend and expand the tax credit for homeowner, clean-burning, renewable biomass.

As many of my colleagues know, I authorized the section 45 credit in the Senate and it was included in the Energy Policy Act of 1992. However, the tax credit for the production of energy from biomass is set to expire on January 1, 2002. For this reason, I am introducing legislation to extend and expand the credit to help sustain the many benefits derived from biomass.

Last month, I introduced S. 530 to extend the wind energy portion of section 45, which has been extremely successful. The purpose of today’s bill is to extend and expand the biomass portion of section 45 to include activities such as biomass combustion and cofiring biomass with coal-fired facilities. Formerly, section 45 only allowed the use of closed-loop biomass.

The clean, controlled combustion of biomass, which consists of sawdust, tree trimmings, agricultural byproducts, and untreated construction debris, is another proven, effective technology that currently generates numerous pollution avoidance and waste management public benefits across the nation.

In addition, biomass energy displaces more polluting forms of energy generation while decreasing our dependence on foreign oil. Our national security is currently threatened by a heavy reliance on foreign oil.

Biomass can also produce enormous economic benefits for rural America. Rural economies will grow because of the development of a local industry to convert biomass to energy. Moreover, studies show that biomass crops could produce between $2 to $5 billion in additional farm income.

In order to retain the environmental, waste management, and the rural employment benefits that we could receive from the existing “open-loop” biomass facilities, my bill rewrites section 45 to allow tax credits for clean combustion of wood waste and similar residues in these unique facilities.

Importantly, we have also ensured that the definition of qualifying biomass materials is limited to organic, nonhazardous materials that are clearly proven to burn cleanly without any pollution risk. Also, to allay any concern that biomass plants might burn paper and thus possibly jeopardize the amount of paper that is available to be recycled, I have specifically excluded paper that is commonly recycled from the list of materials that would qualify for the credit.

I believe this bill provides a common sense combination of current and new technologies to help maintain the economic, environmental and waste management benefits derived from biomass power. The current electricity shortage in California and the soaring prices of home heating fuel and natural gas this winter are reasons enough to support and accelerate this renewable energy.

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 757

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Represent- 
atives of the United States of America in Congress assem- 
bled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
This Act may be cited as the "Growing Re- 
newable Energy for Emerging Needs (GREEN) Act".

SEC. 2. CREDIT FOR ELECTRICITY PRODUCED 
FROM BIOMASS.
(a) EXTENSION AND MODIFICATION OF 
PLACED-IN-SERVICE RULES.—Paragraph (3) of 
section 45(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 
1986 is amended—
(1) by striking subparagraph (B) and insert- 
ing the following new subparagraph:
"(B) CLOSED-LOOP BIOMASS FACILITY.—In 
the case of a facility using closed-loop bio- 
mass to produce electricity, the term 'quali- 
fied facility' means any facility— 
(i) owned by the taxpayer which is origi- 
nally placed in service after December 31, 
1992, and before January 1, 2007, or 
(ii) of the taxpayer which is originally 
placed in service before December 31, 1992, 
and modified to use closed-loop biomass 
to co-firing with coal before January 1, 2007.",
(2) by striking "2002" in subparagraph (C) 
and inserting "2007",
and (3) by adding at the end the following new 
subparagraphs:
"(D) BIOMASS FACILITIES.—In the case of a 
facility using biomass (other than closed- 
loop biomass) to produce electricity, the term 'quali- 
fied facility' means any facility owned by 
the taxpayer which is originally 
placed in service before January 1, 2007.
(2) BIOMASS FACILITIES.—
(A) by striking "10-year period referred to in 
subsection (a) shall be treated as beginning no 
earlier than the date of the enactment of 
this paragraph, and 
(B) by striking and "at the end of sub-
paragraph (B)",
(B) by striking the period at the end of 
subsection (b)(3) and inserting 
"(i) owned by the taxpayer which is origi-
nally placed in service before December 31, 
1992, and modified to use closed-loop biomass 
to co-fire with coal before January 1, 2007.
(i) the 10-year period referred to in sub-
section (a) shall be treated as beginning no 
earlier than the date of the enactment of 
this paragraph, and 
(II) subsection (b)(3) shall not apply to 
any such facility originally placed in service 
before January 1, 1997.",
(b) BIOMASS FACILITIES.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 45(c)(1) of the 
Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (defining quali- 
fied energy resources) is amended—
(A) by striking "and" at the end of sub-
paragraph (B); 
(B) by striking the period at the end of 
subsection (C) and inserting 
"and", and 
(C) by adding at the end the following new 
subparagraph:
"(D) biomass (other than closed-loop bio-
mass)."
(2) BIOMASS DEFINED.—Section 45(c) of such 
Code (relating to definitions) is amended by 
adding at the end the following new para-
grah:
"(5) BIOMASS.—The term 'biomass' means 
any solid, nonhazardous, cellulosic waste 
material which is segregated from other 
trash and is derived— 
(A) any of the following forest-related re-
sources, including
precommercial thinnings, slash, and brush, but not includ-
ing old-growth timber,
(B) solid wood waste materials, including 
slash, and wood waste materials (other 
than pressure-treated, chemically-treated, or 
painted wood wastes), and landscape or right-
right-of-way debris, including
(C) municipal solid waste (garbage) gas 
produced from the biodegradation of solid 
and paper that is commonly recycled, or 
"effective date.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to 
electricity produced after the date of the enact-
ment of this Act.

By Mr. SPECTER:
S. 757. A bill to designate the Federal 
building and United States courthouse 
located at 504 West Hamilton Street in 
Allentown, Pennsylvania, as the "Edward 
N. Cahn Federal Building and 
United States Courthouse"; and to direct 
the Committee on Environment and Public 
Works.
Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I rise 
today to introduce legislation to name 
the Federal building and courthouse in 
Allentown, Pennsylvania for retired 
Judge Edward N. Cahn. Judge Cahn, a 
native Pennsylvanian and resident of the 
Lehigh Valley, served with distinction 
on the Federal bench for 23 years, includ-
ing 5 years as chief judge.
Judge Cahn attended school at Le-
high University and graduated magna 
summa laude in 1955. He went on to re-
ceive a law degree from Yale Univer-
sity in 1958 and began practicing law in 
Allentown in 1959. His accomplish-
ments on the basketball court as a 
1,000 point scorer for Lehigh University 
translated into his later success in an-
other court, when President Ford nom-
inated him to be a federal judge in 1974.
Judge Cahn was instrumental in 
helping build Allentown's new court-
house, which opened in 1995. This beau-
iful structure is a symbol for the re-
sources that are commonly recycled, 
and I urge my colleagues to join me 
in honoring Judge Edward N. Cahn.
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. 757

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.
Any reference in a law, map, regulation, 
document, paper, or other record of the 
United States to the Federal building and 
United States courthouse referred to in sec-
tion 1 shall be deemed to be a reference 
to the "Edward N. Cahn Federal Building and 
United States Courthouse".

APPOINTMENT
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, 
on behalf of the President pro 
temore, pursuant to Public Law 94-
118, reappoints the Senator from West 
Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) to the 
Japan-United States Friendship Com-
mission.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 2001
Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I ask 
unanimous consent that when the Sen-
ate completes its business today, it ad-
journ until the hour of 9:30 a.m. on 
Tuesday, April 24. I further ask unani-
mous consent that on Tuesday, imme-
diately following the prayer, the Jour-
nal of proceedings be approved to date, 
the morning hour be deemed expired, 
the time for the two leaders be re-
served for their use later in the day, 
and the Senate then begin a period of 
morning business, equally divided, with 
Senators speaking for up to 10 minutes 
each.

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

Mr. VOINOVICH. I further ask unani-
mous consent that the Senate stand in 
recess from the hours of 12:30 p.m. to 
2:15 p.m. for the weekly policy con-
ferences to meet.

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

Mr. VOINOVICH. For the informa-
tion of all Senators, it is hoped that 
the Senate can begin consideration of 
S. 1, the education bill, tomorrow 
morning. Negotiations have been ongo-
ing during the recess and throughout 
the day today. It may be possible to 
begin consideration of the education 
legislation shortly after convening on 
Tuesday. Any Senator who desires to 
speak on the issue of education is en-
couraged to come to the floor tomor-
row to participate in the debate. Votes 
are therefore possible during tomorrow 
afternoon's session.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT
Mr. VOINOVICH. If there is no fur-
ther business to come before the Sen-
ate, I now ask unanimous consent the 
then stand in adjournment under the 
previous order following the remarks 
of Senator NELSON of Florida.

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

Mr. VOINOVICH. I suggest the ab-
scence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The 
clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk pro-
ceded to call the roll.

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. Presi-
dent, I ask unanimous consent that the 
call of the quorum be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. 
VOINOVICH). Without objection, it is so 
ordered.
OIL DRILLING

Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. President, I rise to discuss a matter of critical importance to the State of Florida; that is, the prospect that, under the new administration, we might have the sale-for-lease tracts for offshore oil drilling off the coast of the State of Florida.

There has been in place presently a moratorium in one form or another since 1980 regarding drilling off the coast of Florida. And there is presently offered, through this new administration, through the Department of the Interior, a proposed sale called “lease sale 181,” which comes within some 30 miles of Perdido Key, which is in northwest Florida. It is explained by the new administration that most of the tract for lease is 100 miles off the coast. But there is indeed a part that comes to within a few miles of the coast of Alabama and close to the State of Florida.

I can tell you that 16 million Americans residing in the State of Florida do not want drilling off the coast of our State and have spoken vigorously against it, which is why we have had a moratorium off the State of Florida. Yet the administration continues to persist.

Now let me read for you a statement that was made by candidate George W. Bush in the past campaign. He made this statement at West Port Richey, north of Tampa, FL. He said at the time in the campaign, when asked about offshore oil drilling in Florida:

“I’m going to work with your Governor about offshore drilling here in Florida. We are both against it. We are both against it.

Twice he said he was against it. But it is his position to offer it. Just last week the Tampa Tribune, a very conservative editorial newspaper—in an editorial last Thursday, said:

Had George W. Bush openly supported the sale of these leases before the election, he would only have cost Florida and the Presidency.

Now that is the truth. And promises are being broken. The fact is that they don’t need to be because we could address our energy problem if we would be wise by increasing our R&D on alternative fuels, on increased conservation. You don’t have to produce your way out of the energy crisis. You can be a lot wiser with using alternative methods.

In the discussion of the budget, we saw some dramatic testimony showing that the way of energy in the United States, in large part, is allocated to transportation. Why should we not use research and development to build a new automobile that in fact can get 60 to 80 miles per gallon? That would cause a tremendous conservation of energy in transportation. That is not one alternative, but it is an alternative we ought to explore and keep the promises that were made in the election.

This whole matter of offshore oil drilling suddenly caught my attention back in the early 1980s, when, as a junior Congressman representing a congressional district off the east coast of Florida, suddenly I was confronted with the Reagan administration, through the person of the former Secretary of the Interior, James Watt, offering leases for oil drilling off the east coast of the United States, from as far north as Cape Hatteras, all the way as south as Pensacola, Florida. As a junior Congressman, I went to work with the Appropriations Committee in the House to get them to insert language that would say in the Department of the Interior appropriations bill: No money may be used under this appropriations act for the purpose of offering oil and gas leases in tracts such-and-such—and then we described all of the tracts that were being offered.

We won in that year in the Appropriations Committee because of bringing to that committee dramatic testimony from Florida about what would be the environmental and economic damage to our State if waves of oil were lapping up onto the beaches of Florida, not only environmental damage, but economic damage as well, particularly considering Florida’s tremendous tourism industry.

Well, I thought my fight was over. But soon enough, after a year’s lapse, the Reagan administration came back under a new Secretary of the Interior and proposed those oil leases again. So we had to go to work even harder. This time it escalated all the way up to not just the appropriations subcommittee on the Department of the Interior, but to the full Appropriations Committee, where we finally won the vote by pointing to NASA and the Department of Defense to the fact that you can’t be dropping solid rocket boosters from the space shuttle into the ocean. But because of expendable booster rockets being launched from the Kennedy Space Center and the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station if you have oil rigs down below. So we won that vote after a hard fight.

I thought our fight was over on being able to protect Florida’s shores from the threat of environmental and economic damage as a result of oil drilling. But my hope back there in the early days was that because in the year 2001, despite a promise that was made last fall, in the year 2000, by candidate for President George W. Bush, one of the first acts of the new Bush administration is to offer for sale lease tract 181 off the coast of the State of Florida for oil and gas drilling.

Well, 16 million Floridians will not stand for this. Senator Bob Graham and I will not stand for this. Statewide elected officials expressed many times over, including this Senator who used to be an elected member of the State Cabinet of Florida, will not stand for it. The legislature of the State of Florida will not stand for it. Most of the congressional delegation from the State of Florida will not stand for it. Yet the administration persists.

It looks as if we are in for a donnybrook where we will clash our swords and see if the will, the desire of 16 million Floridians will prevail.

I thank the Chair. I yield the floor.
SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, April 24, 2001 may be found in the Daily Digest of today’s RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

APRIL 25

9 a.m.
Appropriations
Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of Health and Human Services. SD–124

9:30 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings on agricultural trade issues. SR–328A

10 a.m.
Finance
To hold hearings to examine Medicare and social security benefits relative to prisoners, fugitives, the deceased and other ineligibles. SD–215

10 a.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Housing and Transportation Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the Department of Housing and Urban Development’s program, budget, and management priorities for fiscal year 2002. SD–538

10:30 a.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings on the nomination of Andrew S. Natsios, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development. SD–419

11:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of Agriculture. SD–138

1 p.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings on the nomination of Paula J. Dobriansky, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of State (Global Affairs); and the nomination of Lincoln P. Bloomfield, Jr., of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of State (Political-Military Affairs). SD–419

2:30 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Consumer Affairs, Foreign Commerce, and Tourism Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine west coast gas prices in comparison to other parts of the country. SR–253

2:30 p.m.
Armed Services
Strategic Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of Defense and the Future Years Defense Program, focusing on the National Nuclear Security Administration. SR–232A

APRIL 26

9 a.m.
Aging
To hold hearings to evaluate current developments in assisted living, focusing on consumer protection, staff training, and assistance with medications. SD–562

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold oversight hearings to consider national energy policy with respect to fuel specifications and infrastructure constraints and their impacts on energy supply and price. SD–366

Environment and Public Works
Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the budget oversight on the Army Corps of Engineers program for fiscal year 2002. SD–628

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings on the nomination of Theodore William Kassinger, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Department of Commerce; to be followed by hearings on S. 718, Amateur Sports Integrity Act, which amends federal law to stop legal gambling in Nevada on amateur sports. SR–253

Appropriations
Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee
To hold hearings on certain ergonomic issues. SH–216

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Securities and Investment Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine securities market data and the United States capital markets. SD–538

10 a.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings on the nomination of James Andrew Kelly, of Hawaii, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (East Asian and Pacific Affairs). SD–419

Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of Justice. SD–192

Finance
To hold hearings to examine the complexity of the tax code, featuring the release of the congressionally mandated study on simplification from the Joint Committee on Taxation. SD–215

Appropriations
Treasury and General Government Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of the Treasury. SR–485

Appropriations
Transportation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of Transportation. SD–124

2 p.m.
Armed Services
SeaPower Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of Defense and the Future Years Defense Program, focusing on strategic airlift and sealift imperatives for the 21st Century. SR–232A

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

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.
Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings to examine energy implications of the Forest Service’s Roadless Area Rulemaking.
SD-366
Appropriations
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy.
SD-124
2:30 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Communications Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the problem of unsolicited commercial email (spam) and possible legislative options to deter it.
SR-253
Foreign Relations
Business meeting to consider the nomination of John Robert Bolton, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security, and other pending calendar business.
SD-419
MAY 1
9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the report of the panel to review the V-22 Program.
SH-216
Small Business
To hold hearings to examine the Small Business Administration’s funding priorities for fiscal year 2002.
SR-428A
10 a.m.
Appropriations
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for certain Department of Energy programs relating to Energy Efficiency Renewable Energy, science, and nuclear issues.
SD-124
Appropriations
Interior Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.
SD-138
Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the legal issues surrounding faith based solutions.
SD-226
2:30 p.m.
Armed Services
Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the United States military’s capabilities to respond to domestic terrorist attacks involving the use of weapons of mass destruction.
SR-222
10 a.m.
MAY 2
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of Veterans’ Affairs.
SD-138
10 a.m.
MAY 3
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of Agriculture, focusing on assistance to producers and the farm economy.
SD-138
2 p.m.
Appropriations
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Office of Civilian Radio Active Waste Management.
SD-124
10 a.m.
MAY 8
Appropriations
Interior Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of Energy.
SD-124
10 a.m.
MAY 9
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.
SD-138
10 a.m.
MAY 10
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services.
SD-138
10 a.m.
JUDICIARY
To hold hearings to examine high technology patents, relating to business methods and the internet.
SD-226
10 a.m.
JUNE 6
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the National Science Foundation and the Office of Science Technology Policy.
SD-138
10 a.m.
JUNE 13
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Environmental Protection Agency and the Office of Solid Waste.
SD-138
10 a.m.
JUNE 20
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.
SD-138
4:30 p.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To continue hearings on agricultural trade issues.
SR-328A
**Daily Digest**

**Senate**

**Chamber Action**

*Routine Proceedings, pages S3773–S3796*

**Measures Introduced:** Two bills were introduced, as follows: S. 756–757.

**Congressional Budget Resolution—Conferees:** Pursuant to the order of April 6, 2001, as modified, with regard to H. Con. Res. 83, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2002, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2011 (agreed to by Senate on Friday, April 6, 2001), Senate insisted on its amendment, requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair was authorized to appoint the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators Domenici, Grassley, Nickles, Gramm, Bond, Conrad, Hollings, Sarbanes, and Murray.

**Appointment:**

*Japan-United States Friendship Commission:* The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to Public Law 94–118, reappointed Senator Rockefeller to the Japan-United States Friendship Commission.

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

- Powell A. Moore, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.
- William J. Haynes II, of Tennessee, to be General Counsel of the Department of Defense.
- Robert Glenn Hubbard, of New York, to be a Member of the Council of Economic Advisers.
- Roger Walton Ferguson, Jr., of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of fourteen years from February 1, 2000. (Reappointment)
- Edward C. Aldridge, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology.

- Timothy J. Muris, of Virginia, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner for the term of seven years from September 26, 2001.
- Bruce Marshall Carnes, of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Energy.
- A. Elizabeth Jones, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (European Affairs), vice James F. Dobbins.
- Peter F. Allgeier, of Virginia, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador.
- Angela Styles, of Virginia, to be Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy.
- William D. Hansen, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Education. Viet D. Dinh, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.
- Maureen Patricia Cragin, of Maine, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Public and Intergovernmental Affairs).
- 5 Army nominations in the rank of general.
- 2 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general.
- 29 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.
- Routine lists in the Army, Foreign Service, Navy.

**Executive Communications:**

**Petitions and Memorials:**

**Statements on Introduced Bills:**

**Additional Cosponsors:**

**Additional Statements:**

**Adjournment:** Senate met at 12 noon, and adjourned at 3:20 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Tuesday, April 24, 2001. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3792.)

**Committee Meetings**

No committee meetings were held.
House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. Pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 93, providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate, it stands adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 24, 2001.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. 248)

H.R. 132, designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 620 Jacaranda Street in Lanai City, Hawaii, as the “Goro Hokama Post Office Building”. Signed on April 12, 2001. (Public Law 107–6)

H.R. 395, designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2305 Minton Road in West Melbourne, Florida, as the “Ronald W. Reagan Post Office of West Melbourne, Florida”. Signed on April 12, 2001. (Public Law 107–7)

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of April 24 through April 28, 2001

Senate Chamber

On Tuesday, Senate may begin consideration of S. 1, to extend programs and activities under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

During the remainder of the week, Senate may consider any other cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Special Committee on Aging: April 26, to hold hearings to evaluate current developments in assisted living, focusing on consumer protection, staff training, and assistance with medications, 9 a.m., SD–562.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: April 25, to hold hearings on agricultural trade issues, 9:30 a.m., SR–328A.

Committee on Appropriations: April 24, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Bureau of Reclamation of the Department of the Interior, 9:30 a.m., SD–124.

April 24, Subcommittee on Interior, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of the Interior, 10 a.m., SD–138.

April 24, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Army Corps of Engineers, 3 p.m., SD–138.

April 25, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of Health and Human Services, 9 a.m., SD–124.

April 25, Subcommittee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Corporation for National and Community Service and the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, 10 a.m., SD–138.

April 25, Subcommittee on Defense, to hold hearings on chemical demilitarization, 10 a.m., SD–192.

April 25, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of Agriculture, 1:30 p.m., SD–138.

April 26, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, to hold hearings on certain ergonomic issues, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

April 26, Subcommittee on Transportation, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of Transportation, 10 a.m., SD–124.

April 26, Subcommittee on Treasury and General Government, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of the Treasury, 10 a.m., SR–485.

April 26, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–192.

April 26, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy, 2 p.m., SD–124.

Committee on Armed Services: April 24, Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings on recruiting initiatives of the Department of Defense and the military services and to receive an update on the status of recruiting and retention goals, 9:30 a.m., SR–222.

April 24, Full Committee, closed business meeting to consider certain pending nominations, 2:45 p.m., SR–222.

April 24, Full Committee, to hold hearings on the nomination of Dov S. Zakheim, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller); the nomination of Charles S. Abell, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Management Policy; and the nomination of Victoria Clarke, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, 3:30 p.m., SD–106.

April 25, Subcommittee on Strategic, to hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year
2002 for the Department of Defense and the Future Years Defense Program, focusing on the National Nuclear Security Administration, 2:30 p.m., SR–232A.

April 26, Subcommittee on SeaPower, to hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of Defense and the Future Years Defense Program, focusing on strategic airlift and sealift imperatives for the 21st Century, 2 p.m., SR–232A.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: April 24, business meeting to mark up S. 206, to repeal the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 and to enact the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 2001, 10 a.m., SD–538.

April 24, Full Committee, to hold hearings on the nomination of Grant D. Aldonas, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade; the nomination of Kenneth I. Juster, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration; the nomination of Maria Cino, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service; and the nomination of Robert Glenn Hubbard, of New York, to be a member of the Council of Economic Advisors, 3 p.m., SD–538.

April 25, Subcommittee on Housing and Transportation, to hold hearings to examine the Department of Housing and Urban Development’s program, budget, and management priorities for fiscal year 2002, 10 a.m., SD–538.

April 26, Subcommittee on Securities and Investment, to hold hearings to examine securities market data and the United States capital markets, 9:30 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: April 24, Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs, Foreign Commerce, and Tourism, to hold hearings to examine what measure may be needed to better protect children as they graduate from child safety seats to adult seatbelts, 10 a.m., SR–253.

April 24, Subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Space, to hold hearings to examine the National Aeronautics and Space Administration’s aeronautics program, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

April 25, Full Committee, to hold hearings on the nomination of Brenda L. Becker, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs; and the nomination of Michael P. Jackson, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation; to be followed by hearings to examine labor problems facing the airline industry today, focusing on the balance between labor and management in negotiations as well as the effect of a strike at a major airline on the aviation system and the consumer, 9:30 a.m., SR–253.

April 25, Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs, Foreign Commerce, and Tourism, to hold hearings to examine west coast gas prices in comparison to other parts of the country, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

April 26, Full Committee, to hold hearings on the nomination of Theodore William Kassinger, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Department of Commerce; to be followed by hearings on S. 718, Amateur Sports Integrity Act, which amends federal law to stop legal gambling in Nevada on amateur sports, 9:30 a.m., SR–253.

April 26, Subcommittee on Communications, to hold hearings to examine the problem of unsolicited commercial email (spam) and possible legislative options to deter it, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: April 26, to hold oversight hearings to consider national energy policy with respect to fuel specifications and infrastructure constraints and their impacts on energy supply and price, 9:30 a.m., SD–366.

April 26, Subcommittee on Forestry and Public Land Management, to hold oversight hearings to examine energy implications of the Forest Service’s Roadless Area Rulemaking, 2 p.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: April 26, Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to hold hearings to examine the budget oversight on the Army Corps of Engineers program for fiscal year 2002, 9:30 a.m., SD–628.

Committee on Finance: April 24, to hold hearings to examine Medicare, prescription drugs and current coverage options, 10 a.m., SD–215.

April 25, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine Medicare and social security benefits relative to prisoners, fugitives, the deceased and other ineligibles, 10 a.m., SD–215.

April 26, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the complexity of the tax code, featuring the release of the congressionally mandated study on simplification from the Joint Committee on Taxation, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: April 25, to hold hearings on the nomination of Andrew S. Natsios, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, 10:30 a.m., SD–419.

April 25, Full Committee, to hold hearings on the nomination of Paula J. Dobriansky, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of State (Global Affairs); and the nomination of Lincoln P. Bloomfield, Jr., of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of State (Political-Military Affairs), 2 p.m., SD–419.

April 26, Full Committee, to hold hearings on the nomination of James Andrew Kelly, of Hawaii, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (East Asian and Pacific Affairs), 10 a.m., SD–419.

April 26, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nomination of John Robert Bolton, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security, and other pending calendar business, 2:30 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on the Judiciary: April 25, to hold hearings to examine certain issues surrounding the use of polygraphs, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Small Business: April 24, to hold hearings to examine the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act and the protection of small business rights, 9:30 a.m., SR–428A.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, April 25 and 26, to continue hearings on Federal Farm Commodity Programs, 10 a.m.,
on April 25 and 9:30 a.m., on April 26, 1300 Longworth.

April 25, Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit, Rural Development, hearing to review energy supply and demand issues affecting the agricultural sector of the U.S. economy, 2 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, April 24, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education, on Howard University, Gallaudet University, National Technical Institute for the Deaf and American Printing House for the Blind, 2 p.m., 2358 Rayburn.

April 25, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies, on Budget Overview and Foreign Agricultural Service (International Programs), 9:30 a.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

April 25, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary, on Members of Congress, 10 a.m., H–309 Capitol.

April 25, Subcommittee on Defense, executive, on NSA, 9:30 a.m., H–405 Capitol.

April 25, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 10 a.m., 2362–B Capitol.

April 25, Subcommittee on Interior, on the Secretary of the Interior, 10 a.m., B–308 Rayburn.

April 25, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education, on the Secretary of Education, 10 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

April 25, Subcommittee on Transportation, on the Secretary of Transportation, 10 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

April 25, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies, on Budget Overview and Foreign Agricultural Service (International Programs), 9:30 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

April 25, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary, on Members of Congress, 10 a.m., H–309 Capitol.

April 25, Subcommittee on Defense, executive, on NSA, 9:30 a.m., H–405 Capitol.

April 25, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 10 a.m., 2362–B Capitol.

April 25, Subcommittee on Interior, on the Secretary of the Interior, 10 a.m., B–308 Rayburn.

April 25, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education, on the Secretary of Education, 10 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

April 25, Subcommittee on Transportation, on the Secretary of Transportation, 10 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

April 25, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, on the Bureau of Reclamation, 10 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

April 25, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary, on the Secretary of State, 10 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

April 25 and 26, Subcommittee on VA, HUD and Independent Agencies, on the Department of Veterans Affairs, 9:30 a.m., and 1:30 p.m., on April 25 and 9:30 a.m., on April 26, 2359 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies, on the Secretary of Agriculture, 9:30 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary, on the Secretary of State, 10 a.m., 2171 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on the District of Columbia, on Economic Development, 9:30 a.m., room to be announced.

April 26, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, on the Bureau of Reclamation, 10 a.m., 2362–B Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Interior, on the Forest Service, 10 a.m., B–308 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education, on the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Office of Educational Research and Improvement and the Office of Bilingual and English Language Minority Affairs, 10 a.m., on the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services, 2 p.m., and on the Office of Vocational and Adult Education, 3 p.m., 2358 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Transportation, on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 2 p.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, April 26, Subcommittee on Military Installations and Facilities, on the conditions of military facilities and their effects on readiness and quality of life, 10 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, April 26, to mark up H.R. 10, Comprehensive Retirement Security and Pension Reform Act of 2001, 10:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, April 25, hearing on the Internet Freedom and Broadband Deployment Act of 2001, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Priorities of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Reflected in the Fiscal Year 2002 Budget,” 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, to mark up the Internet Freedom and Broadband Deployment Act of 2001, 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, April 25, Subcommittee on International Monetary Policy and Trade, hearing on U.S. Policy towards the African Development Bank and the African Development Fund, 1:30 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity, hearing on the budget of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform, April 24, Subcommittee on Energy Policy, Natural Resources and Regulatory Affairs, hearing on “Paperwork Inflation—Past Failures and Future Plans,” 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

April 25 and 26, full Committee, hearings on “Austism—Why the Increased Rates?—A One Year Update,” 11 a.m., on April 25 and 10 a.m., on April 26, 2154 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy, and Human Resources, hearing on “The Role of Community and Faith-Based Organizations in Providing Effective Social Services,” 2 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Technology and Procurement, hearing on “FTS 2001: How and Why Transition Delays Have Decreased Competition and Increased Prices,” 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on House Administration, April 25, hearing on Election Reform, 10 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on International Relations, April 25, Subcommittee on East Asia and the Pacific, hearing on After Hainan: Next Steps for US-China Relations, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

April 25, Subcommittee on Europe, hearing on The U.S.-European Relationship: Opportunities and Challenges, 1:45 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, April 24, Subcommittee on the Constitution, oversight hearing on “State and Local
Implementation of Existing Charitable Choice Programs," 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Crime, oversight hearing on "Federal Prison Industries," 10 a.m., 2237 Rayburn.

Committee on Resources, April 25, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, oversight hearing on "BLM and Forest Service Oil and Gas Permitting," 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

April 25, Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 427, to provide further protections for the watershed of the Little Sandy River as part of the Bull Run Watershed Management Unit, Oregon; H.R. 434, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into a cooperative agreement to provide for retention, maintenance, and operation, at private expense, of the 18 concrete dams and weirs located within the boundaries of the Emigrant Wilderness in the Stanislaus National Forest, California; and H.R. 451, to make certain adjustments to the boundaries of the Mount Nebo Wilderness Area, 3 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

April 26, Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation and Public Lands, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 37, to amend the National Trails System Act to update the feasibility and suitability studies of 4 national historic trails and provide for possible additions to such trails; H.R. 640, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area Boundary Adjustment Act; and H.R. 1000, William Howard Taft National Historic Site Boundary Adjustment Act of 2001, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

April 26, Subcommittee on Water and Power, oversight hearing on Maximizing Power Generation at Federal Facilities, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Rules, April 24, to consider the following measures: H.R. 503, Unborn Victims of Violence Act of 2001; and H.J. Res. 41, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States with respect to tax limitations, 5:30 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

April 25, to consider H.R. 1088, Investor and Capital Markets Fee Relief Act, 2 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Science, April 25, hearing on Proposed R&D Budget for 2002, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing on Department of Energy Fiscal Year 2002 Budget Request, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.


April 25, Subcommittee on Aviation, oversight hearing on FAA’s Capacity Benchmarks, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

April 25, Subcommittee on Railroads, oversight hearing on Railroad Infrastructure Policy, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

April 26, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing on H.R. 1407, to amend title 49, United States Code, to permit air carriers to meet and discuss their schedules in order to reduce flight delays, 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, April 24, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on Patient Bill of Rights, 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

April 26, Subcommittee on Human Resources, hearing on Rainy Day Funds, 10 a.m., B–318 Rayburn.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, April 25, executive briefing on Hot Spots, 2 p.m., H–405 Capitol.

April 26, executive briefing on China Overview, 1 p.m., H–405 Capitol.
Next Meeting of the SENATE  
9:30 a.m., Tuesday, April 24, 2001  
  
Senate Chamber  
Program for Tuesday: Senate will begin a period of morning business and may begin consideration of S. 1, to extend programs and activities under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.  
(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)  

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
2 p.m., Tuesday, April 24  
  
House Chamber  
Program for Tuesday: Consideration of Suspensions:  
(1) H.R. 428, Concerning the participation of Taiwan in the World Health Organization; and  
(2) H. Res. 113, Support events such as the “Increase the Peace Day”.

Congressional Record  
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