

SA 2600. Mr. CARPER (for himself and Ms. COLLINS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3090, to provide tax incentives for economic recovery; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place insert the following:

SEC. . . . MODIFICATIONS APPLICABLE TO QUALIFIED SMALL BUSINESS STOCK.

(a) REDUCTION IN HOLDING PERIOD.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1202(a) is amended by striking “5 years” and inserting “3 years”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Subsections (g)(2)(A) and (j)(1)(A) of section 1202 are each amended by striking “5 years” and inserting “3 years”.

(b) REPEAL OF MINIMUM TAX PREFERENCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 57(a) (relating to items of tax preference) is amended by striking paragraph (7).

(2) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Section 53(d)(1)(B)(i)(II) is amended by striking “, (5), and (7)” and inserting “and (5)”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to stock issued after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 2601. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1731, to strengthen the safety net for agricultural producers, to enhance resource conservation and rural development, to provide for farm credit, agricultural research, nutrition, and related programs, to ensure consumers abundant food and fiber, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . REVIEW OF STATE MEAT INSPECTION PROGRAMS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the goal of a safe and wholesome supply to meat and meat food products throughout the United States would be better served if a consistent set for requirements, established by the Federal Government, were applied to all meat and meat food products, whether produced under State inspection or Federal inspection;

(2) under such a system, State and Federal meat inspection programs would function together to create a seamless inspection system to ensure food safety and inspire consumer in the food supply in interstate commerce; and

(3) such a system would ensure the viability of State meat inspection programs, which should help to foster the viability of small establishments.

(b) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September 30, 2003, the Secretary of Agriculture shall conduct a comprehensive review of each State meat and poultry inspection program, which shall include—

(1) a determination of the effectiveness of the State program; and

(2) identification of changes that are necessary to enable the possible future transition to a State program of implementing a State meat and poultry inspection program that enforces the mandatory antemortem and postmortem inspection, reinspection, sanitation, sanitation, and related titles of the Federal Meat Inspection Act and the Poultry Products Inspection Act. (including the regulations, directives, notices, policy memoranda, and other regulatory requirements issued under those titles);

(c) COMMENT FROM INTERESTED PARTIES.— In designing the review described in subsection (a), the Secretary of Agriculture shall, to the maximum extent practicable, obtain comment from interested parties.

(d) FUNDING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 13, 2001, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on “Housing and Community Development Needs in America.”

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, December 13, 2001, at 3 p.m., to hold a hearing titled, “Contributions of Central Asian Nations to the Campaign Against Terrorism.”

Agenda

Witnesses

Panel 1: The Honorable Elizabeth Jones, Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs, U.S. State Department, Washington, DC. Additional witnesses to be announced.

Panel 2: Witnesses to be announced.

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Thursday, December 13, 2001 at 9 a.m. to hold a hearing entitled “Riding the Rails: How Secure is our Passenger and Transit Infrastructure?”

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a markup on Thursday, December 13, 2001, at 10 a.m. in Dirksen Room 226.

Tentative Agenda

Nominations: Callie V. Granade to be U.S. District Court Judge for the Southern District of Alabama; Marcia S. Krieger to be U.S. District Court Judge for the District of Colorado; James C. Mahan to be U.S. District Court Judge for the District of Nevada; Philip R. Martinez to be U.S. District Court Judge for the Western District of Texas; C. Ashley Royal to be U.S. District Court Judge for the Middle District of Georgia; Michael Battle, to be U.S. attorney for the Western District of New York; Christopher J. Christie,

to be U.S. attorney for the District of New Jersey; Harry E. Cummins, to be U.S. attorney, for the Eastern District of Arizona; David Preston York, to be U.S. attorney, for the Southern District of Alabama; Mauricio J. Tamargo to be Chair of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States.

Bills: S. 1174, Children’s Confinement Conditions Improvement Act of 2001 [Leahy/Hatch/Kennedy]; H.R. 1892, Family Sponsor Immigration Act of 2001; H.R. 2277, To provide for work authorization for nonimmigrant spouses of treaty traders and treaty investors; H.R. 2278, To provide for work authorization for nonimmigrant spouses of intracompany transferees, and to reduce the period of time during which certain intracompany transferees have to be continuously employed before applying for admission to the United States; H.R. 1840, to extend eligibility for refugee status of unmarried sons and daughters of certain Vietnamese refugees; H.R. 861, To make technical amendments to section 10 of title 9, United States Code; H.R. 2048, To require a report on the operations of the State Justice Institute.

Resolutions: S.J. Res. 8, A joint resolution designating 2002 as the “Year of the Rose” [Landrieu/Breaux/Lincoln/Bayh/Feinstein]; S.J. Res. 13, A joint resolution conferring honorary citizenship of the United States on Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, also known as the Marquis de Lafayette [Warner/Allen/Kerry/Breaux/Helms/Sessions/Roberts/Jeffords/Inhofe/Leahy].

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet to conduct a closed business meeting on Thursday, December 13, 2001 at 3:30 p.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Strategic of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, December 13, 2001, at 10 a.m., in open and closed session to receive testimony on the security of U.S. nuclear weapons and nuclear weapons facilities.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Strategic of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, December 13, 2001, at 2:30 p.m., in open and closed session to receive testimony on the security of U.S. nuclear weapons and nuclear weapons facilities.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY, TERRORISM
AND GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Technology, Terrorism and Government Information be authorized to meet on Thursday, December 13, 2001, at 2 p.m. in Dirksen 226, to conduct a hearing on "Protecting Our Homeland Against Terror: Building a New National Guard for the 21st Century."

Panel I: Senator Christopher S. "Kit" Bond, Co-Chair, National Guard Caucus, United States Senate.

Panel II: Lieutenant General Frank G. Libutti (Retired), Special Assistant for Homeland Security, Office of the Secretary of Defense, United States Department of Defense; Lieutenant General Russell C. Davis, Chief, National Guard Bureau, Arlington, VA; Major General Richard C. Alexander (Retired), Executive Director, National Guard Association of the United States, Washington, DC; Major General Paul D. Monroe, Jr., Adjutant General, California National Guard, Sacramento, CA.

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

INCLUSION OF AFGHAN WOMEN IN
INTERIM ADMINISTRATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 191 submitted earlier today by Senators BOXER, BROWNBACK, and others.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 191) expressing the sense of the Senate commending the inclusion of women in the Afghan Interim Administration and commending those who met at the historic Afghan Women's Summit for Democracy in Brussels.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD, with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 191) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The text of the resolution is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN
ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL RE-
CONSTRUCTION OF AFGHANI-
STAN

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to Calendar No. 279, S. Con. Res. 86.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 86) expressing the sense of Congress that women from all ethnic groups in Afghanistan should participate in the economic and political reconstruction of Afghanistan.

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

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

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 86) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 86

Whereas until 1996 women in Afghanistan enjoyed the right to be educated, work, vote, and hold elective office;

Whereas women served on the committee that drafted the Constitution of Afghanistan in 1964;

Whereas during the 1970s women were appointed to the Afghan ministries of education, health, and law;

Whereas in 1977 women comprised more than 15 percent of the Loya Jirga, the Afghan national legislative assembly;

Whereas during the war with the Soviet Union as many as 70 percent of the teachers, nurses, doctors, and small business owners in Afghanistan were women;

Whereas in 1996 the Taliban stripped the women of Afghanistan of their most basic human and political rights;

Whereas under Taliban rule women have become one of the most vulnerable groups in Afghanistan, accounting for 75 percent or more of all Afghan refugees;

Whereas a study conducted by Physicians for Human Rights and released in May 2001 indicates that more than 90 percent of Afghan men and women believe that women should have the right to receive an education, work, freely express themselves, enjoy legal protections, and participate in the government; and

Whereas restoring the human and political rights that were once enjoyed by Afghan women is essential to the long-term stability of a reconstructed Afghanistan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) a portion of the humanitarian assistance provided to Afghanistan should be targeted to Afghan women and their organizations;

(2) Afghan women from all ethnic groups in Afghanistan should be permitted to participate in the economic and political reconstruction of Afghanistan; and

(3) any constitution or legal structure of a reconstructed Afghanistan should guarantee the human and political rights of Afghan women.

PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE
FAMILIES AMENDMENTS OF 2001

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consideration of Calendar No. 227, H.R. 2873.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2873) to extend and amend the program entitled Promoting Safe and Stable Families under title IV-B, subpart 2 of the Social Security Act, and to provide new authority to support programs for mentoring children of incarcerated parents; to amend the Foster Care Independent Living program under title IV-E of that Act to provide for educational and training vouchers for youths aging out of foster care, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, the Senate is passing the House bill to reauthorize the Safe and Stable Families Program. This is necessary action to protect funding that is fundamental for promoting adoptions and preventing child abuse and neglect. By acting today, the Senate can secure \$1.5 billion over the next 5 years for vital priorities. It would be wrong to leave Washington without taking action to ensure long-term support for such vulnerable children.

Earlier this year, I joined with Senator MIKE DEWINE and a bipartisan group in introducing an even better legislative package to boldly expand this vital program. Our bill, which was based on President Bush's own proposal, would have increased the basic funding for the Safe and Stable Families Program from \$305 million to \$505 million of guaranteed annual funding. This would have provided an additional \$1 billion over the next 5 years, including \$60 million in funding for scholarships for teens aging out of foster care. It would also have provided authority to create a new program designed to mentor the children of prisoners. I truly wish we were moving the Senate bill today, but since that is not possible, I believe enacting the House bill is essential for the long-term security of this program.

The House version provides a 5-year reauthorization of the Safe and Stable Families Program. The House bill also authorizes scholarships for teens aging out of foster care and new programs for mentoring children of prisoners.

Thanks to the leadership of Senators HARKIN and SPECTER, there is a \$70 million increase in this year's Senate Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations. That is good news for families who need adoption support services and prevention services. I am proud of this increase, and enormously grateful for the support and cooperation of the Appropriations Committees in both the House and Senate.

Throughout my years of legislative work on child welfare, I have worked hard to forge bipartisan compromise and consensus. I strongly believe that we must maintain such bipartisanship. The best news is that we have more money to provide more services to families next year. But the challenge remains for us to work and achieve the goals of the original Senate bill and President Bush's proposal. I remain