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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. The Reverend David E. Paul, Pastor, First United Methodist Church, Clewiston, Florida, offered the following prayer:

Our Heavenly Father, we come to You with grateful hearts for the daily evidence of Your love. You are always with us. You are always available to us.

There are times, Lord, when we ignore You and Your guidance. Forgive us. Forgive us when we stray away from the ideals and goals You have given our great Nation. Enable us to forgive ourselves and each other.

We thank You, Lord, for Your guidance and Your love. We thank You for the trust our citizens have given these persons. This trust, along with Your presence, strengthens and enables them to have the courage to deal with the hard decisions that face them.

We pray for those today who need a special sense of divine love, whose lives need encouragement and peace.

Sustain our Nation and guide the House of Representatives as it seeks to do Your will.

In Christ’s name, Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day’s proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker’s approval of the Journal. The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed. The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to welcome Dr. David Paul and his wife, Judy, to the House Chamber this morning. I join my colleague, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS), in this great honor:

Dr. Paul is a third generation Floridian. He was born in Miami, Florida, in 1946; and he is a graduate of Miami Senior High School and the University of Florida, Go Gators.

He is a true spiritual leader rooted in Florida.

An accomplished trombone player, Reverend Paul played with the Savannah Symphony Orchestra for a number of years before attending the Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky, where he earned his master of divinity degree and doctor of divinity.

After 10 years in Kentucky, Dr. Paul again regained his senses and returned to Florida where he has served churches in Eustis, Groveland, Clewiston and Lake City.

I know the community in Clewiston was very sad to see Reverend Paul head to Lake City, but one community’s loss is another’s gain; and I am sure he will have the same impact in Lake City that he had for us in Clewiston.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2621. An act to provide a definition of vehicle for purposes of criminal penalties relating to terrorist attacks and other acts of violence against mass transportation systems.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 106–170, the Chair on behalf of the Republican Leader, after consultation with the Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Finance, announces the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Advisory Panel—

Vincent Randazzo of Virginia, vice Stephanie Lee Smith, resigned; and Katie Beckett of Iowa, for a term of four years.

WELCOMING THE REVEREND

DAVID E. PAUL

Mr. FOLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I object.

RECOGNIZING THE STEP AHEAD TO SUCCESS FARMWORKER YOUTH PROGRAM

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I recognize the Step Ahead to Success Farmworker Youth Program and congratulate the program’s 2002 graduates. I want to especially commend the program’s director, Maria Garza, and Miami-Dade County Manager Steve Shiver, whose tireless efforts have made this program a great success.

Since its inception in late 2000, the program has provided 275 at-risk young...
people from farmworker families with services to help develop their academic, social, and safety skills. In Miami-Dade, 50 young people have received leadership training and FCAT tutoring and have participated in several community service activities.

One amazing young man, Jose Rodriguez, came to the program with a 1.2 grade point average and was behind credits for graduation. But the program helped Jose to improve his grade and to spend for financial help, graduate on time; and he will soon begin to serve our country upon finishing the Marine Corps basic training on July 27.

I want to thank all of the dedicated workers of the Farmworker Youth Program for their unending devotion to these children.

CODE ADAM

(Mr. LAMPSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I will digress again from my stories about Ludwig Koons, whom we desperately need to find, to say a few words about the largest child safety program in the Nation, known as Code Adam.

The answer is yes. The gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and I are joining together to urge Members to support a resolution to encourage retailers across the Nation to adopt a special child safety alert program known as Code Adam.

Code Adam works. Since 1994, it has been a successful preventive tool against child abductions and lost children in more than 25,000 stores, making it the largest child safety program in the Nation. Code Adam is a special alert issued through the store’s public address system when a customer reports a missing child. The measure was established in 1994 and named in the memory of 6-year-old Adam Walsh whose abduction from a Florida shopping mall and murder in 1981 brought the horror of child abduction to national attention.

We owe it to the kids of America to do everything that we can to ensure their safety. Join us in supporting this important resolution. Bring our children home.

COST OF GOVERNMENT DAY

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, June 29, this Saturday, will be Cost of Government Day. What does that mean? It is the date on which the average American worker has earned enough gross income to pay off his or her share of tax and regulatory burdens imposed by all levels of government, either Federal, State, or local. Currently Neva-dans must work on average 179 days just to meet all the costs imposed by govern-ment.

ECONOMIC REFORMS NEEDED

(Mr. DeFAZIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DeFAZIO. Headline: “WorldCom Says Its Books Are Off By $3.8 Billion.” Hey, we all make mistakes. $3.8 billion. The stock market is going to tank again today. The dollar is in a headlong decline. It seems like it would be a no-brainer for the House of Rep-resentatives to plug a few tax loopholes; mandate, mandate, by God, tough accounting reform; put a few of these crooked CEOs in jail, prosecute them, pursue them endlessly. Let us have real protection for stockholders, employees, pension plans. But no. It is needed, it seems like a no-brainer, but it ain’t going to happen here because the House Republican leadership is too busy collecting campaign funds from some of the same firms and CEOs that are defrauding Americans and the stock market.

The American people need to focus and demand meaningful reforms before this disaster spirals totally out of control and drives the U.S. economy into a full blown financial crisis. No more sham reforms of pensions, no more sham prescription drug benefits, no more shams on the Tax Code. Let us do some meaningful work here and try and fix the problems with America’s econ-omy.

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN

(Mr. RYUN of Kansas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RYUN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to strongly urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4965, the par-tial-birth abortion ban. Since 1995, a ban on this horrendous procedure has been passed three times by both the House and the Senate. Unfortunately, due to vetoes by President Clinton, the practice continues today. In the par-tial-birth abortion procedure, the baby is literally delivered before being brutal-ly killed. The vast majority of par-tial-birth abortions are performed on healthy babies and healthy mothers. In fact, according to the American Medical Association, a partial-birth abor-tion is never needed to protect the health of a woman and can even lead to additional serious health risks.

Although language banning this procedure has been struck down in the past by the Supreme Court, this new legislation has been tailored to address the Court’s concerns.

Partial-birth abortion is infanticide. It is crucial that we act on the wishes of the American people and outlaw this dangerous and gruesome procedure once and for all.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

(Mr. GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GREEN. Mr. Speaker, Congress cannot wait a minute longer for a prescription drug benefit under Medi-care. Our seniors have been in need for far too long. Unfortunately, they will be very disappointed with the plan that will be presented by the Republican majority either this week or after the Fourth of July break. With its high deductibles, fluctuating premiums and gaps in coverage, the Republican plan hardly provides any benefit at all.

But the biggest problem with their plan is that it relies on the insurance industry to work. Their plan is the first step in their long-term effort that they have been trying to do to privatize Medicare.

Let us face it. The insurance indus-try just does not work for seniors. As we have seen with the Medicare+Choice program, private health insurance companies cannot make a profit with the health care demands of our seniors. That is why Medicare was created in 1965. It is foolish to believe that private drug plans will be able to do any better.

We need to take profit out of the equation and create a prescription drug plan that is run by Medicare, just like hospital visits and doctors visits. It is time to stop wasting money on failed experiments and put the money where we know it will work, in a drug benefit under Medicare.
to one of the most barbaric acts known to mankind. Amazingly, this barbaric act is perfectly legal in the United States of America. This horrible act of violence is called partial-birth abortion. Actually it is a procedure in which a baby is partially delivered, the doctor actually reaches in and turns the baby for a breech birth, and then is killed in a procedure too horrible to describe.

Congress has voted twice to make it illegal, but the previous President vetoed it both times. Today we have a new President who will do the right thing and make partial-birth abortion illegal, but first we have to send him the bill.

We in the House will have the chance to vote on this bill later this summer, and we will do the right thing. It will be up to the other body to act. No one knows what they will do.

It is time to make partial-birth abortion illegal. It should have been illegal long ago.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE
(Mr. WYNN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I do not know how you measure greatness in the modern world, but if in fact America is the greatest country in the world, then it seems to me we ought to be able to provide prescription drug coverage to our seniors. Unfortunately, the Republican prescription drug plan that is going to be brought to the floor is best symbolized by the hole in the doughnut, too much cost for too little coverage when compared with the Democratic alternative.

Take a look at the premiums: the Democratic alternative, $25 fixed in statute, The Republican premium, not in statute, fluctuates. It may be $35. It may be $85. Probably at least $90.

GLARING INADEQUACIES IN REPUBLICAN PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN
(Mr. BROWN of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, last Friday morning, while most Americans were still asleep, the Republican plan to create a drug benefit was pushed with brute force through the Committee on Energy and Commerce. While the Republican plan has too many flaws to mention in 1 minute, its most glaring inadequacy is that it makes no provision for dealing with the outrageous prices Americans pay for prescription drugs.

Apparently, Republicans and their corporate sponsors in the brand-name drug industry do not believe high prices are a problem. Yet last year, prices for the 50 most prescribed drugs for seniors have risen three times the rate of inflation, and the prices for some popular drugs rose by 10 times the rate of inflation.

Last week I sought to introduce an amendment that would have reduced drug prices for all Americans by reducing patent abuse and enhancing market competition. But the Republican leadership, which loves to champion the virtues of the free market, would not even let the Committee on Commerce consider the amendment.

If we need another reason, another reason to oppose the Republican plan, which was written by and for the big drug companies, let it be known that the Republican plan does absolutely nothing to reduce drug prices.

DEFEND REPUBLICAN SHAM PRIVATIZATION PRESCRIPTION DRUG BILL
(Mr. TIERNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, Republicans appear addicted to drug company money. Why else would they try to fool the American people with a plan written with the drug companies that fails to cover over 90 percent of seniors, that insurance companies say they will not participate in because it is good only for the wealthiest seniors with the highest drug costs, that would have seniors pay out of pocket $3,800 per year, and that does nothing to lower the cost of prescription drugs? In fact, the Republican bill so distrusts the President's Secretary of Health and Human Services that it forbids him to negotiate lower prices for seniors.

Speaker, this Republican sham bill is just an attempt to privatize prescription drug coverage in the same way they tried to privatize Social Security. It will not help most seniors, and it will not work.

So while Republicans are busy cutting taxes for less than 1 percent of the wealthiest estates in America, they trade off real prescription drug coverage, saying it is too expensive; and they offer a sham bill.

The Democrats have a plan to cover seniors. It is affordable, it is accessible to all seniors, it allows the Secretary to negotiate lower and fairer prices, and it is real.

Mr. Speaker, let us defeat the Republican sham privatization bill and pass the Democrats' real deal for seniors.

PASS REPUBLICAN PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN
(Mrs. CAPITO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, the House Prescription Drug Action Team and other leaders have been working very hard to provide a plan for a prescription drug benefit to all seniors. We have had many listening sessions, and we have crafted a meaningful prescription drug benefit. We need to pass this plan now, especially for women and our seniors.

Women make up more of the population over the age 65 because women actually live, on average, 7 years longer than men. If we look at a snapshot of Americans aged 85 and older, nearly three-quarters of these are women. But they are not just living longer; they have smaller incomes and have fewer financial resources to take care of their pharmaceutical needs.

Women are almost twice as likely as men to have incomes below $10,000, and two-thirds of Medicare beneficiaries with annual incomes below the poverty level are women. Fewer financial resources and greater longevity are key reasons why Congress needs to pass this prescription drug plan now.

Under this act, men and women under the age of 65 will benefit from substantial discounts.

Mr. Speaker, we need to pass this plan now for all seniors, but especially for our women.

DIRECT LINK BETWEEN ENERGY POLICY AND NATIONAL SECURITY
(Mr. BLUNT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)
minute and to revise and extend his remarks.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, the conference on our energy bill passed in this House almost 1 year ago today is beginning soon. American consumers sent Iraq and Saddam Hussein more than $1.4 billion for oil in the first 4 months of this year. This is a corrupt regime that pays the families of homicide bombers $25,000 for their attack on innocent victims in Israel. We are at war, and depending on Saddam Hussein for the fuel that powers our war on terrorism is untenable.

Mr. Speaker, there is a direct link between energy policy and our national security. That is why more than 80 percent of Americans want us to pass a comprehensive energy plan that protects our national security while strengthening our economy.

In 1992, we imported 32 percent of our energy. In 1999, nearly 60 percent of our energy is imported. We need an energy policy. The conferences on the energy bill begin meeting tomorrow. I urge them to bring us legislation to increase our energy independence, create jobs, and strengthen our economy, Mr. Speaker.

SUPPORT THE MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT AND DISCOUNT ACT

(Mr. LANGEVIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, Congress must add meaningful prescription drug benefit for Medicare. Prescription drugs can cost as much as $500 per month; and in Rhode Island alone, 200,000 seniors lack drug coverage.

A study I commissioned last year found that the uninsured elderly in the district of Rhode Island pay an average of 78 percent more for the most commonly used prescription drugs than do seniors in foreign countries.

That is why I support the Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit and Discount Act which adds a new part D in Medicare that provides voluntary prescription drug coverage for all beneficiaries. It includes a premium of just $25 a month, which would be subsidized for low-income seniors. It has a $2,000 out-of-pocket limit per beneficiary per year.

In contrast, the Republican plan would require high out-of-pocket costs for seniors while offering low benefits. We must ensure that seniors do not have to choose between food or rent and getting their prescriptions filled. We must provide meaningful drug coverage.

SUPPORT FISCALLY-RESPONSIBLE REPUBLICAN PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN

(Mr. FLETCHER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, the Washington Democrats, once again are misleading the American people on the debate over necessary prescription drug coverage for our seniors. To illustrate to my Democrat friends how our plan will help States, Kentucky has 615,000 Medicare beneficiaries and 50 percent of these citizens are below the 175 percent of poverty level. In Kentucky, a study estimates that State Medicare savings under the Republican-proposed prescription drug benefit would be $549 million in the fiscal years 2005 through 2012.

In a time when seniors and State governments are experiencing financial difficulty, our plan provides seniors with an affordable prescription drug benefit to Medicare and immediate savings. States also benefit by saving millions of dollars in Medicaid beneficiary costs over the next several years.

Mr. Speaker, this plan is the only fiscally-responsible choice for both seniors and government and should be supported next week when it comes to a full vote in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The Democratic plan remains an $800 billion boondoggle; and I encourage, as we continue this debate, full support of the Republican plan.

OMNIBUS CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY AND RESTORATION ACT

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, I come from Texas. Texas, for too long, has been a rollcall of the corporate elite violating the laws of this Nation and throwing America’s investment community into a sense of doubt and shame.

It is time now to take a very forceful and firm stand against corporations that violate the law and hurt the American people, people who have lost their pensions, people who have lost everything, people who are unable to pay for their rent, their mortgages, their college tuitions of their children.

Mr. Speaker, I intend to offer the Omnibus Corporate Responsibility and Restoration Act. Once and for all, it is an omnibus bill that gets rid of insider trading, that provides us a firewall between accounting firms that consult and do accounting, that protects the pension plans of this Nation, and protects employees who can be taken advantage of by a company filing bankruptcy and then terminating thousands of employees.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to stand up against corporate criminal activity.

SUPPORT REPUBLICAN PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN

(Mr. SULLIVAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, seniors in the first district of Oklahoma and across America cannot afford the rising cost of prescription drugs. In order to cover those prescription drugs for a single meal, some turn off their air-conditioning, and some consume half the prescriptions that they need.

Without a doubt, I believe the Republican prescription drug plan is the only plan that will give our seniors prescription drug coverage they need at a cost that the Nation’s budget can afford.

The Republican prescription drug plan provides a two-tiered approach that allows seniors to start saving on their prescription drug bills immediately. By grouping seniors together, Medicare can negotiate discounts from manufacturers. This is projected to save seniors about 10 to 20 percent upon the signature of the President.

The second part of the plan will come as a comprehensive and voluntary Medicare-based prescription drug benefit. The Republican plan will significantly reduce the costs of prescriptions and give seniors an average of 70 percent of their out-of-pocket drug costs.

The House Republican prescription drug plan will work for seniors today, tomorrow, and for the rest of their lives. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4598, HOMELAND SECURITY INFORMATION SHARING ACT

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 458 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. Res. 458

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XX, refer the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4598) to provide for the sharing of homeland security information by Federal intelligence and law enforcement agencies with State and local entities. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against a consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour, with 40 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill. Each section of the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against a substitute amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. During consideration of this bill for amendment, the Chair of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether
The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin). The gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Georgia, or from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS), my colleague and friend, pending which I yield myself such time for consumption. Due consideration of this resolution, all time is for purposes of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, the legislation before us is an open rule providing for the consideration of H.R. 4598, the Homeland Security Information Sharing Act. This is a fair rule that will allow thoughtful discussion on a topic that has become crucial to our national security.

I do not think there is anything controversial in any way about any of the elements of the rule, which were so well read by the Clerk, and I do not think there is any point in repeating all of that.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good open rule on an important subject. Dealing with information sharing is critical to our ability to prevent bad things from happening in homeland America. That is the challenge that is before us today. I believe the chairman and the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Security of my Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBILSS) and the gentleman from California (Ms. HARMAN), for their work on this timely piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, this bill starts us down a road that we must travel to make sure all our forces are cooperatively engaged for national security. H.R. 4598 would promote the sharing of critical homeland security threat information between Federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies with State and local officials in place to protect and defend the American public.

Can Members imagine how much safer our country can be if local first responders like police officers and sheriffs have Federal information at their fingertips that enables them to pinpoint the locations of terrorist evildoers before tragedies occur?

Mr. Speaker, this bill may not provide a crystal ball that forewarns us of every and all bad things looming in the future, but it gives us a tool for transmitting known facts and information about terrorist activity to capable, authorized people who are in position to act on the front lines across America. As the tragic events of September 11 have caused us to reevaluate how we go about protecting our Nation and our people. We are dealing with a visionary new homeland security structure, we are dealing with necessary reform at the FBI, we are dealing with 9-11 reform, we are dealing with the reorganization of the intelligence community, and some inevitable changes in our intelligence community capabilities and management.

So we have a great many things on our plate. But, in the meantime, there is no reason why we should not, and every reason why we should, support a good rule and a good piece of legislation that will help us get some interim activity that will heighten safety for all persons, child very young to child very old in this country. That is something that we all want.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, the gentleman from the eastern coast, I mean west coast, of Florida, the distinguished chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, for yielding time to me. Since he almost put me in Georgia, I decided to put him on the east coast of Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this rule and in support of the underlying bill, the Homeland Security Information Sharing Act. I am proud to have worked with the Subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Security chairpersons, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBILSS) and the ranking member, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HARMAN), on this bill; and I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4598 requires Federal intelligence agencies to share relevant homeland security information with designated local police and emergency first response personnel. Furthermore, this bill instructs the Director of Central Intelligence and the Attorney General to draft guidelines for the dissemination of information. All such information and the systems used to disseminate it are to be open to Federal intelligence, Federal law enforcement, and congressional review.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is timely indeed. At a moment when State and local law enforcement and emergency response personnel are being forced to prepare for unprecedented threats to the safety and security of their communities, they cannot be left in the dark. Local first responders must have access to critical information about any terrorist threats in order to adequately serve their communities.

A footnote right here, and a compliment to the distinguished chairperson of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and, in the other body, the Senator from Florida who chairs the concomitant committee in the Senate, for having sponsored a program in Orlando that I was fortunate enough to attend with both of them that deals specifically in part, or dealt with, in part, the facts having to do with first responders and local communities.

I think to the extent that Florida will become a bellwether State, the beacon light was shed by the information that was provided at that conference due to the two chairs of the intelligence community. I, for one, as a Floridian and as a Member of this body, am grateful and indebted to them.

Mr. Speaker, while some may be concerned that this legislation greatly widens the pool of those with access to homeland security information, let me note that this bill provides very adequate safeguards to protect the rights of individuals and groups. For example, the bill protects constitutional and statutory rights of individuals by requiring that any information that is shared must not be used for any unauthorized purpose. Similarly, the information sharing procedures mandated by the bill must ensure the security and confidentiality of information as well as redact or delete obsolete or erroneous information.

Last, this legislation, like the PATRIOT Act before it, brings with it new modes of intelligence sharing and new congressional oversight responsibilities. Just as we are compelled to increase our intelligence-sharing capacity in the wake of the tragedy of September 11, so, too, are we compelled to ensure that these new government powers do not erode our precious civil rights and civil liberties.

Again, for all of the reasons I have just outlined, I support this bill and I support this fair time rule which allows its consideration today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am from the west coast of Florida. We will get this right. Florida is south of Georgia. The gentleman from the east coast of Florida just made an eloquent speech for which I am most grateful. I appreciate the kind remarks. I will return them from the west coast of Florida to the east coast of Florida.

It was always a privilege to have the gentleman on our Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence look forward to his return. We enjoy working with him on the Committee on Rules, in the meantime. It is a different kind of work than the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).
Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the distinguished gentleman from Florida and the distinguished gentleman from Georgia. I want to thank them. I will soon be reprieved on the floor. I am using my time. Let me thank the two distinguished gentlemen from Florida for their leadership on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, let me applaud the proponents of this legislation, particularly in the testimony they gave before the Committee on the Judiciary, of which I am a member. I want to add my support to the rule and am gratified that it is an open rule.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues that I think one of the more important points that we can make as we move toward making this country a safer place to live, and recognizing that we have turned the page of history on September 11, is the ability to share viable and important information with our local responders, if you will, or the local leaders that will provide the home-based security.

With that in mind, I intend to offer an amendment, a friendly amendment, that I hope my colleagues will consider favorably, and that is to ensure procedures that will allow the information from government whistle-blowers to be able to be shared within the confines of the regulations that may be designated by the President of the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, I hope in this context we will recognize that information may come from a variety of sources, and we would hope the President would then design for us the best way that that information should be shared. The idea is to make sure that our Nation is safe, to do it with cooperative and collaborative efforts, but also to protect the integrity of the information we need to secure our homeland.

This amendment, as I said, is offered in a friendly context to recognize the importance of information that comes from those who would be willing to provide us the truth. I think as we move forward we have all determined that the key element for safety involves finding out the facts and the truth.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the remarks of my colleague, the gentleman from the east coast of Florida (Mr. HASTINGS). Actually, we do note there is an east and west, we are one State together, and proud to know each other.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered. The resolution was agreed to. A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, first of all, I would like to thank the distinguished chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence for the great work that he and the ranking member, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. Pelosi), have done in leading the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, not just post-September 11, but even before that.

The gentleman from Florida (Mr. Goss) has been a very level-headed individual, who has carried us forward in some difficult times as it relates to dealing with our intelligence community; and since September 11 he has particularly provided the strong leadership that this Congress needed and that this Nation has needed in order to be able to ensure the American people that Congress and our intelligence community is doing everything we possibly can to ensure that another act like September 11 never occurs again.

Since September 11 of last year, Congress has enhanced the capabilities of the Federal, State and local officials to prepare and respond to acts of terrorism. In sharing information, key to cooperation and coordination in homeland security, and it has become abundantly more clear that better information sharing among government agencies and with State and local officials needs to be a high priority.

The intelligence community of the Federal Government does a great job of gathering information on terrorist activity, but we do a very poor job of sharing that information both horizontally and vertically within our agencies and with State and local officials.

In the public hearings which our Subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Security held last September and October, we heard a recurring theme from witnesses ranging from New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani to Oklahoma Governor Frank Keating. They stressed the importance of an increased level of information sharing between Federal intelligence and law enforcement agencies and local and State law enforcement agencies.

Governor Keating even told us a story about his State Adjutant General, a gentleman that he appointed, who informed the governor he could not share some information with him because, as governor, he did not have the right security clearance.

The case in Oklahoma is no exception. These same types of communication gaps exist in every State, including my home State of Georgia. The result is that sheriffs and local officials do not have the same information as the governor, who does not have the same information as the FBI, who does not have the same information as other local officials.

As we fight this war on terrorism, we must make certain that relevant intelligence and sensitive information relating to our national security be in
the hands of the right person at the right time to prevent another attack and more needless loss of life. Critical homeland security information which Federal agencies and departments collect need to be quickly disseminated to State and local law enforcement officials to play their roles in protecting our communities.

For these reasons, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HARMAN) and I, along with several of our colleagues, including the leadership of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence as well as the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER), the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Crime, introduced the Homeland Security Information Sharing Act.

This bill will help to eliminate the stovepipes that exist in the intelligence and law enforcement worlds with respect to sharing of vital information and will assist officials across government to communicate with each other. Our bill will increase the level of cooperation between State, local and Federal law enforcement officials. Only when these organizations begin communicating on a more regular basis and sharing the information that they have with each other in relevant communities can we begin to effectively prepare for and defend ourselves against future attacks.

I have traveled all across my State of Georgia and listened to the concerns of many of our community leaders and emergency responders, and I am more convinced than ever that we must pass this legislation. Our police officers, our firefighters, our sheriffs and other local emergency officials need to be informed about the threats that may exist to their communities.

Georgia sheriffs like John Cary Bittick County, who serves as the president of the National Sheriffs Association, or Bill Hutson of Cobb County need to know when there is information relevant to their community that will help them do their jobs better and prevent any type of terrorist attack. This bill has the support of all major law enforcement groups and other organizations of local officials.

The events of September 11 left us staring into the eyes of our own shortcomings. In the days following, we began to connect the scattered and vague messages that in hindsight seemed to point to the devastation, but hindsight is 20-20. Now we must take the information and move forward. We must act, and our bill will go a long way toward helping our law enforcement officials protect us by giving them the tools they need to better protect us.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Chairman, I thank the distinguished chairman of the subcommittee for yielding.

I wanted to take just a second to briefly thank publicly the chairman of the subcommittee and the ranking member, the vice chairman of the committee, for their extraordinary work on behalf of our Nation on the subject of terrorism and homeland security.

This really was the first body in Congress that dealt with this subject after the tragic events of 9-11. They have done an amazing job of gathering material, having the right kind of hearings, talking to the right type of people.

We have a report that I guess is going through classification review or something at this point to make sure we can get as much as possible available to the public as we can do, but this has been hard work. It has been well managed, and it shows Congress doing something positive when there is a critical need for the people of the United States.

So I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the gentleman from California (Ms. HARMAN), and thank them very much for the fine work. They do the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence proud.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for his remarks.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOEMER. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HARMAN) be allowed to manage the time on this bill. She is one of the valuable members of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and one of the key authors, along with the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS).

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Indiana?

There was no objection.

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) with whom I have had a long and productive partnership on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. I would also like to thank the chairman of the full committee for the comments he just made. He is graceful, he is competent, he is bipartisan, and I think much of the progress that we have been able to make on this problem and many others has to do with the kind of leadership he exhibits as the chairman of the full committee, and I really want to say to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS) that I am one of his biggest admirers.

For those wondering, Mr. Chairman, what Congress’ response to the intractable problem of information sharing is, the answer starts with this vote. I am pleased to speak on behalf of H.R. 4598, the Homeland Security Information Sharing Act of 2002.

I introduced this legislation with the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Security, some months ago. This bill, like our subcommittee, is a bipartisan effort, and I appreciate his cooperation and real leadership.

Our subcommittee held a hearing last October in New York City to learn the first lessons of the September 11 tragedies. Former Mayor Rudy Giuliani testified that our critical priority should be to get information on terrorist activities to mayors and local responders. In addition, the National League of Cities has several first responders and my governor, Gray Davis of California, agree and support this effort to get information into the hands of those who need it; and not only to get the information there but, hopefully, to give them information on what to do in the event of a terrorist threat or terrorist attack.

That is what our bill does. It directs the President to create new procedures to share information on terrorist threats across the Federal government and down to the local government and first responders. Afterotions are put in place, police, fire, public health, EMTs and other first responders will know when the FBI or the CIA has critical information on a threat to their communities.

Governor Tom Ridge, in talking about the new Department of Homeland Security, says all the time that homeland security begins with hometown security, and that is what we are talking about. This information will empower the local communities to protect themselves.

The information will supplement the administration’s homeland security advisory system by giving responders actionable information. If, for example, the CIA uncovers a threat to California’s suspension bridges, that threat information will be relayed to the governor, mayors, to police, to Coast Guard and transportation officials in California. Local teams can then react in a systematic, intelligent way to prevent the threat and notify the public appropriately.

The Homeland Security Information Sharing Act recognizes two realities, that sharing of information is more effective when unclassified and that we do not need to reinvent the wheel.

Intelligence on terrorist threats collected by our intelligence community will be classified. The first responders, the feet on the ground, do not need to know how it was collected. They need to know what to do with it. That is why the bill relies on stripping the sensitive sources and methods and transmitting the information through unclassified means.

Not only does this get critical information out to our States and cities, it also learned the lessons of the September 11 tragedies. It prevents leaks of classified information, and it saves every police and fire department
Mr. Chairman, I urge our colleagues to support H.R. 4598. It is the right bill at the right time. We take the step towards solving the problems we faced on 9-11 today. It starts with this bill. It starts with trust. I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) for authoring the bill with me.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. ROGERS), a former FBI agent.

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank the gentleman from Georgia for yielding me the time to commend him on his work and his leadership on this issue, and I have to tell him, as an agent who worked in the field, next to the PATRIOT Act and I think at equal stature is this bill. I think the bill is that important to the future security of the United States of America. I want to again applaud him from every agent in the field who is struggling to make a difference today. This bill will make a difference for the safety and security of this Nation.

I want to tell this story. We often forget, and sometimes in this town we are so quick to find a villain we forget about finding the solution. Over time what we have done to the agents in the field was, and we would hear the arguments, well, they are not cooperating because one agency thinks they are better than the other. Simply not so.

When we were agents, there are barriers that were put in place that prohibited the communication of information to local law enforcement officials. I had a case as a new agent where I was able to work a State police officer undercover into a group of self-proclaimed anarchists who were going to do some damage by building bombs and delivering those bombs to kill Federal judges in institutions owned and operated by the Central Intelligence Agency.

Here is the dichotomy we got into. Because of the information we were developing, in this case, we were allowed by law, by rule, to share some of the information that we were developing with the very agent who was risking his life from the State police to go undercover to help us solve it. We had meetings with general counsel and a room full of lawyers trying to figure out if this was the right thing and what information could we or should we, and we always erred on the side of caution, saying we better not share that information.

This bill helps eliminate those very ridiculous rules that for years put fear in the agents who are trying to do the right thing. That is why this bill is so important. This bill will get to the agents there through their own good judgment and common sense to deliver the information that they need and they know they need to deliver to our local law enforcement, our local sheriff offices, our local State police institutions, other Federal agencies. This bill will make that difference and will take down the fear that these agents have of losing their jobs or worse, in some cases losing everything they have through the way in which they do their jobs.

This bill is that important, Mr. Chairman, and I, again, I cannot tell my colleague, from the agents that I have talked to, how important this bill is and what freeing ability this is going to have to them to in a responsible way communicate the kinds of information that is going to make it safer for firefighters and EMT folks out there, for emergency room workers who are going to deal with some of these tragedies, for every level of law enforcement in this country.

This is that last bastion, that last hurdle that is going to stop us from doing good things. Had this bill been in place, we could have shared a lot of information with the State police and maybe even broadened our net a little bit and protected him to a degree that we really were not allowed under the law to do when I was an FBI agent.

Again, I would hope that this body would have quick action on this bill and make it law. We of all, from the minority to the majority party, who worked so hard on this bill to make a difference for this country and the agents that are doing the work.

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to my colleague, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROEMER), who is a member of our subcommittee and one of our hardest-working partners on issues like these.

(Mr. ROEMER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Chairman, I want to first of all commend the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HARMAN) for their hard work on this bipartisan legislation. The gentleman from Georgia has been a leader from his position on the subcommittee, and California has shown dogged determination and real intellectual insight in helping craft this legislation and putting it forward before this body, and thank her for her hard work.

This is important for our rural and urban communities that want to partake in preventing terrorism in the future, and so I rise in strong support of this legislation and thank the Chairmen of the Committee on the Judiciary, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENIBRENNER) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS), and particularly the gentleman from New York (Mr. WEXNER), for their support in helping improve the legislation as well.

My reading of this legislation, Mr. Chairman, reveals that it is quite simple and quite productive in what it does. It says to the President of the United States that he must help us devise a system to share information from the Federal, national, level with our local communities.

We have seen some of the problems in communication between the FBI and between the local community field offices, and this will help change the culture and deal with the hurdles and some of the barriers that have been put up in the past to make this system work better in the future. I also see that the President has two steps that he can take in devising this system: one is to declassify information, to declassify this information and, therefore, make it more shareable, if that is a word, a better sharing system between the local communities. Secondly, is to provide clearances for the local community so that they can get this information, glean from it, get it out, and hopefully prevent the next terrorist act from happening.

I think this is very important, very intelligent; and I think the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HARMAN) have really come up with a very good system to share information, to declassify this information, to declassify this information and, therefore, make it more shareable, if that is a word, a better sharing system between the local communities.

The second question is how do we devise this system for the homeland security department to actually implement this in the future? The more information we get out there on these emerging questions, the integration questions, the intelligence and analytical questions for the homeland security department, the more we have to move intelligently and wisely to get it right, rather than having to move to get it done by September 11.

This is a very, very big question for us in the future, and I hope that this...
legislation will help us move forward to get the homeland department right in the future; and so again I congratulate the gentlewoman from California and the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. SENSENBERGREN. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, this country is at war against a craven enemy: terrorists. Their main purpose is to kill Americans, whether they are babies or the elderly. We know that this enemy is living here in the United States as well as abroad.

As a result, this country is at war with no borders or fronts. Thus, it will often be the first responders, local police, firefighters, emergency responders, that will confront this enemy when we are threatened or attacked at home.

First responders, however, cannot adequately prepare and respond to such threats without receiving appropriate threat information. Nor will the Federal Government be able to respond appropriately without receiving information from State and local officials. We must have a comprehensive information-sharing system that involves all levels of government.

In order to better be able to prevent, disrupt, and respond to a terrorist attack, the Federal Government must improve, first, information sharing; second, analysis of the information; and, third, coordination. All three are interrelated and are vital for a strong homeland security system.

Congress recognized the information-sharing problems immediately after 9-11 and passed the U.S.A. PATRIOT Act that provided for enhanced investigative tools and improved information sharing for the Federal law enforcement and intelligence communities. The enhanced law enforcement tools and information-sharing provisions have assisted in the prevention of terrorist activities and crimes which further such activities.

To protect privacy, the PATRIOT Act, first, limited disclosure to foreign intelligence and counterintelligence information, as defined by statute; second, restricted disclosure to only those officials with the need to know the information in the performance of their duties; and, third, maintained the limits on public or other unauthorized disclosure.

To protect privacy, the PATRIOT Act, first, limited disclosure to foreign intelligence and counterintelligence information, as defined by statute; second, restricted disclosure to only those officials with the need to know the information in the performance of their duties; and, third, maintained the limits on public or other unauthorized disclosure.

What the PATRIOT Act did not do was address the need to share homeland security information with State and local officials. The process by which Federal agencies share information with State and local officials is complicated due to the classified and sensitive nature of much of the information and the need to provide the States and localities with this information in an expedient manner.

This bill helps to address this perplexing issue. This important legislation was reported out of the Committee on the Judiciary on June 13, 2002, after an extensive markup. It requires the President to establish procedures for Federal agencies to determine the extent to which classified and unclassified, but sensitive, information may be shared with State and local officials on a need-to-know basis.

To share this information with State and local officials, Federal agencies must use information-sharing systems that are capable of transmitting both unclassified and classified information in a restricted manner to specified subgroups and the information is accessible to the appropriate State and local personnel and Federal agencies.

During consideration of H.R. 4598, the Committee on the Judiciary adopted an amendment to ensure that the new procedures contained adequate privacy protections. The bill directs the President to include conditions in the procedures that, first, limit the redissemination of such information to ensure that the information is not used for an unauthorized purpose; second, ensure the security and confidentiality of such information; third, protect the constitutional and statutory rights of any individuals who are subject to such information; and, fourth, provide data integrity, thereby removing and destruction of obsolete or erroneous names and information.

Additionally, the committee adopted an amendment which was a modified version of H.R. 3285, the Federal Local Information Sharing Partnership Act of 2001, a bill introduced by the New York delegation. This amendment extends the information-sharing provisions in the PATRIOT Act to State and local officials. Federal officials cannot share surveillance and intelligence information with State and local officials. This amendment allows for such sharing.

Current law does allow a Federal Government attorney to disclose, with a court order, grand jury information to State and local officials related to Federal criminal law matters. The amendment expands the type of grand jury information available for sharing to include reporting to foreign intelligence, foreign counterintelligence, foreign intelligence information, and domestic threat information. Domestic threat information is not covered in the U.S.A. PATRIOT Act. This information needs to be covered, but often it is not clear as to whether threats result from international or domestic terrorism. The amendment also authorized Federal criminal law information to be shared with foreign officials with court approval.

The amendment contains safeguards against the misuse of grand jury information. The information may only be used in the course of preventing and responding to a threat. Additionally, recipients may only use the disclosed information in the conduct of their official duties as is necessary, and they are subject to the restrictions for unauthorized disclosures, including contempt of court.

State and local officials will be the first to respond to a terrorist attack. It goes without saying that the Federal Government must be able to provide homeland security information to those officials. H.R. 4598, as amended, will help to disseminate homeland security information quickly and efficiently while protecting classified access and methods.

This legislation is vital to improving homeland security, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY).

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Chairman, let me first thank the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary for that outstanding explanation of the bill, and I thank my colleagues, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) for his expert opinion on this issue and his hard work and dedication, and I want to take a moment to single out two Floridians.

There has been a lot of concern about terrorist activities in our country, and some people have been second-guessing some of our great agencies. There have been some notable Floridians, Senator Bob GRAHAM and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. Goss), who are Chair of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence on the House side and the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence on the Senate side, and I have to thank those gentlemen for their thoughtful handling of this information and the way they have been able to work together as colleagues across the aisle and across the Chambers in trying to develop a comprehensive terrorism strategy and a homeland security strategy.

I also want to applaud the agencies themselves. It is time that America lifts up its heart and wishes the best for every agency and every American, rather than the cynical second-guessing of people and the Monday morning quarterbacking and the reflections in the rear-view mirror. Let us look forward as a Nation to provide for the common defense, to protect our communities, to salute the fine men and women who make up these agencies. Let us not sit here and have a pity party. Let us work together.

I also want to commend the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HARMAN), who has done a tremendous job explaining on national television some of the intricacies of what we are dealing with. I know my constituents are very, very pleased and proud when they see Democrats and Republicans explaining to the American public what we are doing relative to homeland security, to give us security, to make us feel better, and to also let us know we are fighting terrorism.

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Bishop), another member of our committee, and I will also thank him for his leadership, and, at the same time, thank my colleague from Florida for his kind comments.
Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of this bill, H.R. 4598.

Mr. Chairman, the great failure of September 11 was our failure to methodically analyze and share among our Federal and local authorities critical information, including foreign intelligence and grand jury information, consistent with the Justice Department and CIA agency guidelines.

Mr. Chairman, transparency must be the goal of any homeland security proposal. This legislation fulfills our responsibility to the American people by providing authorized professionals with the best, safest, and most accurate information available in the most efficient manner possible.

Mr. SENSENBERGER. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security of the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I thank the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBERGER), for yielding me this time.

Mr. Chairman, H.R. 4598, the Homeland Security Information Sharing Act, was approved by the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security on June 4 and by the full Committee on the Judiciary on June 13.

This bipartisan bill was introduced by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Security of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HARMAN), the ranking member of that subcommittee.

Mr. Chairman, America must have a comprehensive information exchange system that will allow those on the front line, our State and local officials, to detect and prevent a terrorist attack. H.R. 4598 helps to create just such a system.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS), a cosponsor of this legislation.

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Chairman, I thank the Gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Chairman, I rise not only as a cosponsor of this bill and also supporter of the bill but also to urge my colleagues to support this vital legislation as we see the threat available in this body. There has been a growing theme, Mr. Chairman, that Congress must take this opportunity to address the lack of information sharing among some of our Federal agencies.

As a member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, I have heard testimony about how some of these agencies do not share information in a way that best protects our homeland. To put it another way, not all of our Federal agencies connect internally, some agencies, like the FBI, may connect some of the dots, the CIA may connect some of the dots, and the Border Patrol and Customs may connect some of the dots. But if all of our efforts fail to present a complete picture, we are likely to face a tragedy perhaps worse than those we faced on September 11.

The current stovepipe barriers that prevent timely information sharing among our intelligence agencies and the local authorities are nothing new. Our Nation's history has communication sharing among our national security agencies been as imperative nor as important as it is today.

While information sharing horizontally must improve, our local law enforcement and first responders demand that we achieve vertical integration in information sharing as well.

As we have all heard from our constituents back home, the first responders are the people who play key roles in protecting the communities in which they serve. Our police, firefighters, and medical personnel must be informed of the threats that exist within their communities so they are able to protect and those in their communities.

H.R. 4598 ensures that information sharing, both horizontally and vertically, exists by directing the President, to develop procedures by which Federal agencies will share security information with State and local personnel.

Further, it ensures that information-sharing systems have the capability to transmit classified and unclassified information.

Finally, it safely and responsibly provides authorized State and local officials access to certain types of sensitive information, including foreign intelligence and grand jury information, consistent with the Justice Department and CIA agency guidelines.

Mr. Chairman, transparency must be the goal of any homeland security proposal. This legislation fulfills our responsibility to the American people by providing authorized professionals with the best, safest, and most accurate information available in the most efficient manner possible.
Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Tierney).

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise to support a bill to help local officials and our emergency responders better prepare and protect our communities. I am a proud cosponsor of H.R. 4598, the Homeland Security Information Sharing Act.

We need this bill so we can promote the sharing of critical homeland security threat information between Federal agencies and State and local officials, including our first responders. We need to do this for the families who lost loved ones on September 11 and in the October anthrax attacks, for the American people who expect us to protect them, and for our children so that future generations can grow up in a free and open society.

We can and must do so while protecting people’s constitutional rights and civil liberties by requiring that any information that is shared must not be used for any unauthorized purpose, and that the procedures must ensure the security and confidentiality of the information, as well as remove or delete obsolete or erroneous information.

I cosponsored this bill because first responders from across my district have contacted my office asking for the means to receive credible and specific threat information in order to prevent or respond to terrorist attacks. The fact is, our local first responders face real threats. They need real information and real resources to protect our communities.

This bill is an important first step. It says we will be full partners in this action against terrorism. The partnership is critical in protecting communities and saving lives.

We all agree that, since September 11, America’s heroic first responders have risen to the occasion, protecting communities as the first line of defense against terrorism. In my district, as across America, they have marshaled the resources to track down leads on potential terrorist threats, to buy more equipment, from upgraded weapons to technology to biohazard suits and masks. They have increased hazmat training for handling suspicious packages and stepped up patrols around potential targets like water and gas supplies, power plants, harbors and airports.

Now it is time for us to step up and help them. While our first responders appreciate our praise, they do not need our rhetoric. They need our information, and they need resources. This bill is the first step to allow that to happen. We need to press the administration to release direct funding to local first responders and to give them credit for $1.5 billion already spent in this effort.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chairman, I rise on behalf of the Committee on the Judiciary to claim the time for the minority.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Without objection, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) is recognized for 10 minutes.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. WEINER).

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS), the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT), the gentleman from California (Ms. HARMAN), and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) for helping bring this bill to the floor.

We do not have to look far into the realm of the hypothetical to see why this bill was necessary. When anthrax was found at the NBC building at New York City several months ago, the Department of Health was not notified. The New York City Police Department was not notified. In fact, the Police Commissioner and the Mayor found out by watching television news.

We do not know to this day why local authorities were not notified, but we can figure it out by reading the current laws of the land. We were told it was probably a Federal agency, probably the FBI that was notified, and since they might have found out about this information via a wiretap or grand jury testimony, they were prohibited by the law of the land from even letting New York City know.

Imagine if it were even worse than that anthrax attack. Imagine if in the course of a wiretap about some other related case, someone says, “This deal is going to go down tomorrow in the New York City subway system. We are going to release sarin gas,” or “We are going to try to derail a train.” Can you imagine if it were the FBI alone, since they gathered the information and were prohibited by law in the way they gathered it, going into every subway station and trying to figure out where they should be to stop this? We do not want to go down and try to figure out a way to navigate that threat on their own.

There is a reason, perhaps, that these prohibitions were in place. Maybe there is concern, and it is a valid one, about having information that comes as very sensitive falling into the wrong hands. That is why the bill that the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HARMAN) have drafted is so vital. The Attorney General does not have to turn over every piece of information, does not have to say, “Well, we have a box of grand jury information. Let’s give it to every sheriff’s department that might be implicated.” And it does at least allow them to do it if need be.

Mayor Giuliani before he left office approached this Congress and spoke
publicly about the need to have this
information in certain circumstances. He said, “We need the information, and we
need it right away. Otherwise, we are
going to make a terrible, critical mis-
take.” What Mr. Giuliani was talking about is a mistake of omission, exclud-
ing from the discussions information people who needed the information.

I share the concerns that some raised
in committee that we do not want this
information to chip away at the con-
fidentiality of the grand jury. We do not
want to wind up information falling into
the wrong hands. But at the very
least, if someone runs into the Attor-
ney General’s office with a hot piece of
information of an impending threat, I
would hate to have the Attorney Gen-
eral’s counsel say, “Boss, you can’t let
the City of Detroit know about this.
You can’t let a locality that might need to know about this know about it.”

This is what this seeks to address. There has been a great deal of talk
about the way we need to get different
levels of government connecting the
various dots. This piece of legislation
does it better than anything we have
done previously.

Mr. CHAMBLS. Mr. Chairman, I
yield myself such time as I may con-
sume just to commend the gentleman
from New York for his real insight into
the practicalities of this issue. His
amendment which was filed in the
Committee on the Judiciary was read-
ily accepted by the gentlewoman from
California (Ms. HARMAN) and myself be-
cause it gets right to the core of the
practical problem out there and also
allows for additional information to be
redacted, declassified and get in the
hands of the right people at the right
time and within real time. I commend
the gentleman for his insight and for
his thoughtfulness on this issue. His
particular amendment will go a long
way toward saving additional lives of
Americans.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance
of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am de-
lighted to yield 2 minutes to the gen-
tleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT), a
valued member of the Committee on the
Judiciary.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Chairman, I thank
the gentleman for yielding me this
time. I want to thank the gentleman
from Georgia, the gentle-
woman from California and the gen-
tleman from New York for their hard work on this
legislation.

It is absolutely necessary, Mr. Chair-
man, to provide a mechanism for
meaningful communication of sensitive
information to local and State officials
so they can take appropriate action to
protect citizens from terrorist attacks.

Much of this information will, by ne-
cessity, be sensitive, often derogatory
information, which will put people
without the target of the information
ever being able to respond. For public
safety reasons, we have to be able to
communicate what is known, but we
need to make every effort to ensure
that this information is circulated just
to those who actually need it and not
spread all over town so that the chances
are increased that someone’s
neighbors or friends who happen to
come across it and their agencies might
see it unnecessarily.

This bill, because of the hard work
of those involved, strikes that appro-
priate balance. It is slightly different
from the Senate version of the bill.
We have done away not only with the let-
ter of the law but also reflect the bi-
 partisan spirit by which this bill was
developed.

Again, I want to thank the gentle-
woman from California, the gentleman
from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS),
Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr.
Chairman, I thank the gentleman for
yielding me this time. I rise in support
of this legislation.

In the days following September 11, Congress acted very quickly to pass the
PATRIOT bill. Some of us thought that
some of the provisions in that bill per-
haps overstepped the bounds, and some
of us voted against it because we were
concerned about its implications for
individual liberties. In the days since,
what has happened I suspect is that it does not do any good for the
CIA and the FBI and Federal law en-
forcement agencies to have informa-
tion that would help us combat ter-
rorism and respond to it without bring-
ing local law enforcement and agencies
into the equation and sharing that in-
fomation with them, not necessarily
the full ambit of the information that
we have but, subject to certain guide-
lines, sharing that information with them.

When this bill came before the Com-
mittee on the Judiciary, some of us ex-
pressed concerns and offered an amend-
ment that would put some parameters
around this second-stage process of
sharing information with local authori-
ties. The Committee on the Judiciary
added language which I think is abso-
lutely critical to this bill which would
make sure that the information limits
the redissemination of such informa-
tion to ensure that such information is
not used for a nefarious purpose,
to ensure the security and confiden-
tiality of such information, to protect
the constitutional and statutory rights
of any individuals who are subjects of
such information, and to provide data
integrity through the timely removal
and destruction of obsolete and erro-
nous names and information so that
people who are just kind of generally
suspicious would not have their whole
orography published. I think the result
of information that was shared with
local authorities even though they
might not be guilty of anything or
even involved in anything either di-
rectly or indirectly.

I rise to support this legislation and
to point out one or two matters that I
think are very important. That is, as a
member of the Committee on the Judi-
ciary, the concern, as my colleagues
have already mentioned, with the pres-
servation of the sanctity of the grand
jury testimony or of grand jury testi-
mony, recognizing the importance now
even more past September 11. The hor-
rific acts of September 11 certainly, as
I have said often, turned the page as to
how we do business in America, but
certainly now even more after that
time frame, after the attack, if you
will, of anthrax, we have come to un-
derstand the viability and the impor-
tance to first responders and the local
communities.

This legislation confirms for us that
there must be exchange, there must be
dialogue on the issues of homeland se-
curity, on the issues of information,
but we must be reminded that, as we go
forward, it is important for the Presi-
dent, the administration, the executive
branch, to define and determine how
that information on the Federal level is
discerned and interpreted and trans-
mitted.

I offered amendments in the larger
body that I believe help to enhance this
legislation. I look forward to offering a
prospective amendment as well that
was proposed but not offered. When I say proposed, there was an interest in but it was not put forward at the committees. But I will say that the language that adds public health security in the bill is important, that it ensures that those who are involved in public health security will have the information and as well the emphasis or the adding that rural and urban communities, those first responders there, will be particularly not highlighted but noted that those areas have to have an opportunity to receive information in a balanced way throughout the Nation.

I would offer to support this legislation with the constraints that it has and applaud the proponents of this legislation as well as the distinguished chairman and ranking member of the Committee on the Judiciary.

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I think this has been a very useful debate and would just like to underscore several points.

First of all, as my coauthor, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), has said, the House Committee on the Judiciary has made a substantial contribution to this bill. We have heard from the gentleman from New York (Mr. WEINER), the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WATT), the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT), the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBEINER) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH). There are a number of issues that they have had concerns about, and a number of changes they have made to this legislation when it went through their committee. I just want to salute them for a very constructive contribution to making this legislation better.

Second, I would like to underscore the importance of bipartisanship. This is a constant refrain of mine. I represent a very bipartisan district. I have often pointed out that I do not believe the terrorists will check our party registration before they try to blow us up. Therefore, it is absolutely critical that we face the problems of homeland security as American problems, not as partisan problems. This legislation certainly does this. It was introduced virtually unanimously by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and that was a very good beginning. I believe that the best legislation we produce here is bipartisan, and I think this is it. I also want to salute again the really very special leadership of the chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. Goss). His style is enormously productive on that committee, and I think his experience is enormously helpful to us as well. He sets an environment in which people like the gentleman from Georgia and I can be our most productive in this Congress.

The third point is that homeland security is a bottom-up problem, not a top-down problem. As we continue to consider the department of homeland security concept, which I support as an original cosponsor of the bill introduced by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEE), we need to remember that the point is not the best arrangement of the deck chairs, the point is how to empower our first responders and all Americans to have the critical information they need to know what to do.

This bill is all about that. It is about making sure that the beginning of the process is empowered. I think it is one of the most important contributions we can make and very consistent with what our subcommittee heard at the first hearing after 9-11 in New York City.

Many are saying that we do not really need a department of homeland security because it does not fix the real problem, which is the lack of collaboration between the CIA and the FBI, which are not formally moved over to that new department. I do not think they should be moved, but I do agree there is a real problem and that problem is about information sharing. This bill addresses that problem.

Finally, let me say that if we think about what the major problems are in our effort to develop an effective strategy for homeland security, information sharing is certainly one. The other big one we do not address here, but it is a big one that we will address I hope shortly, is interoperability. Our first responders need information, but then they need to be able to talk to each other, to communicate in real-time with all of those who are with them trying to deal with whatever the threat is, hopefully to prevent it or disrupt it, but if I hope that soon we will also take up that important issue.

On that point, Mr. Chairman, I would mention to our colleagues that Governor Ridge was very prescient testifying before the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on which I serve. We talked about that issue. He does support the notion of bridging technologies, and there are existing technologies to deal with that point.

So for all of these reasons, Mr. Chairman, I think we have good legislation here. It was made better by the Committee on the Judiciary; it was made better by bipartisanship. It really embodies the process. It helps deal with the problems between the FBI and the CIA, and it is one of the major problems that we have to address. I would like to salute my colleague and partner, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. ROGERS), and do thank him for his efforts on this bill. I urge the strong and, I hope, unanimous support of this body for this legislation.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As we conclude our general debate on this bill, I too would like to, first of all, recognize and thank the great leadership that we have had from the Committee on the Judiciary, from the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBEINER), the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS), the ranking member, to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH), the chairman of the subcommittee, and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT), the ranking member of that subcommittee.

We have had an open dialogue on this issue, an issue that all of us, irrespective of what party or what side of that party one comes from recognizes that this is a bill about what it takes to make America safer and what it takes to assist our law enforcement officials and ensuring that we do, as the President says, eradicate this war on terrorism.

I also want to thank again the gentleman from Florida (Mr. Goss), our chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and the sergeant at arms, Mr. MANZUCCI, for their strong leadership. Their cooperation helped us move this forward. I particularly want to say thanks to my ranking member, the gentleman from California (Ms. HARMAN). She has already stated a number of times in what a bipartisan way we have worked, and we truly have. She provides good, strong leadership, advice and council; and she has been a great asset to the committee, and she has been an even greater asset to the subcommittee. It is unfortunate that the bipartisan attitude that we have on our subcommittee does not translate over to all of the work that we do in this committee; we would probably get a lot more done. But I do thank her for the great work she has done and the great cooperation she has given us here.

Mr. Chairman, this is a major piece of legislation. I do not think we can say that enough. Enough of the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. ROGERS) mentioned a little bit earlier, if he had had this piece of legislation in place 8 years ago, it would have gone a long way toward helping him solve a particular crime against the United States of America when he, as a special agent of the FBI, was handicapped. The laws are in place today regarding the ability to share information with our State and local jurisdictions.

This is the first step in moving to establish and restructure the Government of the United States and to create the Department of Homeland Security. We cannot guarantee the prevention of another attack of terrorism, do not believe that enough.

Finally, let me say that we cannot guarantee the prevention of another attack of terrorism, but without legislation such as the Homeland Security Information Sharing Act, we certainly raise the chances of the possibility of another act of terrorism occurring.

Again, I applaud the great support from a bipartisan standpoint that we
have had as this bill has moved through the process. I urge all of my colleagues to support this measure.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased that the Homeland Security Information Sharing Act of 2002 is before the House.

Let me begin by complimenting the chairman and ranking Democrat of the Subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Security, Mr. CHAMBLISS and Ms. HARMAN, for the work they have done on this legislation. In the weeks leading up to September 11, they have been tireless advocates for ensuring that barriers to information sharing between federal, state, and local officials be eliminated. This legislation is an important result of their leadership. It also has benefitted greatly from the work of the Intelligence Committee through the guidance of Chairman SENSENIBRENNER, Ranking Democrat CONYERS, and the efforts of Mr. WEXNER.

The bill directs the President to develop procedures for federal agencies to share information with state and local personnel. Its purpose is to ensure that any systems set in place have the capability to transmit classified and unclassified information as needed to respond locally to any terrorist threats that may arise. It is important to note, too, that the legislation is flexible, providing a broad framework within which to design information sharing mechanisms, but leaving to him many of the mechanics of how best to do so. It also requires the President to report back to Congress in 1 year on whether additional changes are necessary. Thus, this bill sets up a framework that is workable within any homeland security architecture that may be established this year.

This important measure will strengthen the Nation’s ability to prevent future terrorist attacks. I urge its enactment by the House.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the leadership for bringing up legislation to address the need for sharing of critical homeland security information among federal intelligence agencies, state and local governments, and first responders. As a member of the Intelligence Committee, I have collaborated with Representative CHAMBLISS and Representative HARMAN to make sure that all levels of government receive the same homeland security information so our local law enforcement agencies and first responders have the proper information to protect us.

The attacks of September 11 obviously exposed some communication weaknesses among our intelligence and law enforcement agencies and now is the time to forward and analyze what went wrong, and more importantly how we can make changes to protect our country from future terrorist attacks. As a member of the Joint Senate-House Intelligence Committee reviewing September 11, I am looking forward to our overall intelligence apparatus in context of the September 11 attack and how we can improve the system. The most important goal is to find the best intelligence solutions to ensure our homeland is secure and all domestic agencies are coordinated, communicating, and cooperating with each other.

H.R. 4598 directs that critical threat information be shared between federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies with state and local personnel, including granting security clearances to appropriate state and local personnel.

I strongly support the President’s proposal to reorganize our homeland security agencies and enhance information sharing. H.R. 4598 will immediately strengthen our homeland security apparatus while the new Department is being implemented by directing the President to develop procedures by which the federal agencies will share homeland security information with state and local personnel and ensures that these systems have the capability to transmit classified or unclassified information.

I urge quick passage of this important legislation. Let’s provide all of our federal, state, and local officials timely homeland security information that can be used to better protect all Americans.

Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. Chairman, Coordination and information sharing among federal, state and local authorities may be the single most important thing we can do to enhance our ability to respond to a terrorist threat. This point is reiterated to me in every meeting I have had with law enforcement personnel, firefighters, public health officials and state and municipal leaders in my district since September 11. We need communication. We need cooperation. We need coordination among federal agencies, but also with our people in the field.

In my role on the Democratic Homeland Security Task Force, I have spoken with many first responders about their concerns. They say the same thing. The Federal Government simply does not pass information down the chain to the local level to the extent that is so necessary. And this fact can continue no longer. The Federal Government relies on state and local personnel to protect our Nation against these threats. It would be unconscionable if we didn’t help them to do their job to the best of their ability. And the ability to do their job effectively relies on the information they receive.

I think H.R. 4598, the Homeland Security Information Sharing Act, is an important step toward developing and ensuring an effective strategy for truly protecting the United States. We simply need to get information into the hands of those who need it, and this bill does that. We’ve heard from many that “Hometown security equals homeland security.” This legislation gets past the catchphrases and jingles, and actually does something. This will empower our states and local communities to protect themselves, and in turn protect our Nation.

I urge my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chairman, I am happy to speak in support of this legislation which would provide for information sharing between federal and state and local authorities.

I believe that state and local officials with this type of information ultimately will help them detect and prevent future acts of terrorism. State and local personnel are the most likely individuals to intercept terrorists—as demonstrated by the detainment of Ahmed Ressam on the Canadian border and the routine traffic stop of the 9/11 terrorists by a Maryland state trooper. As we have learned in the last several weeks, if we had shared more information before the attacks, we may have been able to more aggressively intervene against the terrorist plot.

The legislation will also help state and local officials prepare an appropriate response to future attacks. Every act of terrorism is local—occurring in a neighborhood, city or state near you or someone you know. Often times, officials at the state and local level are first-line responders to these attacks.

The bill is not perfect. The more broadly information is shared, the greater the danger it will be improperly disclosed. I think we all agree that the last thing we want is for the newly shared information to be used to harm an innocent person’s reputation. As we move forward, we should take a close look at whether sufficient safeguards are in place that will prevent improper disclosure from happening.

The bill, in its current form, offers us a good starting point to improve our nation’s defenses against terrorism. It is critical that our law enforcement agencies talk with one another so that the right hand knows what the left hand is doing. I strongly urge its prompt passage.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased this bill takes important steps to strengthen homeland security by ensuring workable procedures and systems are designed within the federal government to facilitate information sharing. With sharing of critical security information among federal, state, territorial and local officials. Further, I am especially pleased that the bill ensures that the territories are included. We must ensure that information critical to homeland security is shared between important federal agencies and the territorial governments of American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Homeland security concerns apply for all Americans, irrespective of whether they reside in the 50 states or U.S. territories. Towards this end, I am pleased to support H.R. 4598, and I look forward to receiving the President’s report required by this legislation to help determine what additional measures are needed to increase the effectiveness of sharing information among all levels of government. I hope this report will assess the needs of the territories and not just the 50 states.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the bill shall be considered by sections as an original bill for the purpose of amendment, and each section is considered read.

During consideration of the bill for amendment, the Chair may accord priority in recognition to a Member offering an amendment that he has printed in the designated place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Those amendments will be considered read.

The Clerk will designate section 1. The text of section 1 is as follows:

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act may be cited as the “Homeland Security Information Sharing Act”.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. Are there amendments to section 1?

The Clerk will designate section 2. The text of section 2 is as follows: SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE. (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:
(1) The Federal Government is required by the Constitution to provide for the common defense, which includes terrorist attack.
(2) The Federal Government relies on State and local personnel to protect against terrorist attack.
(3) The Federal Government collects, creates, manages, and protects classified and sensitive but unclassified information to enhance homeland security.
(4) Some homeland security information is needed by local personnel to prevent and prepare for terrorist attack.
(5) The needs of State and local personnel to have access to relevant homeland security information must be reconciled with the need to preserve the protected status of such information and to protect the sources and methods used to acquire such information.
(6) Clearances to certain State and local personnel is one way to facilitate the sharing of information regarding specific terrorist threats among Federal, State, and local levels of government.
(7) Methods exist to declassify, redact, or otherwise adapt classified information so it may be shared with appropriate State and local personnel homeland security information that remains classified or otherwise protected after the determinations prescribed under the procedures set forth in subsection (a).
(8) It is the sense of Congress that such procedures may include one or more of the following means:
(A) Carrying out security clearance investigation, with respect to appropriate State and local personnel.
(B) With respect to information that is sensitive but unclassified, entering into nondisclosure agreements with appropriate State and local personnel.
(C) Increased use of information-sharing partnerships that include appropriate State and local personnel, such as the Joint Terrorism Task Forces of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Anti-Terrorism Task Forces of the Department of Justice, and regional Terrorism Early Warning Groups.
(D) The procedures prescribed under this section, information obtained by a State or local government from a Federal agency under this section shall remain under the control of the Federal agency, and a State or local law authorizing or requiring such a government to disclose information shall not apply to such information.
(E) With respect to such information.
(F) The procedures prescribed under this section, increases use-sharing partnerships that include appropriate State and local personnel, such as the Joint Terrorism Task Forces of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Anti-Terrorism Task Forces of the Department of Justice, and regional Terrorism Early Warning Groups.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. Are there amendments to section 2?

The Clerk will designate section 3.

The text of section 3 is as follows:

SEC. 5. FACILITATING SHARING OF HOMELAND SECURITY INFORMATION.

(a) PROCEDURES FOR SHARING OF HOMELAND SECURITY INFORMATION.—

(1) Under procedures prescribed by the President, all agencies, including the intelligence community, shall, through information sharing systems, share homeland security information with appropriate State and local personnel to the extent such information may be shared, as determined in accordance with subsection (b), together with assessments of the credibility of such information.

(2) Each information sharing system through which information is shared under paragraph (1) shall:
(A) have the capability to transmit classified or unclassified information, though the procedures and recipients for each capability may differ;
(B) have the capability to restrict delivery of information to specified subgroups by geographic location, type of organization, position or title of a recipient within an organization, or a recipient’s need to know such information;
(C) be configured to allow the efficient and effective sharing of information; and
(D) be accessible to appropriate State and local personnel.

(3) The procedures prescribed under paragraph (1) shall:
(A) limit the dissemination of such information to those who have access to such information; and
(B) to prevent the unauthorized use of such information;

(4) The procedures prescribed under paragraph (1) shall:
(A) ensure that the information sharing system through which information is shared under such paragraph include existing information sharing systems, including, but not limited to, the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System, the Regional Information Sharing System, and the Terrorist Threat Warning System of the Federal Bureau of Investigation;

(5) Each appropriate Federal agency, as determined by the President, shall have access to: such information sharing system through which information is shared under paragraph (1), and shall therefore have access to all information, as appropriate, shared under such paragraph.

(6) The procedures prescribed under paragraph (1) shall ensure that appropriate State and local personnel are authorized to use such information shared under paragraph (1); and

(7) Under procedures prescribed jointly by the Director of Central Intelligence and the Attorney General, each appropriate Federal agency, as determined by the President, shall receive and assess the information shared under paragraph (1) and integrate such information with existing intelligence.

(c) SHARING OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION AND SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION WITH STATE AND LOCAL PERSONNEL.—

(1) The President shall prescribe procedures under which the extent to which the President considers necessary, share with appropriate State and local personnel homeland security information that remains classified or otherwise protected after the determinations prescribed under the procedures set forth in subsection (a).

(_Chairman pro tempore. Are there amendments to section 3?_)

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

Amendment offered by Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas:

Page 4, line 24, strike “and”;
Page 5, line 5, strike “and”;
Page 5, after line 5, insert the following:
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whether, and to what extent information by whistleblowers would be disseminated ultimately to the local authorities.

Additionally, there should be the question of making sure whistleblowers are protected. I recognize, of course, that there are multiple jurisdictions here: the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the House Committee on the Judiciary, and certainly the question of whistleblower would be a question of the jurisdiction of the Committee on Homeland Security. We know that they are addressing that now.

I believe this is an important enough issue regarding whistleblowers and regarding how information is disseminated that it should be included in the provisions where we ask the President, the executive, to give us guidance and provide this to the United States Congress. It is through whistleblowers and a source of other information that we are able to get, as Ms. Rowley has done, to help us design the appropriate kind of homeland security.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chairman, will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. I yield to the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to point out that the gentlewoman from Texas is the first to identify the importance of the whistleblower function in our system. I think it is going to be considered more carefully now that the gentlewoman has brought this to light. I thank the gentlewoman for it, and I hope it will gain wide acceptance.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I thank the distinguished gentleman.

With that, Mr. Chairman, I do want to again acknowledge the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HARMAN) for the vision and the persistence that she has had on this issue. If I might, just for an editorial comment, I think the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HARMAN) and myself and others had gathered about 48 hours, 2 days after September 11, huddled offsite, but convening the business of Congress, if you will, on these very issues; and she was raising them at that time and she pursued them, so I join her. I would be happy to yield to the gentlewoman, but I wanted to indicate my appreciation and respect for her work, along with the distinguished member from Georgia on this idea, and I wanted to bring this issue that I think is so very important to the attention of this body.

Mr. HARMAN. Mr. Chairman, will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. I yield to the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Chairman, first of all, I think whistleblowers are important and that the Rowley memo is a very important fact that has emerged since 9-11.

Secondly, in our legislation as reported, we do state that whether, how, and to what extent information may be shared with appropriate State and local personnel is up to the President. So it is not precluded here that, in an appropriate way with appropriate safeguards and privacy protections, whistleblowers information were deemed important to share with local responders could, in fact, be shared. I thank the gentlewoman for raising this issue.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the gentlewoman’s concern and the point which she is raising. She is a very valued member of this body and particularly the Committee on the Judiciary, and her opinions are well respected. It is important that as much homeland security information, whether gained from the government or elsewhere in the government, be shared with the right people at the right time in order to have our emergency responders and local officials respond to terrorist threats and activity. The gentlewoman’s amendment would specifically address information from whistleblowers.

However, let me note that we have crafted the bill in a broad and flexible fashion, as noted by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HARMAN), so that the administration can determine the appropriate procedure for sharing and disseminating homeland security information, whatever the source, whether from whistleblowers or other relevant homeland security information should be shared.

I think it is important that we retain this flexibility and focus on the original purpose of the bill, namely, to share as much appropriate homeland security information as possible with our State and local authorities.

So my objection is that we have just seen this this morning, and I hope the gentlewoman would consider withdrawing it and let us have a chance as we move into conference dialogue on this, and if we need to strengthen some provisions, obviously we will look forward to working with the gentlewoman and other members of the Committee on the Judiciary to ensure that we do so. Because we share the same concern that the gentlewoman has brought forward here. I have been open and outspoken about the fact that we need more courageous people like Ms. Rowley to make sure that not just from an oversight standpoint within Congress but from an oversight standpoint in the public and within the agency and other Federal agencies out there, that we are able to do our job correctly and appropriately.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, will the gentlewoman yield?

Mr. CHAMBLISS. I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I respect the, if you will, explanation that the distinguished gentleman from Georgia has given and the distinguished gentlewoman from California. I would not have brought this to
the attention of the body had I not had a deep concern, having met Ms. Rowley and having been involved in other circumstances with the Committee on the Judiciary in the concept of whistleblowers and the importance of providing information generally to help us be better at doing our job and the government to be better.

I appreciate the offer that has been extended. This is brought to the attention of this body not to put forward an amendment that would not draw the collective support of this body. I would like to be able to work with the staffs of the respective Members as we move toward conference, recognizing that we have language in the legislation, maybe appropriate language, that the whistleblower issue is of such importance that it requires further study.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Chairman, just reiterating to the gentlewoman, I think her point is well taken; and I think there may be some merit to strengthening it. Maybe every getting specific as the gentlewoman has done in her amendment. We will commit to the gentlewoman that we will look forward to working with her as we move into conference and dialoguing with her to make sure that we get her input into this specific area of the bill.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, if the gentleman will yield, I thank the distinguished gentleman from California and the gentlewoman from California.

Mr. Chairman, I am willing at this time to ask unanimous consent, with the idea of moving forward in consideration and study of this issue to protect whistleblowers, to withdraw my amendment.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The gentlewoman’s amendment is withdrawn.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. Are there amendments to section 3?

If not, the Clerk will designate section 4.

The text of section 4 is as follows:

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. Are there amendments to section 4?

If not, the Clerk will designate section 5.

The text of section 5 is as follows:

The text of section 6 is as follows:

The text of section 6 is as follows:

The text of section 8 is as follows:

The text of section 8 is as follows:

The text of section 9 is as follows:

The text of section 9 is as follows:
Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on passage of H.R. 4598 will be followed by 5-minute votes on H.R. 4477, on H.R. 4070, and on approving the Journal.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 422, nays 2, not voting 10, as follows:

**YEAS—422**

| Ahercrombie | Ackerman | Aderholt | Jackson (AL) | Johnson (TX) | Mica | Miller, Camp | Moran (NY) | Mollohan | Mooney | Moore | Morris (KS) | Morris (VA) | Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present. | Meehan | Meeks (FL) | Meeks (NY) | Mica | Milender- | McDonald | Miller, Dan | Miller, Gary | Miller, George | Miller, Jeff | Mink | Mitchell |
|-------------|----------|----------|--------------|--------------|------|--------------|------------|----------|---------|-------|------------|------------| Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present. | Meehan | Meeks (FL) | Meeks (NY) | Mica | Milender- | McDonald | Miller, Dan | Miller, Gary | Miller, George | Miller, Jeff | Mink | Mitchell |

**NAYS—2**

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Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi changed his vote from "nay" to "yea." So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE**

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will resume proceedings on postponed questions in the following order:
The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 4477, as amended.

The Chair read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4477, as amended, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 418, nays 8, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 259]

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[AYES—418]

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Speaker pro tempore. A recorded vote was ordered. The Speaker pro tempore.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—aye 425, no 0, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 260]

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<tr>
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[AYES—425]

So (two-thirds having voted in favor of the rules) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.
Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. Speaker, on rollover No. 26, the Social Security Program Protection Act, had been present, I would have voted “aye.”

**THE JOURNAL**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the pending business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal.

The question is on the Speaker’s approval of the Journal.

The motion was adopted, and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

**RECORDED VOTE**

Mr. FOLEY, Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 369, noes, 1, answered “present” 1, not voting 23, as follows:

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Mr. GREENWOOD. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 259, 260 and 261, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all 3 measures.

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I was present in my district and missed recorded votes on Wednesday, June 26, 2002. I would like the RECORD to reflect that, had I been present, I would have cast the following votes: On passage of H.R. 4598, rollcall vote No. 258, I would have voted "yea"; on passage of H.R. 4477, rollcall vote No. 259, I voted "yea"; on passage of H.R. 4070, rollcall vote No. 260, I would have voted "yea"; on approval of the Journal, rollcall vote No. 261, I would have voted "yea".

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. ARMEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, in a few minutes we are going to ask that the House recess until approximately 2 p.m. When we return from that recess, we should return to consider, one, the rule to go to conference on the Omnibus Trade Act; two, motion to instruct conferences on trade. If it is offered; and then, three, the suspension votes that have been rolled from last Tuesday. After the completion of that work, then we would have completed our work for the day.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. ARMEY. I yield to the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me. I would like to have an inquiry about schedule and about the substance of the rule that would be coming to the floor. I made it a point at the close of business last week, in my colloquy, to advise the body, the minority in particular, that we would be trying to bring this bill to the floor, and stipulated that we would do so whenever we were able to do so. We now shall do so and I am happy to see us move on. I will try my very, very best to not disappoint the gentlewoman from California in the future.

Ms. PELOSI. If the gentleman will continue to yield, I had a question about the prescription drug bill. Mr. ARMEY. I will be happy to continue to yield.

Ms. PELOSI. When does the gentleman think the prescription drug legislation will be coming to the floor?

Mr. ARMEY. I appreciate the gentlewoman’s inquiry. I see no sign that we will be able to do that yet today; but as soon as we are capable of bringing that bill to the floor, we will let the minority know.

Ms. PELOSI. The debt limit?

Mr. ARMEY. On the debt limit, I again renew my invitation to Members of the minority to join with us in passing this very important increase in the debt limit so that we can indeed deal with the very important supplemental bill.

The Senate has passed Senator Daschle’s bill. It would strike me that this body ought to be able to pick up Senator Daschle’s bill, passed in the Senate, and pass it in the House, with a generous number of Members of the minority willing to vote for the Senate majority leader’s own bill. But so far I have seen no indication that the minority Members of this body will be willing to vote in agreement with the Democrat majority leader from the other body. Therefore, I cannot make an announcement about our ability to bring his bill forward.

Ms. PELOSI. Is one to infer from what the gentlewoman has said that the majority would be willing to bring up a freestanding bill with some discussion about what the amount would be for the debt limit, including the $150 billion that the minority has been suggesting?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentlewoman’s question, and let me just say to the gentlewoman that one should infer from what I said that I would be very serious in recommending will be considered. At this point, I believe that the Senate majority leader’s passed bill is a serious proposition. We would be happy to consider that if Members of the minority would indicate their willingness to vote with Senator Daschle on this matter.

Ms. PELOSI. Well, our distinguished minority leader has made an offer to the Republican majority.

On the supplemental, do we know when that will be coming up?

Mr. ARMEY. Again, I am pleased to announce that the conferences on the supplemental have found a way back to the table to discuss that. I have been advised by the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations that he has a renewed optimism on this matter.

It is my hope that that optimism gets worked out even during this next hour, when they can sit down together. If so, as I would please me more than to be able to announce later, even perhaps to the inconvenience and surprise of some Members, that we are prepared to bring that very important conference report to the floor.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman continue to yield?

Mr. ARMEY. I will be happy to continue to yield to the gentlewoman.
eliminate many options available for debate for the minority. So this is yet again another example.

Mr. ARMLEY. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I thank the gentlewoman for her comments and remind the body that indeed the Contract With America was to bring to this floor for debate and to vote on this floor 10 items that were disallowed by the prior majority.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 1 o’clock and 14 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House came to the Order of the House.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Speaker declared the House pro tempore to be recessed.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 450 is a functional rule relating to the consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 3009, ANDEN TRADE PROMOTION AND DRUG ERADICATION ACT.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 450 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

RELATING TO CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3009, ANDEN TRADE PROMOTION AND DRUG ERADICATION ACT

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution the bill (H.R. 3009) to extend the Andean Trade Preference Act, to grant additional trade benefits under that Act, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereof, and the same is hereby, agreed to with the amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. The House shall be considered to have insisted on its amendment to the Senate amendment and requested a conference with the Senate thereon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The gentleman from New York (Mr. REYNOLDS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, for the purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. REYNOLDS asked and was granted permission to extend his remarks.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 450 is a functional rule relating to the consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 3009 extending
the Andean Trade Preference Act. The rule allows this House to prepare for a conference with the Senate on comprehensive trade legislation.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues may be wondering why a rule is needed for the House to put this conference into action. The answer is really one of simplification. The House has passed its version of the Trade Promotion Authority and Andean Trade while the Senate has passed its own version, including some measures the House has not singularly considered.

This rule prepares the House for conference by giving us an appropriate and equitable foothold at the bargaining table. Without this amendment and this rule, the House would be at a great disadvantage going into conference. But passing this rule will put the House at a starting point equivalent with the other Chamber so that we can best represent the needs of our constituents during the deliberations.

Mr. Speaker, while this may seem like procedural jargon, I would like to remind my colleagues that the House would not be in this position had the Senate not taken up the Andean trade bill, stripped out all the House-passed provisions, and added countless other trade items, leaving the House with no position in the conference on all these measures.

On a larger scale, this rule is needed so we can proceed with the vital trade legislation that is long overdue. Each day that we delay, other countries around the world enter into trade agreements without us, gradually surrounding the United States with a network of trade agreements that benefit their workers, their farmers, their businesses, and their economies at the expense of ours.

How important is this to American jobs and the American economy? In my home State, international trade is a primary generator of business and job growth. In the Buffalo area, the highest manufacturing employment sectors are also among the State’s top merchandize export industries, including electronics, fabricated metals, industrial machinery, transportation equipment, and food and food products. Consequently, as exports increase, employment in these sectors will also increase.

In the Rochester area, companies like IBM and Kodak play a significant impact on the local economy and employment, and they will benefit directly from increased exports and international sales that will result from new trade agreements and open markets negotiated under Trade Promotion Authority.

For example, about one in every five Kodak jobs in the United States depends on exports. New trade agreements are needed to break down foreign barriers and keep American made goods competitive overseas as well as opening up foreign markets to domestic companies.

From family farms to high-tech start-ups to established businesses and manufacturers, increasing free and fair trade will keep our economy going and creating jobs in our economy. And let us not forget the significant impact free trade can have on spreading democracy and democratic ideals across the globe.

As America perseveres in the war on terrorism, expanding global trade and heightening world trade means greater economic prosperity and opportunities for Americans and our neighbors worldwide.

Let us also not forget that the rest of the world is not waiting while we contemplate. Trade Promotion Authority offers the best chance for the United States to reclaim leadership in the opening of foreign markets, expanding global economic opportunities for American producers and workers and upholding the virtues of democracy around the world.

While long overdue, this is the right thing for America. Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. REYNOLDS) for yielding to me this time, and I yield myself such time as Mr. Speaker allows.

Mr. Speaker, it is no wonder the American people have such disdain for politicians. The Republican leadership’s rule this afternoon is the perfect example of back-room deals gone wrong, legislating under the cloak of darkness, and accountability at its most pernicious. The leadership has brought us a rule that not only structures the terms of debate but actually legislates within the rule.

My countryman from the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means that much of this amendment has already passed the House. That is true, much has, but much has not. What we are being asked to do today is to not only weaken U.S. trade laws, and this clearly does that, but to completely eviscerate the regular order of procedures in this House.

At the Committee on Rules last week, not one member there could remember a time when the House had态度 such unprominency. The gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER), the chairman of the Committee on Rules, said, and I quote, “It was unusual.” Even the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS), the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, admitted that quote, “It was unprecedented.”

So how did we get here? Well, if we all believe that the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, it is because of what the other Chamber has done to our House-passed trade bills. Last week, the chairman accused the other body of all sorts of underhanded legislative witchcraft. And how do we agree that in that power that with our own Harry Potter-like sorcery.

If we consider the Senate action, as Chairman Thomas did, as a raw, and I quote him, political power play, then just what is it that we are doing? I mean, give me a break. This theater of the absurd. It would not have surprised me if this bill was brought to us by Congressman George Orwell: up is down, war is peace. And this is serious legislation. I do not think so.

But passing this rule will put the House at a great disadvantage going into conference. If this rule passes, we will be giving the nine majority members of the Committee on Rules the power to legislate on all matters of jurisdiction within this House without the full House ever considering them. It is not possible. It is as easy as taking the Senate floor and doing the same thing. If we consider this Senate action, with the Senate bill, amend it with all sorts of tinsel and ornaments, and bring it back to the House floor along with other legislation that would not have otherwise seen the light of day? This is outrageous.

Now, let us look seriously at how the House’s rule today undermines trade and the American family. First, as it relates to hardworking people who lose their jobs because their job is sent elsewhere or their employer closes the American factory to move to some far-off place, the Senate-passed bill includes much stronger language to help these types of workers.

Specifically as it relates to the health care provisions, the House amendment undermine the Senate trade adjustment package by reducing the level of support from 70 percent to 60 percent. The House provision adds a means-testing requirement based on prior-year income and providing unusable tax credit to retired steelworkers for use in the private insurance market.

Under the gentleman from California’s (Mr. THOMAS) plan, TAA and steelworker health care benefits would be severely limited in availability and cost too much for most workers to afford. Moreover, the other body’s bill would include other industries besides steelworkers and other suppliers. Farmers, for instance, a very large
group in my district in south Florida, would gain from the other body’s bill. Fishermen, oil and gas producers, other raw goods suppliers, all good examples of hard-working people that stand to benefit under the compromise reached between the Senate and the administration and all of whom stand to lose under the amendment the House is considering right now.

It is just this simple. One had better be the exact right person to get any sort of benefit from this House bill. This is not doing the American people today. I am embarrassed, as rightly all of us should be.

Another interesting part of this amendment this afternoon is its inclusion of the so-called DeMint language. I found it passing strange that this language is in here in the first place. Not long ago, the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS), chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, objected, and strongly objected, to this language. He said he did not like it and would not defend it, and yet it is here today. Why? Let me borrow another of the chairman’s phrases from last week when he was alluding to the other body’s actions, but equally useful here, “It is a raw political power play.”

Rank politics is rank politics. It does not matter if it is in the House, in the other body, or where this rule belongs, somewhere out in the gutter.

I urge my colleagues to reject this odious rule.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of our time.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Just want to remind the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS), my colleague on the Committee on Rules, each day he brings a motion to make something in order, he is actually legislating in the Committee on Rules, in legislation that he would like to see the Committee on Rules intertwine into legislation coming from committees of jurisdiction. I also want to take this time to remind all of the body that in the past the Committee on Rules has allowed rules providing the following: motions to go to conference, disposition of Senate amendments, allowing for amendments to the Senate amendments, and nothing on this legislation is binding on the Senate.

But just because we put it all in one package does not mean that we cannot do something somewhat unprecedented. We should look at the fact that the rulings of this House are deliberately crafted to permit flexibility for unique instances such as this and when the question comes from my colleagues on other side how did we get here, we got here because the Senate stripped all of the House language and sent it back. We are now having an opportunity to realign the playing field of this House as this goes to conference.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) (Mr. THOMAS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.).

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Florida for stating the case; and the case is, as he indicated, we are asking the House to include in this rule to go to conference 191 pages. That is absolutely correct. Out of the 191 pages, more than 165 of them, over 80 percent, have already been passed by the House, some of these pieces more than 6 months ago.

But what the Senate did was to take the House-passed Andean trade bill which passed by a voice vote, it was so broadly supported, there was no recorded vote, and it passed by a bipartisan vote. That Andean bill is 40 pages. That is what they sent us to go to conference. Under the rules of conference, that was what the House would have in front of us. What the Senate did was to pass 374 pages. This is the point that I am getting to in conference with. How many of these pages have previously passed the Senate like the more than 80 percent of ours? Absolutely not one. So what the gentleman from Florida wants the House to do is to go to conference with the Senate against this, and what we are saying is let us just make it a little bit fair.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL), a member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I wish the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) would share with me those 191 pages. That is absolutely correct. Out of the 191 pages, because the gentleman from California has not characterized Senate action, the Senate needs 374 pages by the Senate had not passed the House until they put it together this way. The institution of the House should not go to a conference with the Senate unilaterally disarming. That is wrong institutionally.

All this rule does is put bills that we have passed previously together so we can have our bills in front of the conference, as the Senate has as well. Members might learn something from this. We can actually say what we need to do in 191 pages; the Senate needs 374. Mr. THOMAS (Mr. THOMAS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.) is violating the House rules by referring to the other body, and ask for a ruling.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Speaker advises that Members may describe actions of the other body factually on a matter pending before the House, but they may not characterize Senate action. The gentleman from California has not characterized Senate action.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I did not characterize. I indicated factually what the Senate was doing; and would Members notice, I have had two consecutive interruptions on parliamentary procedure which were both wrong and simply an attempt to cover up the facts because they will not be able to argue on the substance.

The 191 pages are 80 percent passed already by the House. These 374 pages by the Senate had not passed the House until they put it together this way. The institution of the House should not go to a conference with the Senate unilaterally disarming. That is wrong institutionally.

Whatever happened to House conferences going into conference with the other body and saying we will not tolerate the other body taking over our jurisdiction? Do we have to make up legislation and say, hey, act like this has passed because when we meet with the other body, or the Senate, as the gentleman calls them, we get weak-kneed.

If we do not have any legislation passed, we make it up as we go along. Sure, 80 percent of the 191 pages are cats and dogs that we passed at one time or the other. So that should give
Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. Slaughter).

Ms. Slaughter. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Committee on Rules, I am extremely troubled by the lengths to which the majority has gone to block a real debate on trade. This self-executing rule denies us the opportunity to debate, amend or offer a substitute, and if this resolution passes, the bill passes.

Last week, before the Committee on Rules, the leadership kept insisting that this 191-page document is necessary to ensure that the House is not steamrolled by the Senate in the conference committee. If so, then this rule should simply strip away the Senate provisions.

This measure does not leave us with legislation identical to what the House passed by a one-vote margin. It actually alters the substance of the Senate version and in some ways weakens our current trade laws.

With all due respect, I have all the confidence in the world that the Members we send to conference will be tenacious and will not be afraid of a real debate? That Members of the body actually reading this document might have some questions or objections?

Mr. Speaker, I know first hand about the sometime high price of trade. In the Rochester, New York, area and throughout upstate New York, I hear constantly from constituents who no longer, but used to have, well-paying, stable jobs with well-established American firms.

This rule places new hurdles in front of unemployed families struggling to maintain health care coverage. It reduces the health care tax credit to 60 percent and means tested based on the prior year’s income. It simply shortchanges American workers.

Mr. Speaker, I also believe the omission of the Dayton-Craig provision signals to our trading partners that the U.S. is ready to cave on U.S. trade remediation laws, and that is absolutely the wrong message.

Moreover, the rule further undermines our trade laws by including new language that undermines our existing anti-dumping laws. The inclusion of language subjecting “abusive” anti-dumping laws of our trading partners to negotiations actually undermines our efforts to rigorously enforce our anti-dumping trade laws.

If we ask our trading partners to put their anti-dumping laws on the table, we open the door to doing the same.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to defeat this rule. It denies Members from engaging in a real trade
debate on issues that affect real Americans.

Mr. REYNOLDS, Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER).

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I call upon Mr. DREIER, the successor to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER). He said, “The guiding principles will be openness and fairness. The Rules Committee will no longer rig the procedure to contrive a predetermined outcome. From now on, the Committee on Rules will clear the stage for debate, and let the House work its will.”

This is a self-executing rule. It executes fairness. It executes good process. It executes bipartisanship. It executes comity. It executes trust. It executes opportunity for partnership on this critical issue.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman from Maryland yield?

Mr. HOYER. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding. There is absolutely nothing whatsoever in this that is self-enacting. All we are trying to do is strengthen the hand of those negotiators. My friend does understand the procedures of the House and the rule contrives a House. Nothing is self-enacting in this rule at all.

Mr. HOYER. Reclaiming my time, what the gentleman seeks to do is create an unfair advantage for the Republican negotiators in the conference. That is what he seeks to do. He executes fairness, bipartisanship, good process, and an opportunity to provide for the bipartisan consideration of this issue. The gentleman and I have been together oftentimes on these kinds of issues. He makes a mistake. The Committee on Rules makes a mistake.

My colleagues, do not compound that mistake. Reject this rule.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LaHOOD). The Chair would appreciate it if Members would abide by the Chair’s announcement of time having expired.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I just told the chairman of the Committee on Rules, I think we have put the previous speaker down as “undeclared.”

I want to point out as we listened a little earlier from my colleague on the Committee on Rules, it becomes very important for us to look at why we are here today, why this debate will go on. My colleague from New York asked why this rule could not simply strip out the Senate language. As a fellow member of the Committee on Rules, the gentlewoman knows full well that the House cannot strip the Senate position. At the very least, we can try to make the House position equitable, as the chairman of the Committee on Rules has justly pointed out. That is why we are here today doing what we are today, to give the House an equitable position at the bargaining table of the conference.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, once again I ask that the Speaker advise the respective parties how much time remains.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Brown), and I came here with and we hope to stay here.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, let us call this vote what it is. This is a brand-new fast track bill. Rules do not include 191 pages of never-before-considered provisions in this bill that passed the House by a single, weeping, arm-twisted vote.

No one here can remember any rule that has ever employed the procedural deceptiveness of this rule. No hearings on these provisions. No opportunity to offer amendments. No opportunity for substantive debate.

Members are being asked to accept that the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means is the best judge of the needs and concerns of House Members and their constituents. Right.

This rule would only complicate efforts to convene a cooperative, bipartisan conference on fast track. Defeat the rule.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I just want to remind my colleagues that while we do have a 190-page amendment before us, the Senate and what some of the Members of this body would like to have happen is that we just address 374 pages that the Senate did while they stripped out the House language. I also want to remind my colleagues both here and throughout the offices that the majority of this legislation has passed the House, some as long as yet another compromise necessarily would have read it thoroughly before voting on it when it came to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1½ minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from California (Ms. ESHOO).

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding me this time.

I rise today in opposition to this self-executing rule and specifically because of the trade adjustment provisions in it. The TAA provisions in this bill are vastly different than the compromise reached by the Senate and the Bush administration. I know the TAA provisions very well, along with the gentleman from Texas (Mr. Bentsen), because we wrote and carried the legislation to the House of Representatives.

The compromise that was reached was historic in that it recognizes the duality to trade and the need to deal with the downsides of it in a very real 21st-century way.

The Senate-White House compromise provides health care for all displaced workers at 70 percent while the Thompson bill legislates on this a means-tested situation based on income and the largest benefit would be 60 percent if an individual makes less than $20,000. The Senate-White House compromise provides an additional $150 million for worker training. This GOP provision only provides for an additional $30 million.

When I was growing up, the numbers used to mark the report card in a very important way. That was for conduct. I gave my colleagues on the other side of the aisle an F for conduct on how you have conducted yourself on this rule. You are squandering a political opportunity for the people of this country. I urge my colleagues to vote against it.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, it is important to remind the gentlewoman that the structures referred to on TAA passed this House twice.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 15 seconds to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. Levin).

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, all that passed here was an extension of TAA, and for the gentleman to get up here and say otherwise is simply wrong. We did not consider anything but the very, very continuation of the present structure for a short period of time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL).

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, article 1, section 8 of the United States Constitution states very clearly that the Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises. If we vote “yes” on this rule today, the House will be on record abdicating any and all constitutional and natural mandates. This undermines the Congress; this undermines this institution as a separate and coequal branch of government. In fact, one could question whether we have the right to do it.

A President of the United States taxed oil and the courts overruled him. We do not have the power to surrender this right right now. Edmund Randolph put it all very nicely. He worried about the executive power, calling it the “fetus of monarchy.”

What you are doing is running down this institution, not only by the process but what you want the end product...
to be. We are a people's house and should represent the people of the United States in every one of our districts.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield
1 minute to the gentleman from Cali-
ifornia (Mr. THOMAS), the chairman of
the committee that has jurisdiction on
trade matters.

Mr. THOMAS. I thank the gentleman
for yielding time.

Mr. Speaker, some of us over here are
somewhat baffled because, as we had
stated earlier, more than 160 pages that
are contained here are bills that have
previously passed the House. But the
way in which the Senate called us to
go to conference, those bills would not
have been within the scope of con-
ference. All we are doing is taking pre-
viously passed work product of the
House and placing it before the con-
ference.

As far as health credits are con-
cerned, the 60 percent structure was
contained in the stimulus bill. As you
will recall, this House passed it four
times. Senator Bentsen finally passed it.
Two of those times it had health
credits in there. I do not understand
why my colleagues do not want to take
previously passed House work product
and make it in order in front of the
Senate so we have a chance that the
House-passed work product could be in
competition with the Senate-passed
product.

That is all this does is take passed,
previously-agreed-to measures like the
Andean bill, like the trade promotion
previously passed House work product
and put it in front of the Senate.

Why are you so afraid of using a House-
bill, and put it in front of the Senate.

Andean bill, like the trade promotion
previously-agreed-to measures like the
product.

previously passed House work product
why my colleagues do not want to take
credits in there. I do not understand
it. Two of those times it had health
times until the Senate finally passed
cerned, the 60 percent structure was
House and placing it before the con-
ference. All we are doing is taking pre-
have been within the scope of con-
ference. Just because the House has not done
something exactly like this before does
not mean it should never be done. The
rules of this House are deliberately
crafted to permit flexibility for unique
instances such as this.

Mr. Speaker, as I stated earlier, but
its importance bears repeating, so I am
going to say it again: the House would
not be in this position had the Senate
taken up the Andean trade bill,
stripped out all of the House-passed
provisions and added countless other
trade items, leaving the House with
no position in the conference on all these
measures.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance
of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Is the
gentleman prepared to yield back the
balance of his time?

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I re-
serve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Is the
gentleman prepared to yield back the
balance of your time, I will follow you with that, and we will
move ahead to a vote.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr.
Speaker, I yield myself such time as I
may consume.

First let me become the Parliamen-
tarian of the House. It was Chairman
THOMAS who agreed that there was ab-
solutely no precedent for this and
Chairman DREIER said the same thing
last week. Either it is something dif-
frent today, or last week up in the
Rules Committee it was something
else.

For Chairman THOMAS' benefit, you
are attempting to add in that 31 pages
that you are not talking about the lan-
guage of H.R. 3010, the general system of
preferences, to this rule and it has
never passed this House.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the
gentleman from Michigan (Mr.
BONIOR).

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend
from Florida for yielding me this time.

WorldCom Says Its Books Are Off By
$3.8 billion. "What do WorldCom, Ar-
thor Andersen, Global Crossing, Enron,
K-Mart, DCT, CMS Energy, and Merrill
Lynch have in common? They support
the idea of a fast track, all these trade
laws they have been ethicly challenged
companies that have fleeced their workers,
their retirees, have caused the market
to take a terrible toll on retirees and
those who invest in it. They are the
people behind this kind of trade nego-
tiation and deal.

And in this very bill that we are ar-
guing about today are provisions that
will gut health care benefits for steel-
workers. You go out there in that 95-
degree temperature like we have got
today and you work, you pour your
heart and soul into every paycheck,
you punch a clock and pack a lunch,
and when you get home and then maybe
tell you that you cannot have your health
care benefits. They are going to get
caught. That is what is wrong with
trade readjustment under their pro-
posal, and that is what is wrong with
fast track.

Vote 'no' on this proposal.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield
myself such time as I may consume.

It is an honor and privilege for me to
serve on the Committee on Rules, as I
think it is on both sides of the aisle.

Just because the House has not done
something exactly like this before does
not mean it should never be done. The
rules of this House are deliberately
crafted to permit flexibility for unique
instances such as this.

Mr. Speaker, as I stated earlier, but
its importance bears repeating, so I am
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no position in the conference on all these
measures.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance
of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to
the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. BENTSEN).

Mr. BENTSEN asked and was given
permission to revise and extend his
remarks.)

Mr. BENTSEN. I thank the
gentleman for yielding time.

Mr. Speaker, I was one of 21 Demo-
crats who voted for the TPA bill. I
think it is a good bill.

I want to see the President get Trade
Promotion Authority; I voted for it for
President Clinton and I will vote for it
for President Bush. If it is done the
right way. I did that last fall, but what
we are doing today is not the way to
get there.

The Senate has passed a substantial
trade adjustment assistance package
that is good public policy, that helps
workers who do lose their jobs to trade.

What the House is being asked to do
today is to state a new position on the
part of the House to strengthen the
hand of the Republicans in the
conference. There is nothing that pre-
cede the conference on the part of the
House to put forth a position or to
hammer out a conference agreement
with the other body, including provi-
sions which were not addressed in this
body. This is all designed to provide po-
itical leverage. It is not a practical
product. In fact, the Committee on
Rules can waive on the issue of scope.

The bill before us today is a dramatic
rewrite of the Bush-backed, bipartisan

June 26, 2002
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE
H3957

Mr. RANGEL. Could I get an answer
from the Parliamentarian?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. If the
gentleman from New York would like
to ask the Parliamentarian to check
the precedents of the House previously,
he is more than welcome to do that.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman
from Florida.

Mr. RANGEL. If the Speaker would
yield just for a moment, I have checked
with the Parliamentarian to ask what
the history was, and I would like it re-
affirmed by the Speaker that this has
never been done before.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The
Chair recognizes the gentleman from
Florida.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr.
Speaker, how much time does each side
have?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The
gentleman from Florida has 13 minutes.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I would respectfully reserve
the balance of my time and ask my col-
league if he would use some of the time
because of the imbalance of time as it is
considered.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I re-
serve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Is the
gentleman prepared to yield back the
balance of his time?

Mr. REYNOLDS. If you are intending
to yield back the balance of your time,
I will follow you with that, and we will
move ahead to a vote.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr.
Speaker, I yield myself such time as I
may consume.

First let me become the Parlia-
mentarian of the House. It was Chairman
THOMAS who agreed that there was ab-
solutely no precedent for this and
Chairman DREIER said the same thing
last week. Either it is something dif-
frent today, or last week up in the
Rules Committee it was something
else.

For Chairman THOMAS' benefit, you
are attempting to add in that 31 pages
that you are not talking about the lan-
guage of H.R. 3010, the general system of
preferences, to this rule and it has
never passed this House.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the
gentleman from Michigan (Mr.
BONIOR).

Mr. BONIOR. Thank my good friend
from Florida for yielding me this time.

WorldCom Says Its Books Are Off By
$3.8 billion. "What do WorldCom, Ar-
thor Andersen, Global Crossing, Enron,
K-Mart, DCT, CMS Energy, and Merrill
Lynch have in common? They support
the idea of a fast track, all these trade
laws they have been ethicly challenged
companies that have fleeced their workers,
their retirees, have caused the market
to take a terrible toll on retirees and
those who invest in it. They are the
people behind this kind of trade nego-
tiation and deal.

And in this very bill that we are ar-
guing about today are provisions that

would gut health care benefits for steel-
workers. You go out there in that 95-
degree temperature like we have got
today and you work, you pour your
heart and soul into every paycheck,
you punch a clock and pack a lunch,
and when you get home and then maybe
tell you that you cannot have your health
care benefits. They are going to get
caught. That is what is wrong with
trade readjustment under their pro-
posal, and that is what is wrong with
fast track.

Vote 'no' on this proposal.
Senate trade adjustment assistance package. We should reject this. If we want to get real TPA, let us take the Bush and the Senate bipartisan package and put it together.

Mr. REYNOLDS, Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Mr. Speaker, for those of us who really want to know, the Senate passed an Andean trade act bill this month. Into that bill, because they could not pass it separately, they amended the trade promotion act bill that this House passed back in December. They amended into it the trade adjustment assistance that this House passed back in May. They amended into it the Customs border security bill that we passed back in May. They could not pass bills the way we usually do.

We should have gone to the Trade Promotion Authority conference 4 months ago. We should have gone to the TAA conference 4 months ago. The Senate could not pass individual bills, so in an unprecedented way, they took all of those bills, rolled them into one, and then said, let us go to conference. All of us who really want to know, the House conferees are limited only to that portion? Because the argument is being put forth is, in some respects, that our conferees on the part of the House may only discuss certain portions and not the entire scope of the bill, or bills, as they are packaged together.

Mr. THOMAS, Mr. Speaker, with all due respect to the chairman, do the rules of the House preclude conferees on the part of the House, when going into conference on this particular bill that is being discussed as part of this rule, in other respects, that our conferees on the part of the House may only discuss certain portions and not the entire scope of the bill, or bills, as they are packaged together.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Mr. BENTSEN, Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Mr. LAHODI. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

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Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I have a further parliamentary inquiry, and I am trying to get to the point of what the chairman is discussing.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Mr. BENTSEN, Mr. Speaker, I have a further parliamentary inquiry, and I am trying to get to the point of what the chairman is discussing.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Mr. BENTSEN. Very briefly. Do the rules preclude House conferees from discussing or bringing up any portion of a conference, other than the portion of the conference related to the Andean trade bill? Are they allowed to vote on and make suggestions, make recommendations, make legislative recommendations on the other portions of the conference?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Mr. BENTSEN, Mr. Speaker, I have a further parliamentary inquiry, and I am trying to get to the point of what the chairman is discussing.

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House position on all of these extra trade measures that the Senate included. Why should we allow the House to be put in a weakened position with this important legislation?

That is what this debate is about and short of a vote, it will reflect the vote of this House.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, after that procedural gobble-dygook, it still does not make what they are doing correct and precedent.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, a vote for this rule damages our environment. I am all for trade, but trading clean water for sour, pure air for fouled, open justice for star chamber proceedings, that does not get a good trade. Free trade is not “free” when it comes at the expense of such imperatives.

My concern about the failed Chapter 11 NAFTA model that this proposal endorses is similar to my concern about the mismanaging of this fast track trade debate. Both result from a secret, closed-door process, both ignore the Sierra Club, Consumers Union and others concerned with our sovereignty, our environment, and our health and safety; and both relegate important decisions to the legislative later. Although the burden will be borne by many.

They violate the whole spirit of our Texas open-government laws. We could use a little Texas sunshine in on our trade policy.

The only thing transparent about this fast track process is the heavy-handed, insular way that it has been handled by the Chairman since day one. A “no” vote is a vote for openness, a vote for the democratic process, and for our environment.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I knew it would take just a little time of this debate to kind of pick apart whether one is a free trader and whether you have protectionists; or, I wanted to support it, but it did not have all of the things I needed in it.

We today are going to have a vote on this, the determination in a bipartisan solution, as trade has always been in this House, we are either going to support free trade and we are going to move the agenda forward, or we are going to reject it. But for those 21 Democratic votes or for other who may consider future votes on trade, this is going to end up with a bottom-line deal here.

The bottom line is you either support free trade and give the House the ability to go as a conference and continue to move on trade, or you are not. But you cannot go home and tell everybody, I am a free trader, but it just was not a perfect way for me to cast my vote. Because it is going to be measured. It is going to be measured not only in D.C., but throughout the land. You are either voting for free trade or you are rejecting it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKY), my good friend.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman yielding me this time.

In response to the previous gentleman’s remark, I would suggest that the bottom line rule about jobs; and as far as I am concerned, it represents bad policy for America. It represents bad policy for people in this country who still make a living wage, and it is very bad and horrific policy for all of the people who are going to lose their jobs because of the attempt to give any administration this type of trade authority.

One of the fatal flaws is not allowing us to consider such proposals that might undermine and weaken our trade remedy laws that are on the books today. That includes industries in the United States that used to make and may still make some pencils, may grow garlic, may make cement clinkers, may produce petroleum wax candles. There are 265 industries and growers who have sought relief for these important protections.

This is about jobs. It is about the 210 people who have no work at Calumet Steel in Chicago Heights, Illinois, because of illegal trade that takes place.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. Issa).

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, my colleague on the other side of the aisle is absolutely right, this is about jobs. I have listened for almost an hour to people talking about what kind of rule this is and whether it is fair. I would like to speak about jobs.

Before I came to this body, I spent over 20 years in the American electronics business, and I sold freely in the countries that had free trade; and I was either locked out or severely limited in the countries that we had not opened trade with.

I would like to remind my friends on both sides of the aisle that we cannot pick our friends and enemies on free trade. Some of the most protectionist countries are our close allies. In fact, we need this kind of trade promotion authority if we are going to open those markets, many of them with European countries that today freely trade between each other and, in fact, are limiting our prospects.

So, Mr. Speaker, I strongly rise in support of this rule and of the underlying language. I ask for my Democrat colleagues to please go beyond the 22 and vote yes.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I guess what my colleagues are saying is trade, yes; House precedents, no.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to my good friend, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

I wish to say that this Republican-led Congress is trying to enlarge NAFTA to all the countries of Latin America and do so not by regular order but by this outrageous tourneyt rule, because the rule basically locks in the deals of the powerful few against the workers of this country and, indeed, our hemisphere. We have seen it before.

The leadership knows it cannot win it on the merits, on the up and up, so they intimidate Members, or they produce a rule like this that even the authors cannot fully understand. But we know what it does is it will tie the hands of our conferees so they cannot deal with the needs of displaced workers, and they cannot extend health benefits to them.

It reminds me of how the GATT vote was won. When they could not pass it, they figured out, let us do it in a lame duck session after 2 a.m. in the morning when nobody will know what happens anyway. The American people will not pay attention.

Mr. Speaker, the American people are paying attention. When they cannot win on the merits, they rig the rules.

I say to my colleagues, vote no on this rule. Do not vote for any more NAFTA’s.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to my good friend, the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH).

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to this rule, which would try to silence the voices on both sides of the aisle who oppose this fast track legislation.

Mr. Speaker, this rule, as well as the whole fast track procedure, takes Congress out of the equation, takes Congress out of the debate and, by doing so, also takes the American people out of the debate. Fast track is nothing more than a silent auction, a silent auction of American jobs, so I am not surprised that the Republican leadership wants this rule. This is not something that they would do in the light of day, used with open and honest debate.

There was an interesting story in the Washington Post last week where the companies that actually went down to Mexico and ran out on the United States are now leaving Mexico and the maquilladoras for American counties because the Mexican workers have had the audacity to ask for $5 an hour in wages.

This is a race to the bottom. This should not happen. We should be protecting American jobs.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN).
Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would say to the gentleman from New York (Mr. REYNOLDS), 161 Democrats voted for the fast track bill. Do not stand up here and say the issue is whether one is for or against free trade. That is nonsense.

Mr. Speaker, also nonsense is this argument about the Senate stripping House language using an Andean bill. That is pure hokum. What the Senate did was to take the Andean bill that passed here and put other trade bills in it, including their Andean bill.

So Members do not need this bill. The subjects are on the table for the conference. They are trying to load the deck as they enter conference, and that was not right. It was not right for the debate that needs to happen in that conference report.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I have great respect and appreciation for the gentleman from Michigan, but, for the life of me, I cannot understand why the minority must not have the confidence in the Senate conferees. They must not trust their ability to negotiate, the integrity of the Senate language.

But what I find most perplexing is how the minority, with a clear consensus, would want to send our own conferees into conference with no position, because what is there are the Senate provisions in the conference. I have read the report under our rule that was the opinion of CRS that clearly talks about definitions of that position.

It is important for us to reflect on the fact that the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, in seeing that, clearly brought to this House, which we will have a vote on in a moment, but to the Committee on Rules, the House here; we, as the playing field, and that was not right. It was not right for this House, and it is not right for the debate that needs to happen in that conference report.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the gentleman from New York (Mr. REYNOLDS), 161 Democrats voted for the fast track bill. Do not stand up here and say the issue is whether one is for or against free trade. That is nonsense.

So Members do not need this bill. The subjects are on the table for the conference. They are trying to load the deck as they enter conference, and that was not right. It was not right for the debate that needs to happen in that conference report.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.
RELATING TO CONSIDERATION OF 
SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 
3009. ANDean TRADE PROMOTION 
AND DRUG ERADICATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The gentleman from New York (Mr. REYNOLDS) has 10 minutes remaining, and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) has 4 minutes remaining.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time and ask the gentleman, because of the imbalance of time, if he would proceed with some of his speakers. We have but two speakers remaining.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, for the gentleman who is managing the minority side of the rule, I intend to have him speak. I then intend to have the Chairman of the Committee on Rules close. There will be no further speakers other than I as the manager of the rule.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), my good friend, the Democratic whip.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time and for his brilliant arguments against this outrageous rule, which I rise not only to oppose but to implore my colleagues to disassociate themselves from.

This is not a rule proposed by the Grand Old Party. This is not about Republicans in our country. This rule is outrageous. It is a rule that limits freedom and imposes on our country. This is not a rule proposed by the Grand Old Party. This is not about Republicans in our country. This rule is outrageous. It is a rule that limits freedom and imposes on our country.

Every child in school learns how laws are made. They visit here, this temple of democracy, and yet what is happening here today is to shred that book.

American people think of this as the people's House, where issues and policies are debated, a marketplace of ideas. They do not think of it as a place of bait and switch. This House voted on a bill; I opposed it. It won by one vote; it would have been the House's bill to go to conference.

Because the majority did not like how the other body treated this same legislation on trade promotion, they decided that they would usurp the power of this House and give that power to one person to go to the Committee on Rules and have over 50 pages of changes on a 191-page rule, that by passing the rule my colleagues are deeming those provisions passed, provisions that have never been debated and considered by the House. We want history to well tear up the book on how a bill is passed in terms of process, in terms of precedent, in terms of policy.

This is a very dark day for the House of Representatives. We had all hoped, many of us, that the bill would come back in the form we could have a great amount of support for, to give the President trade promotion authority. Instead of doing that, the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means has made matters worse with this outrageous procedure and this outrageous bill.

We are the model of democracy to the world, to the world. The world is watching what we do here. Young children study what we do here; and instead of being an example, we are a place where today freedom and democratic debate are being greatly diminished.

It is no wonder the gentleman from New York has no speakers on this rule. It is no wonder that in the course of the debate many people spoke up to defend the minority position and only to oppose but to implore my colleagues to reject this outrageous rule. Vote no.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS).

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that a colloquy between the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. PICKERING) and myself be made a part of the RECORD.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the right to object.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Under the rules, that cannot be done by unanimous consent.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, how much time remains?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) has 1 minute remaining.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield the remaining time of the minority to the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL), the ranking member of the Committee on Ways and Means, my good friend.

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, there is a way to get out of this dilemma in an attempt to restore some degree of bipartisanship to a trade bill. This is what we enjoyed when we were dealing with the Caribbean Basin Initiative, with China, with the Open Trade Act, and Opportunity Bill. We worked out our differences; and even though we disagreed, we were not disagreeable.

The problem that we have here is not one of substance. We have one that the integrity of the House of Representatives is on, and I am saying that history will not treat us kindly if, for the first time in over 200 years of the House of Representatives, we attempt to take the steps and we have the Committee on Rules roll it up into a rule and to have us vote on it.

True, the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means will tell my colleagues that 80 percent of this has already been passed one way or the other by the House, but what about the 20 percent? When does the 20 percent become 30 percent or 40 percent? This did happen once before, and that is when the House was closed down. There was no way to communicate with the Senate, and we did use the Committee on Rules in order to legislate.

But I ask my colleagues to vote down the rule. Let us do it the right way.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. PICKERING) for the purposes of entertaining a colloquy.

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I would like to inquire about the impact of the hybrid cutting provision with respect to CBI that is contained in the amendment. As my colleagues know, the amendment contains language requiring that apparel made of U.S. knit or woven fabric assembled in the CBI qualifies for benefits only if the U.S. knit or woven fabric is dyed and finished in the United States. The hybrid cutting provision allows benefits under CBI if apparel is made of components cut in the United States and in the CBI of fabric wholly formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States.

Is it my colleague's understanding that the dyeing and finishing requirements for U.S. fabric contained in the amendment also apply to the hybrid cutting provision?

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. PICKERING. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I tell the gentleman from Mississippi, the answer is an unequivocal yes.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

While the rest of the world-speeds ahead when it comes to free trade, the United States depends to get back on track. Trade promotion authority is the most effective way to accomplish that, and this rule simply allows the process to move forward so we can get one step closer to retaining and regaining America's global trade preeminence.

I ask my colleagues to join me in freeing the hands of our conferees and not restrict our ability to negotiate before they even get to the table. That is why I have urged a yes for this resolution; and when the end of the day comes for a vote in moments, it is going to come down to either my colleagues supported free trade and they...
have sent that message back to their district and across America or they rejected it. That is what this comes down to, an up or down, yes or no, free trade or no. My colleagues are not going to continue it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER), who is the Chairman of the Committee on Rules and an expert on trade.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin by congratulating the gentleman from New York (Mr. REYNOLDS) for his fine management of this rule. I have had the honor of participating in and witnessing some of the greatest debates that have taken place in the greatest deliberative body known to man, the United States Congress.

The very best, the very best that I can say about this debate that we have gone through today is that it has been interesting. It has not been a great debate because my colleagues on the other side of the aisle who love to stand up and talk about their strong support of free trade and their desire to open those markets they have said to this is a violation of article 1, section 6 of the Constitution. I have heard this along with that battle that we face.

But not this measure.

As I listened to my colleagues again mischaracterize the North American Free Trade Agreement, talking about its failure, we have seen a doubling of trade between the United States and Mexico since its passage. We have seen the middle-class population in Mexico grow to be larger than the entire Canadian population.

It has been a win-win.

And it is true, we want to expand the North American Free Trade Agreement to a free trade area, the Americas. A lot of us here, Mr. Speaker, are interested in seeing the technology sector of our economy improve. We faced a real downturn there, and it has hurt our overall economy because so much of the GDP growth in the past several years has come from that sector of the economy.

Let us look at what a free trade area, the Americas, would bring us. There are about 12 million computers south of the border, but 500 million people. We need to do what we can to open up those markets.

The Andean Trade Preference Act is designed to help wean those in the Andean nations off the crops of drugs, and so what we need to do is realize that ATPA is very important in dealing with that battle that we face today.

So while many people can make all of these arguments procedurally against this, which really do not stand the test of what we are doing here at all, I believe that if my colleagues are for increased economic growth here in the United States of America, if they are for realizing that this is a bicameral legislature and we have the prerogatives of the House that need to be followed, and if they are committed to doing everything that we possibly can to make sure that the United States opens its markets at the time of war, that plays its proper role as the paramount global leader, they will vote in support of this rule, because it is the right thing to do.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, is there any further time on the minority side?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The time of the gentleman from Florida has expired.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to defeat this Self-Executing Rule, governing the house conferences on trade promotion authority, because it sets a terrible precedent. It could well be the worst abuse of the legislative process since the Republican party took control of the House in 1994. Newt Gingrich would have howled in outrage if the previous Democratic majority has attempted such a maneuver; and it would have been appropriate outrage.

It is shameful to treat this body in such a fashion—tying the hands of House conferences, adding new provisions without any opportunity for a full debate, and gutting the trade policy of this House. It will come back to haunt the Republican majority.

I support free trade because it strengthens the economy of my city and state and the country as a whole. I have been unable to support the Administration and House leadership position because they have ignored legitimate environmental and labor concerns.

Newt Gingrich should ponder the cause of trade by committing this House to reject improvements in Trade Adjustment Assistance that were made by the Senate.

There are dislocations that occur as our economy changes in response to new markets and new imports. Some workers are hurt in that process, and Trade Adjustment Assistance is critical to ensuring that we move as quickly and painlessly as possible to extend the benefits of trade to all American families.

The provisions of this rule reject in advance important improvements in TAA that the Senate made and that must be part of our trade agenda:

Health Care for workers unemployed due to trade dislocations. This Substitute unilaterally rolls back the health care benefits contained in the Senate bill—and puts in their place a reduced level of support that is harder to obtain because of a means-testing requirement.

Job training and relocation assistance: The Senate bill doubles this funding to $300 million, reflecting the fact that TAA has been chronically underfunded in recent years. So far this year, 12 states—including Oregon—have already run out of TAA money. This proposed rule would strip this money, forcing continued funding shortfalls for TAA.

This is a critical issue for my State. Currently, more than 600 workers have been certified by the Department of Labor as being eligible for Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) or NAFTA benefits but are not receiving those benefits due to a lack of resources. Trade assistance petitions are pending for 35 companies, and additional layoffs are expected from several companies that have previously been certified as eligible for assistance. However, the state of Oregon received only 25 percent of the amount it requested under the trade program. As a result, the state exhausted its funds at the end of April, and has now unable to grant requests for assistance. Already 200 laid-off Oregonians are on the waiting list for job training and relocation assistance, with hundreds more expected to apply in the fall.

Were we to approve this motion we would send exactly the wrong message to the people of my state and the rest of America: that trade is about creating winners and losers, and the losers are on their own.

Mr. ACEVEDO-VILA. Mr. Speaker, As the House moves toward conference on the trade package, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues a report from the International Trade Commission (ITC) on the impacts of tariff modifications for tuna imported from Andreaen beneficiaries.

The results of this analysis are quite clear, and they support what I and my good friend from American Samoa have been saying all along—that the proposed duty free treatment of tuna contained in the House passed bill will create only a limited amount of jobs in Ecuador, but the effect on workers in the domestic fishing and processing industry will be severe. The effects of jobs in California, and Puerto Rico are at stake. All for a few hundred jobs in Ecuador at 77 cents an hour.
While I support the intent of the Andean Trade Preference Act (ATPA), exempting tuna will not provide intended benefits to Ecuadorian workers. Instead, it will help a multinational corporation increase its profit margin at the cost of thousands of American jobs. I ask to consider these limited benefits of the proposed tariff modifications on the workers in Ecuador and compare them with the harsh reality of significant job loss for American workers. Consider the strong warnings of Senators against undermining our relations with ASEAN countries such as the Philippines, a close and important ally in our war against terror.

The current duty structure on tuna over the past decade has created tremendous growth in the Ecuadorian tuna industry. For example, over the past ten years the number of tuna factories as increased 229%, production capacity has increased 400% and exports to the US have increased 567%. Clearly the current tariff structure for tuna has been a huge success for American and Puerto Rican workers.

I have been working with Bumble Bee Seafoods to ensure continued operations in Mayagüez, Puerto Rico. Based on close cooperation between the Puerto Rican government and Bumble Bee Seafoods, Bumble Bee now anticipates that it will be able to maintain a workforce in excess of 500 people. This is higher than the 300 originally anticipated and ensures that the tuna industry will continue to be an important part of the Puerto Rican industrial sector. The key risk to the continued growth of the industry in Puerto Rico and elsewhere in the United States is the tariff modifications being considered under ATPA. Changes to the existing tariff structure, under which significant industry growth has been realized in Ecuador, will have an immediate and lasting impact on tuna industry employment not only in Puerto Rico but also in California and American Samoa.

The conferences on this important package should consider the impact tariff modifications will have on workers and fishermen in Puerto Rico, California, and American Samoa. The potential benefits for Ecuador simply do not justify the significant costs that will be brought to the economic impact on tuna industry employment not only in Puerto Rico but also in California and American Samoa.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote on the resolution. I yield back the balance of my time, and I move to the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution. The question was taken; and the SPEAKER pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on adopting House Resolution 450 will be followed by 5-minute votes on motions to suspend the rules on H.R. 3764 and on H.R. 3180, and perhaps on H. Con. Res. 424 and H.R. 3034.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 215, nays 215, answered "present" 1, not voting 3, as follows:

[Roll No. 261]


**NAYS—215**
Mr. GIBBONS changed his vote from "nay" to "yea." So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHODI), pursuant to House Resolution 450, the House concurs in the Senate amendment, insists on the House amendment to the Senate amendment, and requests a conference with the Senate thereon.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

DIVISION D—BIPARTISAN TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY

TITLE XXI—TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY

Sec. 2001. Short title; findings.
Sec. 2006. Treatment of certain trade agreements for which negotiations have already begun.
Sec. 2007. Congressional Oversight Group.
Sec. 2008. Additional implementation and enforcement requirements.
Sec. 2009. Committee staff.
Sec. 2110. Conforming amendments.
Sec. 2111. Report on impact of trade promotion authority.
Sec. 2112. Identification of small business advocate at WTO.
Sec. 2113. Definitions.

DIVISION C—ANDEAN TRADE PREFERENCE ACT

TITLE XXXI—ANDEAN TRADE PREFERENCE

Sec. 3101. Short title; findings.
Sec. 3102. Temporary provisions.
Sec. 3103. Termination.

TITLE XXXII—MISCELLANEOUS TRADE BENEFITS

Sec. 3201. Wool provisions.
Sec. 3202. Duty suspension on wool.
Sec. 3203. Ceiling fans.
Sec. 3204. Certain steam or other vapor generating boilers used in nuclear facilities.

DIVISION D—EXTENSION OF CERTAIN PREFERENTIAL TRADE TREATMENT AND OTHER PROVISIONS

TITLE XLIII—EXTENSION OF GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES

Sec. 4101. Generalized system of preferences.
Sec. 4102. Amendments to generalized system of preferences.

TITLE XLIII—OTHER PROVISIONS

Sec. 4201. Transparency in NAFTA tribunals.
Sec. 4202. Expression of solidarity with Israel in its fight against terrorism.
Sec. 4203. Limitation on use of certain revenue.
Sec. 4204. Sense of the Senate regarding the United States-Russian Federation summit meeting, May 2002.
Sec. 4205. No appropriations.

DIVISION A—TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE

TITLE X—TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR WORKERS

Sec. 1101. Short title.

Subtitle A—United States Customs Service

CHAPTER 1—Drug Enforcement and Other Noncommercial and Commercial Operations

Sec. 1111. Authorization of appropriations for noncommercial operations, commercial operations, and air and marine interdiction.
Sec. 1112. Antiterrorist and illicit narcotics detection equipment for the United States-Mexico border, United States-Canada border, and Florida and the Gulf Coast seaports.
Sec. 1113. Compliance with performance plan requirements.

CHAPTER 2—Child Cyber-Smuggling Center of the Customs Service

Sec. 1121. Authorization of appropriations for program to prevent child pornography/child sexual exploitation.

CHAPTER 3—Miscellaneous Provisions

Sec. 1131. Additional Customs Service officers for United States-Canada border.
Sec. 1132. Study and report relating to personnel practices of the Customs Service.
Sec. 1133. Study and report relating to accounting and auditing procedures of the Customs Service.
Sec. 1134. Establishment and implementation of cost accounting system; reports.
Sec. 1135. Study and report relating to timeliness of prospective rulings.
Sec. 1136. Study and report relating to customs user fees.
Sec. 1137. Authorization of appropriations for Customs staffing.

CHAPTER 4—Antiterrorism Provisions

Sec. 1141. Emergency adjustments to offices, ports of entry, or staffing of the Customs Service.
Sec. 1142. Mandatory advanced electronic information for cargo and passengers.
Sec. 1143. Border search authority for certain contraband in outbound mail.
Sec. 1144. Authorization of appropriations for reestablishment of Customs operations in New York City.

CHAPTER 5—Textile Transshipment Provisions

Sec. 1151. GAO audit of textile transshipment monitoring by Customs Service.
Sec. 1152. Authorization of appropriations for textile transshipment enforcement operations.
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“(1) ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION.—The term ‘additional compensation’ has the meaning given that term in section 205(3) of the Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970 (26 U.S.C. 3304 note).

“(2) ADVERSELY AFFECTED EMPLOYMENT.—The term ‘adversely affected employment’ means employment in a firm or appropriate subdivision of a firm that produces and supplies directly to another firm or supplies and markets goods, including in part-total, or partial unemployment as determined under the applicable State law or Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970 (26 U.S.C. 3304 note).

“(13) JOB FINDING CLUB.—The term ‘job finding club’ means a job search workshop which includes a period of structured, supervised activity in which participants attempt to obtain jobs.

“(14) JOB SEARCH PROGRAM.—The term ‘job search program’ means a job search workshop or job finding club.

“(15) JOB SEARCH WORKSHOP.—The term ‘job search workshop’ means a short (1- to 3-day) seminar, covering subjects such as labor market information, resume writing, interviewing techniques, and strategies for finding job openings.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘adversely affected worker’ means a worker who is a member of a group of workers certified by the Secretary under section 231(a)(2) as eligible for trade adjustment assistance.

“(b) ADVERSELY AFFECTED SECONDARY WORKER.—The term ‘adversely affected worker’ includes adversely affected secondary worker who is a member of a group of workers employed at a downstream producer or a supplier, that is certified by the Secretary under section 231(a)(2) as eligible for trade adjustment assistance.

“(4) AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS.—The term ‘average weekly hours’ means the average hours worked by a worker (excluding overtime) in the employment in which the worker is employed or claims to have been separated in the 52 weeks (excluding weeks during which the worker was on leave for purposes of vacation, sickness, maternity, or any other employer-authorized leave) preceding the week specified in paragraph (5)(b)(ii).

“(5) AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGE.—The term ‘average weekly wage’ means 1/5 of the total wages paid to an individual in the high quarter.

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of computing the average weekly wage,

“(i) the term ‘high quarter’ means the quarter in which the individual’s total wages were highest among the first 4 of the last 5 completed calendar quarters preceding the quarter in which the computation is made; and

“(ii) the term ‘week’ means the week in which total separation occurred, or, in cases where partial separation is claimed, an appropriate week, as defined in regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

“(B) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of computing the average weekly wage,

“(A) STATE LAW.—The term ‘benefit period’ means, with respect to an individual, the following:

“(A) the benefit year and any ensuing period, as determined under applicable State law, during which the individual is eligible for regular compensation, additional compensation, and extended compensation;


“(6) BENEFIT PERIOD.—The term ‘benefit period’ means the benefit year and any ensuing period as determined under applicable State law, during which the individual is eligible for regular compensation, additional compensation, and extended compensation.

“(B) FEDERAL LAW.—The term ‘benefit period’ means the benefit year and any ensuing period provided for under the Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970 (26 U.S.C. 3304 note).

“(19) REGULAR STATE UNEMPLOYMENT.—The term ‘regular State unemployment’ means unemployment benefits other than an extension of unemployment insurance by a State using its own funds beyond either the 26-week period mandated by Federal law or any additional period provided for under the Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970 (26 U.S.C. 3304 note).

“(20) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of Labor.

“(21) STATE.—The term ‘State’ includes each State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the State of Columbia.

“(22) STATE AGENCY.—The term ‘State agency’ means the agency of the State that administers the State law.

“(23) STATE LAW.—The term ‘State law’ means the unemployment insurance law of the State that the election period for COBRA continuation under section 6429 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or under funds made available to the State to carry out section 173(f) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

“(24) SUPPLIER.—The term ‘supplier’ means a firm that produces and supplies directly to another firm or supplies and markets goods to another firm or supplies and markets goods, including in part-total, or partial unemployment as determined under the applicable State law or Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970 (26 U.S.C. 3304 note).

“(25) TOTAL SEPARATION.—The term ‘total separation’ means the separation of an individual from employment with a firm in which or in a subdivision of which, adversely affected employment exists.

“(26) UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—The term ‘unemployment insurance’ means the unemployment compensation payable to an individual under any State law or Federal unemployment compensation law, including chapter 85 of title 5, United States Code, and the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (45 U.S.C. 351 et seq.).

“(ii) provide such workers with information regarding how to apply for such assistance, services, and programs, including notification that the election period for COBRA continuation may be extended for certain workers under section 603 of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act of 2002;

“(iii) collect and transmit to the Secretary any data as the Secretary shall reasonably require to.
assist the Secretary in assuring the effective and efficient performance of the programs carried out under this chapter; and

(1) otherwise actively cooperate with the Secretary and other Federal and State agencies in providing payments and services under this chapter, including participation in the performance measurement system established by the Secretary under subsection (d).

(2) the cooperating State shall—

(A) arrange for the provision of services under this chapter through the one-stop system established in section 134(c) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2864(c)) where available;

(B) provide to adversely affected workers statewide rapid response activities under section 134(a)(2)(A) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2864(a)(2)(A)) in the same manner and to the same extent as any other worker eligible for those activities;

(C) afford adversely affected workers the services provided under section 134(d) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2964(d)) in the same manner and to the same extent as any other worker eligible for those services; and

(D) provide training services under this chapter using training providers approved under title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2801 et seq.) which may include community colleges, and other effective providers of training services.

(c) OTHER PROVISIONS.—

(1) JOINT DETERMINATION.—The Secretary shall ensure that the training services provided by cooperating States are provided by organizations approved by the Secretary to effectively assist workers eligible for assistance under this chapter.

(2) AMENDMENT, SUSPENSION, OR TERMINATION OF AGREEMENTS.—Each agreement entered into under section 222 shall provide for the terms and conditions upon which the agreement may be amended, suspended, or terminated.

(3) EFFECT ON UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—Each agreement entered into under this section shall provide that unemployment insurance otherwise payable to any adversely affected worker will not be denied or reduced for any week by reason of any right to payments under this chapter.

(4) COORDINATION OF WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES.—In order to promote the coordination of State Investment Activities in each State with activities carried out under this chapter, each agreement entered into under this section shall provide that the State shall submit a report to the Secretary, in such form as the Secretary may require, the description and information described in paragraphs (6) and (14) of section 112(b) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2802(b) (6) and (14)).

(d) REVIEW OF STATE DETERMINATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A determination by a cooperating State regarding entitlement to program benefits under this chapter is subject to review in the same manner and to the same extent as determinations under the applicable State law.

(2) APPEAL.—A review undertaken by a cooperating State under paragraph (1) may be appealed to the Secretary pursuant to such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe.

SEC. 223. ADMINISTRATION ARSEN STATE AGREEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In any State in which there is no agreement in force under section 222, the Secretary shall arrange, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, for the performance of all necessary functions under this chapter, including hearings for any worker whose application for payment is denied.

(b) FINALITY OF DETERMINATION.—A final determination under subsection (a) regarding entitlement to benefits under this chapter is subject to review by the courts in the same manner and to the same extent as is provided by section 205(g) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 405(g)).

SEC. 224. DATA COLLECTION; EVALUATIONS; REPORTS.

(a) DATA COLLECTION.—The Secretary shall, pursuant to regulations prescribed by the Secretary, collect any data necessary to meet the requirements of this chapter.

(b) PERIODIC EVALUATIONS.—The Secretary shall establish an effective performance measurement system to evaluate the following:

(1) PROGRAM PERFORMANCE.—

(A) speed of petition processing;

(B) quality of petition processing;

(C) cost of training programs;

(D) coordination of programs under this title with programs that the Secretary has established under title IV of the Workforce Investment Act (29 U.S.C. 2801 et seq.);

(E) length of time participants take to enter and complete training programs;

(F) the effectiveness of individual contractors in providing appropriate retraining information;

(G) the effectiveness of individual approved training programs in helping workers obtain employment;

(H) best practices related to the provision of benefits and services to workers;

(I) other data to evaluate how individual States are implementing the requirements of this title.

(2) PARTICIPANT OUTCOMES.—

(A) reemployment rates;

(B) types of jobs in which displaced workers have been placed;

(C) wage and benefit maintenance results;

(D) training completion rates;

(E) other data to evaluate how effective programs under this chapter are for participants, taking into consideration current economic conditions in the State.

(3) PROGRAM PARTICIPATION DATA.—

(A) the number of workers receiving benefits and the type of benefits being received;

(B) the number of workers enrolled in, and the duration of, training by major types of training;

(C) earnings history of workers that reflects wages before separation and wages in any job obtained after receiving benefits under this Act;

(D) the cause of dislocation identified in each certified petition;

(E) the number of petitions filed and workers certified in each United States congressional district; and

(F) the number of workers who received waivers under each category identified in section 235(c)(1) and the average duration of such waivers.

(4) STATE PARTICIPATION.—The Secretary shall, to the extent practicable, through oversight and effective internal control measures the following:

(A) STATE PARTICIPATION.—Participation by each State in the performance measurement system established under subsection (b).

(B) MONITORING.—Monitoring by each State of internal control measures with respect to performance measurement data collected by each State.

(C) RESPONSE.—The quality and speed of the rapid response provided by each State under section 134(a)(2)(A) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2864(a)(2)(A)).

(d) REPORTS.—

(1) REPORTS BY THE SECRETARY.—

(A) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act of 2002, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives a report that—

(i) describes the performance measurement system established under subsection (b); and

(ii) includes analysis of data collected through the system established under subsection (b);

(iii) includes information identifying the number of workers who received waivers under section 235(c) and the average duration of those during the preceding year;

(iv) analyzes and describes and analyzes State participation in the system;

(v) analyzes the quality and speed of the rapid response provided under section 134(a)(2)(A) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2864(a)(2)(A)); and

(vi) provides recommendations for program improvements.

(B) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date the report is submitted under subparagraph (A), and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives a report that includes the information collected under clauses (ii) through (v) of subparagraph (A).

(2) STATE REPORTS.—Pursuant to regulations prescribed by the Secretary, each State shall submit to the Secretary a report that details its participation in the programs established under this chapter, and that contains the data necessary to enable the Secretary to submit the report required under paragraph (1).

(3) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall make available to each State, and other public and private organizations as determined by the Secretary, the data gathered and evaluated through the performance measurement system established under paragraphs (1) and (2).

SEC. 225. STUDY BY SECRETARY OF LABOR WHEN INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION BEGINS INVESTIGATION.

(a) NOTIFICATION OF INVESTIGATION.—When the International Trade Commission begins an investigation under section 202 with respect to an industry, the Commission shall immediately notify the Secretary of that investigation, and the Secretary shall immediately begin a study of—

(1) the number of workers in the domestic industry producing the like or directly competitive article who have been or are likely to be certified as eligible for adjustment assistance under this chapter; and

(2) the extent to which the adjustment of those workers to the import competition may be facilitated through the use of existing programs.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide a report based on the study conducted under subparagraph (a) to the President and Congress within 15 days after the day on which the Commission makes its report under section 202(f).

(2) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall promptly make public to the President under subsection (1) (with the exception of information which the Secretary determines to be confidential) and shall have a summary of the report published in the Federal Register.

SEC. 226. REPORT BY SECRETARY OF LABOR ON LIKELY IMPACT OF TRADE AGREEMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—At least 90 calendar days before the day on which the President enters into an agreement under section 202(a) of the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002, the President shall provide the Secretary with details of the agreement as it exists at the time of notification and direct the Secretary to prepare and submit the assessment described in subsection (b). Between the time the President instructs the Secretary to prepare the assessment and the day the President submits the assessment to Congress, the President shall keep the Secretary current with respect to the details of the agreement.

(b) ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 90 calendar days after the President enters into the agreement, the Secretary shall submit to the President, the Committee on Finance of the Senate, the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives, and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representative...
Representatives, a report assessing the likely impact of the agreement on employment in the United States economy as a whole and in specific industrial sectors, including the extent of worker dislocations likely to result from implementation of the agreement. The report shall include an estimate of the financial and administrative resources necessary to provide trade adjustment assistance to all potentially adversely affected workers.

"Subchapter B—Certifications

SEC. 231. CERTIFICATION AS ADVERSELY AFFECTED WORKERS.

"(a) Eligibility for Certification.—

"(1) General Rule.—A group of workers (including workers in any agricultural firm or subdivision of an agricultural firm) shall be certified by the Secretary as adversely affected workers and eligible for trade adjustment assistance benefits under this chapter pursuant to a petition filed under subsection (b) if the Secretary determines that a significant number or proportion of the workers in the workers’ firm or an appropriate subdivision of the firm have become totally or partially separated, or are threatened to become totally or partially separated, and that either—

"(A)(i) the sales or production, or both, of such firm or subdivision have decreased absolutely; or

"(ii) the value or volume of imports of articles like or directly competitive with articles produced by that firm or subdivision have increased; and

"(iii) the increase in the value or volume of imports of articles like or directly competitive with articles produced by that firm or subdivision is considered to be important to the workers’ separation or threat of separation and to the decline in the sales or production of such firm or subdivision; or

"(B) there has been a shift in production by the workers’ firm or subdivision to a foreign country of articles like or directly competitive with articles which are produced by that firm or subdivision and the shift in production is considered importantly to the workers’ separation or threat of separation.

"(2) Adversely Affected Secondary Workers.—A group of workers (including workers in any agricultural firm or subdivision of an agricultural firm) shall be certified by the Secretary as adversely affected and eligible for trade adjustment assistance benefits under this chapter pursuant to a petition filed under subsection (b) if the Secretary determines that—

"(A)(i) a significant number or proportion of the workers in the workers’ firm or an appropriate subdivision of the firm have become totally or partially separated, or are threatened to become totally or partially separated; or

"(B) the workers’ firm (or subdivision) is a supplier or downstream producer to a firm (or subdivision) that employed a group of workers who received a certification of eligibility under paragraph (1), and such supply or production is related to the article that was the basis for such certification (as defined in section 221 (11) and (20)(B)) and—

"(C) a loss of business by the workers’ firm with the firm (or subdivision) described in subparagraph (B) contributed importantly to the workers’ separation or threat of separation as determined under subparagraph (A).

"(3) Special Rule for Secondary Workers.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2), the Secretary may, pursuant to standards established by the Secretary and for good cause shown, certify as eligible for trade adjustment assistance under this chapter a group of workers who meet the requirements for certification as adversely affected secondary workers in paragraph (2), except that the Secretary has not received a petition under paragraph (1) on behalf of workers at a firm to which the petitioning workers’ firm is a supplier or downstream producer as defined in section 221 (11) and (24).

"(4) Certification by Secretary.—

"(A) Oil and Natural Gas Producers.—For purposes of this section, any firm, or approximately subdivision of a firm, that engages in exploration or drilling for oil or natural gas shall be considered to be a firm producing oil or natural gas.

"(B) Oil and Natural Gas Imports.—For purposes of this section, any firm, or approximately subdivision of a firm, that engages in exploration or drilling for oil or natural gas, or otherwise engages in production shall be considered to be producing articles directly competitive with imports of oil and with imports of natural gas.

"(C) Taconite.—For purposes of this section, taconite pellets produced in the United States shall be considered to be an article that is like or directly competitive with imports of semi-finished steel slab.

"(b) Petitions.—

"(1) in General.—A petition for certification of eligibility for trade adjustment assistance under this chapter for a group of adversely affected workers shall be filed simultaneously with the Secretary and with the Governor of the State in which the firm employing the workers is located.

"(2) Persons Who May File a Petition.—A petition under paragraph (1) may be filed by—

"(A) Workers.—A group of workers (including workers in an agricultural firm or subdivision of an agricultural firm) shall be considered to be producing articles directly competitive with imports of semfinished steel slab.

"(B) Worker Representatives.—The certified or recognized union or other duly appointed representative of the workers.

"(C) Worker Kennedy Retraining Notification.—Any entity to which notice of a plant closing or mass layoff must be given under section 3 of the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act (29 U.S.C. 2102).

"(D) Other.—Employers of workers described in subparagraph (A), one stop operators or one stop partners as defined in section 222 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2001), or State employment agencies, on behalf of the workers.

"(E) Request to Initiate Certification.—The President, or the Committee on Finance of the Senate or the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives, as appropriate, or the Secretary, shall initiate a certification process under this chapter to determine the eligibility for trade adjustment assistance of a group of workers.

"(3) Actions by Governor.

"(A) Cooperating State.—Upon receipt of a petition, the Governor of a cooperating State shall ensure that the agreement entered into under section 222 are met.

"(B) Other States.—Upon receipt of a petition, the Governor of a State that has not entered into an agreement under section 222 shall coordinate closely with the Secretary to ensure that workers covered by a petition are—

"(i) provided with all available services, including rapid response activities under section 134 of the Workforce Investment Act (29 U.S.C. 2004);

"(ii) informed of the workers’ and individual member’s of the worker’s family potential eligibility for—

"(I) medical assistance under the medical program established under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a et seq.);

"(II) child health assistance under the State children’s health insurance program established under title XXI of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1397a et seq.);

"(III) child care services for which assistance is provided under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.);

"(IV) the trade adjustment assistance health insurance credit under section 29 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and health care coverage assistance under funds made available to the State to carry out section 173(j) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998; and

"(V) other Federal and State funded health care, child care, transportation, and assistance programs that the workers may be eligible for; and

"(iii) provided with information regarding how to apply for the assistance, services, and programs described in clause (i).

"(4) Actions by Secretary.—

"(1) in General.—As soon as possible after the date on which a petition is filed under subsection (b), but not later than 40 days after that date, the Secretary shall determine whether the petitioning group meets the requirements of subsection (a), and if warranted, shall issue a certification of eligibility for trade adjustment assistance pursuant to this subchapter. In making the determination, the Secretary shall consult with all interested parties and consider the reasons for making that determination.

"(2) Publication of Determination.—Upon making a determination under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall promptly publish a summary of the determination in the Federal Register together with the reasons for making that determination.

"(3) Date Specified in Certification.—Each certification made under this subchapter shall specify the date on which the total or partial separation began or threatened to begin with respect to a group of certified workers.

"(4) Prepared Training Needs.—The Secretary shall inform the State Workforce Investment Board or equivalent agency, and other public or private agencies, institutions, employers, and labor organizations, of each certification issued under section 231 and of projections, if available, of the need for training under section 240 as a result of that certification.

"(5) Scope of Certification.—

"(1) in General.—A certification issued under subsection (a) shall cover adversely affected workers in any group that meets the requirements of subsection (a), whose total or partial separation occurred on or after the date on which the petition was filed under subsection (b).

"(2) Application.—Any determination made under paragraph (1) shall apply only to total or partial separations occurring after the termination date specified by the Secretary.

"SEC. 232. BENEFIT INFORMATION TO WORKERS.

"(a) in General.—The Secretary shall, in accordance with the provisions of sections 222 or 223, as appropriate, provide prompt and full information to adversely affected workers covered by a certification issued under section 231(c), including information regarding—

"(1) benefit allowances, training, and other employment services available under this chapter;

"(2) petition and application procedures under this chapter;

"(3) appropriate filing dates for the allowances, training, and services available under this chapter; and

"(4) eligibility for applying for and receiving all other Federal benefits and services available to separated workers during a period of unemployment.

"(b) Assistance to Groups of Workers.—

"(1) in General.—The Secretary shall provide any necessary assistance to enable groups of
workers to prepare petitions or applications for program benefits.

"(2) ASSISTANCE FROM STATES.—The Secretary shall ensure that cooperating States fully comply with the trade adjustment entered into under section 222 and shall periodically review that compliance.

(c) NOTICE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 15 days after a certification is issued under section 231 (as or soon as practicable after separation), the Secretary shall provide written notice of the benefits available under this chapter to each worker whom the Secretary has reason to believe is covered by the certification.

(2) PUBLICATION OF NOTICE.—The Secretary shall publish notice of the benefits available under this chapter to workers covered by each certification made under section 231 in newspapers of general circulation in the areas in which those workers reside.

(3) NOTICE TO OTHER PARTIES AFFECTED BY THESE PROVISIONS REGARDING HEALTH ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall notify each provider of health insurance within the meaning of section 7527 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 of the availability of health care coverage assistance under title VI of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act of 2002 and of the temporary extension of the election period for COBRA continuation coverage for certain workers under section 603 of that Act.

"Subchapter C—Program Benefits

PART I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 234. COMPREHENSIVE ASSISTANCE.

"Workers covered by a certification issued by the Secretary under section 231 shall be eligible for the following:

(1) Trade adjustment allowances as described in sections 235 through 238.

(2) Employment services as described in section 239.

(3) Training as described in section 240.

(4) Job search allowances as described in section 241.

(5) Relocation allowances as described in section 242.

(6) Supportive services and wage insurance as described in section 243.

(7) Health care coverage assistance under title VI of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act of 2002.

"PART II—TRADE ADJUSTMENT ALLOWANCES

SEC. 235. QUALIFYING REQUIREMENTS FOR WORKERS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—Payment of a trade adjustment allowance shall be made to an adversely affected worker covered by a certification under section 231 who files an application for the allowance for any week of unemployment that begins more than 60 days after the date on which the petition that resulted in the certification was filed under section 231, if the following conditions are met:

(1) TIME OF TOTAL OR PARTIAL SEPARATION FROM EMPLOYMENT.—The adversely affected worker is separated on or after the date on which the certification is issued under section 231 or is separated on or after the date on which the petition that resulted in the certification was filed under section 231, if the following conditions are met:

(2) EMPLOYMENT REQUIRED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The adversely affected worker is employed in the 52-week period ending with the week in which the total or partial separation occurred, at least 26 weeks of employment at wages of $30 or more a week with a single firm or in a series of separations from one or more firms.

(B) UNAVAILABILITY OF DATA.—If data with respect to weeks of employment with a firm are not available, the worker had equivalent amounts of employment computed under regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

(C) WEEK OF EMPLOYMENT.—For the purpose of this subparagraph any employed weekly allowance shall be treated as a week of employment at wages of $30 or more, if an adversely affected worker—

(i) is on employer-authorized leave for purposes of vacation, family care, illness, injury, or maternity; or

(ii) is engaged in or serves as a full-time representative of a labor organization in that firm or subdivision; or

(iii) is on call-up for purposes of active duty in a reserve status in the Armed Forces of the United States; or

(iv) does not work because of a disability that is compensable under a worker’s compensation law or plan of a State or the United States; or

(v) is enrolled in order to serve as a full-time representative of a labor organization in that firm or subdivision; and

(vi) is on call-up for purposes of active duty in a reserve status in the Armed Forces of the United States, that provided that active duty is Federal service as defined in section 8521(a)(1) of title 5, United States Code.

(D) EXCEPTIONS.—

(i) (I) In the case of weeks described in clause (i) or (iii) of subparagraph (C), or both, not more than 7 weeks may be treated as weeks of employment under subparagraph (a)(5) and paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to any week of unemployment that begins before the first week following the week in which the certification is issued under section 231.

(ii) UNAVAILABILITY OF DATA .—The Secretary shall notify each provider of health insurance within the meaning of section 7527 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 of the availability of health care coverage assistance under title VI of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act of 2002 and of the temporary extension of the election period for COBRA continuation coverage for certain workers under section 603 of that Act.

(E) ELIGIBILITY.—The adversely affected worker meets all of the following requirements:

(1) ENTITLEMENT TO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—The worker was entitled to (or would be entitled to if the worker applied for) unemployment insurance for a week within the benefit period.

(2) EMPLOYMENT.—The worker was entitled to (or would be entitled to if the worker applied for) unemployment insurance for a week within the benefit period.

(3) UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.—The adversely affected worker meets all of the following requirements:

(A) ENTITLEMENT TO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—The worker was entitled to (or would be entitled to if the worker applied for) unemployment insurance for a week within the benefit period.

(B) MARKETABLE SKILLS.—The worker possesses marketable skills for suitable employment (as determined pursuant to an assessment of the worker, which may include the profiling system under section 301(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 503(i)), carried out in accordance with guidelines issued by the Secretary) and there is a reasonable expectation of employment at equivalent wages in the foreseeable future.

(C) RETIREMENT.—The worker is within 2 years of meeting all requirements for entitlement to either—

(i) old-age insurance benefits under title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.) (except for application therefore); or

(ii) a private pension plan sponsored by an employer or labor organization.

(D) HEALTH.—The worker is unable to participate in training due to the health condition of the worker, except that a waiver under this subparagraph shall not be construed to exempt a worker from requirements relating to the availability for work, active search for work, or refusal to accept work under Federal or State unemployment compensation laws.

(E) ENROLLMENT AVAILABLE.—The first available enrollment data for the approved training of the worker is within 60 days after the date of the determination made under this paragraph, or, if later, there are extenuating circumstances for the delay in enrollment, as determined pursuant to guidelines issued by the Secretary.

(F) TRAINING NOT AVAILABLE.—Training approved by the Secretary is not reasonably available to the worker from either governmental agencies or private sources (which may include area vocational education schools, as defined in section 2 of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998 (20 U.S.C. 2302), and employers), no training that is suitable for the worker is available at a reasonable cost, or the training funds for the worker are less than those provided for in subparagraphs (A) through (F) justifying the grant of such waiver.

"(2) EXCEPTION.—The provisions of subsection (a)(5) and paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to any week of unemployment that begins before the first week following the week in which the certification is issued under section 231.

SEC. 233. WAIVERS OF TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.

(1) ISSUANCE OF WAIVERS.—The Secretary may issue a written statement to an adversely affected worker waiving eligibility to be enrolled in training described in subsection (a) if the Secretary determines that the training requirement is not feasible or appropriate for the worker, because of 1 or more of the following reasons:

"(A) RECALL.—The worker has been notified that the worker will be recalled by the firm from which the separation occurred.

(B) MARKETABLE SKILLS.—The worker possesses marketable skills for suitable employment (as determined pursuant to an assessment of the worker, which may include the profiling system under section 301(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 503(i)), carried out in accordance with guidelines issued by the Secretary) and there is a reasonable expectation of employment at equivalent wages in the foreseeable future.

"(C) RETIREMENT.—The worker is within 2 years of meeting all requirements for entitlement to either—

(i) old-age insurance benefits under title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.) (except for application therefore); or

(ii) a private pension plan sponsored by an employer or labor organization.

"(D) HEALTH.—The worker is unable to participate in training due to the health condition of the worker, except that a waiver under this subparagraph shall not be construed to exempt a worker from requirements relating to the availability for work, active search for work, or refusal to accept work under Federal or State unemployment compensation laws.

(E) ENROLLMENT AVAILABLE.—The first available enrollment data for the approved training of the worker is within 60 days after the date of the determination made under this paragraph, or, if later, there are extenuating circumstances for the delay in enrollment, as determined pursuant to guidelines issued by the Secretary.

(F) TRAINING NOT AVAILABLE.—Training approved by the Secretary is not reasonably available to the worker from either governmental agencies or private sources (which may include area vocational education schools, as defined in section 2 of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998 (20 U.S.C. 2302), and employers), no training that is suitable for the worker is available at a reasonable cost, or the training funds for the worker are less than those provided for in subparagraphs (A) through (F) justifying the grant of such waiver.

"(G) OTHER.—The Secretary may, at his discretion, issue a waiver if the Secretary determines that a worker has set forth in writing a reason why it is not feasible or appropriate for the worker to participate in training and that reason is different from those provided for in subparagraphs (A) through (F) justifying the grant of such waiver.
reduce (but not below zero) by

the recent weekly benefit amount of the

uance (as determined for purposes of section

the most recent week. The amount that is the product of 104 multiplied

for a week of total unemployment (as
determined under section 236) reduced by the

total sum of the regular State unemployment

is not so entitled to unemployment

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worker that files an application for trade ad-

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section (a), with respect to a separation until

the worker becomes entitled to unemployment

insurance under another State law (whether or

not the worker has filed a claim for that insur-

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part III—employment services, training, and other allowances

SEC. 239. employment services

SEC. 240. training

SEC. 240. training

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training the worker is paid—

any Federal or State program other

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training program described in paragraph (ii)

pay under sub-

fitness period described in section

with the requirements of section 235(a)(2).

special rules.

break in training.

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the worker is receiving on-the-job training, ex-

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Secretary. The adversely af-
fected worker has a right to obtain training or

costs of the training program are paid under

through a one-stop delivery system under

ment 222 or 223, as applicable, make every rea-

sonable effort to secure for adversely affected

workers covered by a certification under section

ment on a week-to-week basis as may be re-

ceived for the worker under section 240, if the

program, or by the source, de-

ing that the worker has reason to believe will be

funds for training under that plan or program.

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term in the Federal-State Extended Unemploy-

up to 26 additional weeks

under any Federal law (other than this Act) is

in the 26-week period that follows the last week

ment allowances for up to 26 additional weeks

in order to assist an adversely

affected worker to complete training approved

for the worker under sub-
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SEC. 240. training

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SEC. 240. training

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insurance under another State law (whether or

not the worker has filed a claim for that insur-

ance).
“(C) REIMBURSEMENT.—The plan or program requires the employer to reimburse the plan or program from funds provided under this chapter, or from wages paid under the training program, for the costs of that training program paid under the plan or program.

“(b) PAYMENT OF TRAINING COSTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Upon approval of a training program under section (a), the employer shall provide that the Secretary shall pay the costs of training incurred by a worker before a certification is issued under section (a), made on behalf of the employer by the Secretary directly or through a voucher system.

“(2) ON-THE-JOB TRAINING AND CUSTOMIZED TRAINING.—

(A) PROVISION OF TRAINING ON THE JOB OR CUSTOMIZED TRAINING.—If the Secretary approves training under subsection (a), the Secretary shall, insofar as possible, provide or assure the provision of that training on the job or customized training, and any training on the job or customized training that is approved by the Secretary under subsection (a) shall include related education necessary for the acquisition of skills needed for a position within a particular occupation.

(B) MONTHLY INSTALLMENTS.—If the Secretary approves payment of any on-the-job training or customized training under subsection (a), the Secretary shall pay the costs of that training in equal monthly installments.

“(C) LIMITATIONS.—The Secretary may pay the costs of on-the-job training or customized training only if—

(i) the employer does not have the capability to provide the required training;

(ii) the training is not impairing contracts for services or collective bargaining agreements;

(iii) the costs of training would not disproportionately reduce the opportunities for employment of individuals;

(iv) no other individual is on layoff from the same, or any substantially equivalent, job for which the adversely affected worker is being trained;

(v) the employer has not terminated the employment of any regular employee or otherwise reduced the workforce of the employer with the intention of filling the vacancy so created by hiring the adversely affected worker;

(vi) the employer is not seeking to avoid the costs of providing the training and additional supervision related to the training;

(vii) the employer has not received payment under subsection (b)(1) with respect to any other on-the-job training provided by the employer or customized training that failed to meet the requirements of section (b)(1), and subject to the limitations imposed by this section, an adversely affected worker covered by a certification issued under section 231, who is not qualified to receive a trade adjustment allowance under section 235, may be eligible to have payment of the costs of training made under this subsection, if the worker enters a training program approved by the Secretary not later than 6 months after the date on which the certification that covers the worker is issued or the Secretary determines that one of the following applies:

(1) Funding was not available at the time at which the adversely affected worker was required to enter training under paragraph (1).

(ii) The adversely affected worker was covered by a waiver issued under section 235(c).

(iii) EXHAUSTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—No payment shall be made for training, and pay the costs thereof, for any adversely affected worker who is a member of a group certified under section 231 at any time after the date on which the group is certified, without regard to whether the worker has exhausted all rights to any unemployment insurance to which the worker is entitled.

(iv) SUPPLEMENTAL ASSISTANCE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), when training is provided under a training program approved by the Secretary under subsection (a) or in facilities that are not owned by the worker and are not within commuting distance of a worker’s regular place of residence, the Secretary may authorize supplemental assistance to defray reasonable transportation and subsistence expenses for separate maintenance.

(B) TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES.—The Secretary may not authorize payments for travel expenses, except for travel expenses in accordance with the provisions of section 237.

(C) SUBSISTENCE EXPENSES.—The Secretary may not authorize payments for subsistence that exceed the lesser of

(A) the actual per diem expenses for subsistence of the worker; or

(B) an amount equal to 50 percent of the prevailing per diem allowance rate authorized under Federal travel regulations.

(2) LIMITATION ON MAKING PAYMENTS.—

(A) D ISALLOWANCE OF OTHER PAYMENT.—If the costs of training an adversely affected worker are paid by the Secretary under subsection (b), no other payment for those training costs may be made under any other provision of Federal law.

(B) NO PAYMENT OF REIMBURSABLE COSTS.—No payment for the costs of approved training may be made under subsection (b) if those costs—

(i) have already been paid under any other provision of Federal law;

(ii) are reimbursable under any provision of Federal law and a portion of those costs has already been paid under that provision of Federal law;

(iii) are not reimbursable under any other provision of Federal law.

(C) NO PAYMENT OF COSTS PAID ELSEWHERE.—The Secretary is not required to pay the costs of any approved training under subsection (a) to the extent that those costs are paid under any Federal or State program other than this chapter.

(3) EXCEPTION.—The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to, or take into account, any funds provided under any other provision of Federal law that are used for any purpose other than the direct payment of the costs incurred in training a particularly adversely affected worker, even if the use of those funds has the effect of indirectly paying for or reducing any portion of the costs involved in training the adversely affected worker.

(4) UNEMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY.—A worker may not be determined to be ineligible or disqualified for unemployment insurance or program benefits under this subchapter because the individual is in training approved under subsection (a), because of leaving work which is not suitable for the worker, because of inability to maintain training, or because of the application to any week in training of provisions of State law or Federal unemployment insurance law relating to availability for work, active search for work, or refusal to accept work.

(2) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section the term "suitable employment" means, with respect to a worker, work of a substantially equal or higher skill level than the worker’s past adversely affected employment, and wages for that work of at least 90 percent of the worker’s average weekly wage.

(3) PAYMENTS AFTER REEMPLOYMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an adversely affected worker who secures reemployment, the Secretary may approve and pay the costs of training (or shall continue to pay the costs of training previously approved) for that adversely affected worker, for the completion of the training program or up to 26 weeks, whichever is less, after the date the adversely affected worker becomes reemployed.

(4) TRADE ADJUSTMENT ALLOWANCE.—An adversely affected worker who is reemployed and is undergoing training approved by the Secretary under this section may continue to receive a trade adjustment allowance, subject to the income offsets provided for in the worker’s State unemployment compensation law in accordance with the provisions of section 237.

(5) FUNDING.—The total amount of payments that may be made under this section for any fiscal year shall not exceed the amount necessary to comply with section 240A. JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS.

(a) GRANT PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary is authorized to award grants to community colleges (as defined in the Tech-Prep Education Act (20 U.S.C. 2371)) on a competitive basis to establish job training programs for adversely affected workers.

(b) APPLICATION.—

(1) SUBMISSION.—To receive a grant under this section, a community college shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time and in such manner as the Secretary determines.

(2) CONTENTS.—The application submitted under paragraph (1) shall provide a description of—

(A) the population to be served with grant funds received under this section;

(B) how grant funds received under this section will be expended; and

(C) the job training programs that will be established with grant funds received under this section, including a description of how such programs relate to workforce needs in the area where the community college is located.

(c) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a community college shall be located in an eligible community (as defined in section 271).

(d) DECISION ON APPLICATIONS.—Not later than 30 days after submission of an application under subsection (b), the Secretary shall approve or disapprove the application.

(e) USE OF FUNDS.—A community college that receives a grant under this section shall use the grant funds to establish job training programs for adversely affected workers.

SEC. 241. JOB SEARCH ALLOWANCES.

(a) JOB SEARCH ALLOWANCE AUTHORIZED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—An adversely affected worker covered by a certification issued under section 231 who is undergoing training approved under the Federal travel regulations.

(2) APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS.—The Secretary may grant an allowance pursuant to an application filed under paragraph (1) when all of the following apply:

(A) ASSIST ADVERSELY AFFECTED WORKER.—The allowance is paid to assist an adversely affected worker who has been found to be entitled to receive payments in connection with a job search conducted in order to secure a job within the United States.

(B) LOCAL EMPLOYMENT NOT AVAILABLE.—The Secretary determines that the worker cannot reasonably be expected to secure suitable employment in the commuting area in which the worker resides.

(C) WORK SEARCHED.—The worker has filed an application for the allowance with the Secretary before—

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...
“(i) the later of—
   (I) the 365th day after the date of the certification under which the worker is certified as eligible; or
   (II) the 365th day after the date of the worker’s last total separation; or
   (ii) the date that is the 182d day after the date on which the worker concluded training, unless the worker received a waiver under section 235(c).

(b) AMOUNT OF ALLOWANCE.—
   (1) GENERAL.—An allowance granted under subsection (a) shall provide reimbursement to the worker of 90 percent of the cost of necessary job search expenses as prescribed by the Secretary.

   (2) MAXIMUM ALLOWANCE.—Reimbursement under this subsection may not exceed $1,250 for any worker.

(c) ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE AND TRANSPORTATION.—Reimbursement under this subsection may not be made for subsistence and transportation expenses at levels exceeding those allowable under section 240(e).

(c) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subsection (b), the Secretary shall reimburse any adversely affected worker for necessary expenses incurred by the worker in participating in a job search program approved by the Secretary.

SEC. 242. RELOCATION ALLOWANCES.

(a) Exempted Worker Authorized.—

   (1) IN GENERAL.—Any adversely affected worker covered by a certification issued under section 231 may file an application for a relocation allowance with the Secretary, and the Secretary may grant the relocation allowance, subject to the terms and conditions of this section.

   (2) CONDITIONS FOR GRANTING ALLOWANCE.—A relocation allowance may be granted if all of the following terms and conditions are met:

   (A) AN ADVERSELY AFFECTED WORKER.—A relocation allowance will assist an adversely affected worker in relocating within the United States.

   (B) LOCAL EMPLOYMENT NOT AVAILABLE.—The Secretary determines that the worker cannot reasonably be expected to secure suitable employment in the commuting area in which the worker resides.

   (C) TOTAL SEPARATION.—The worker is totally separated from employment at the time relocation commences.

   (D) SUITABLE EMPLOYMENT OBTAINED.—The worker:

      (i) has obtained suitable employment affording a reasonable expectation of long-term duration in a commuting area in which the worker wishes to relocate; or
      (ii) has obtained a bona fide offer of such employment.

   (E) APPLICATION.—The worker filed an application with the Secretary before—

      (I) the 425th day after the date of the certification under section 231; or
      (II) the 425th day after the date of the worker’s last total separation; or
      (iii) the date that is the 182d day after the date on which the worker concluded training, unless the worker received a waiver under section 235(c).

   (b) AMOUNT OF ALLOWANCE.—The relocation allowance granted to a worker under subsection (a) includes—

      (1) 90 percent of the reasonable and necessary expenses (including, but not limited to, subsistence and transportation expenses at levels not exceeding those allowable under section 240(e)) specified in regulations prescribed by the Secretary, in transporting the worker, the worker’s family, and household effects; and
      (2) a lump sum equivalent to 3 times the worker’s average weekly wages from reemployment, up to a maximum payment of $2,250.

   (c) LIMITATIONS.—A relocation allowance may not be granted to a worker unless—

      (I) 182 days after the filing of the application for relocation assistance; or
      (II) the relocation occurs within 182 days after the conclusion of training, if the worker entered a training program approved by the Secretary under section 240(a).

SEC. 243. SUPPORTIVE SERVICES; WAGE INSURANCE.

(a) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—

   (1) APPLICATION.—
      (A) IN GENERAL.—The State may, on behalf of any adversely affected worker or group of workers covered by a certification issued under section 231—

         (i) file an application with the Secretary for services under section 173 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (relating to National Emergency Grants); and
         (ii) provide other services under title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

      (B) SERVICES.—Any services available under this paragraph include transportation, child care, and dependent care that are necessary to enable a worker to participate in activities authorized under this chapter.

   (2) CONDITIONS.—The Secretary may approve an application filed under paragraph (1) if the Secretary determines that all of the following apply:

      (A) NECESSITY.—Providing services is necessary to enable the worker to participate in or complete training.

      (B) CONSISTENT WITH WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT.—The services are consistent with the provisions relating to dislocated worker employment and training activities set forth in section 5 of subtitle B of title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 281 et seq.).

   (b) WAGE Insurance Program.—

      (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Act of 2002, the Secretary shall establish, and the States shall implement, a Wage Insurance Program under which a State shall provide the worker to the Secretary for trade adjustment allowances to pay to an adversely affected worker certified under section 231 a wage subsidy of up to 50 percent of the difference between the wages received by the adversely affected worker from reemployment and the wages received by the worker at the time of separation.

      (2) AMOUNT OF PAYMENT.—

         (A) WAGES UNDER $40,000.—If the wages the worker receives from reemployment are less than $40,000 a year, the wage subsidy shall be 50 percent of the difference between the wages received by the worker from reemployment and the wages the worker receives from reemployment.

         (B) WAGES BETWEEN $40,000 AND $50,000.—If the wages received by the worker from reemployment are greater than $40,000 but not more than $50,000 a year, the wage subsidy shall be 50 percent of the difference between the amount of the wages received by the worker from reemployment and the wages received by the worker at the time of separation.

         (C) WAGES BETWEEN $50,000 AND $60,000.—If the wages received by the worker from reemployment are greater than $50,000 but not more than $60,000 a year, the wage subsidy shall be 40 percent of the difference between the amount of the wages received by the worker from reemployment and the wages received by the worker at the time of separation.

      (3) ELIGIBILITY.—An adversely affected worker may be eligible to receive a wage subsidy under this subsection if the worker—

         (A) enrolls in the Wage Insurance Program;
         (B) obtains reemployment not more than 26 weeks after the expiration of training from the adversely affected employment;
         (C) is at least 30 years of age;
         (D) earns not more than $50,000 a year in wages from reemployment; and
         (E) is employed on a full-time basis as defined by State law in the State in which the worker is employed.

      (4) CONDITIONS.—The Secretary may establish conditions that an adversely affected worker must meet after payment.

      (5) LIMITATION ON OTHER BENEFITS.—At the time a worker begins to receive a wage subsidy under this subsection the worker shall not be eligible to receive any benefits under this Act other than the wage subsidy unless the Secretary determines, pursuant to standards established by the Secretary, that the worker has shown circumstances that warrant eligibility for training benefits under section 240.

   (6) FUNDING.—The total amount of payments that may be made under this subsection for any fiscal year shall not exceed $50,000,000.

   (b) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), a worker receiving payments under this subsection on the date described in subparagraph (A) shall continue to receive such payments for as long as the worker meets the eligibility requirements of this subsection.

   (c) STUDIES OF ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO ECONOMICALLY DISTRESSED WORKERS.—

      (1) STUDY BY THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE.—

         (A) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study of all assistance provided by the Federal Government for workers facing job loss and economic distress.

         (B) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Act of 2002, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives a report on the study conducted under subparagraph (A).

      (C) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Act of 1998, the Comptroller General shall submit a report to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives the report described in subparagraph (A).

      (D) DISTRIBUTION OF GAO REPORT.—The report described in subparagraph (B) shall be distributed to all one-stop partners authorized under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

   (2) STUDIES BY THE STATES.—

      (A) IN GENERAL.—Each State may conduct a study of assistance programs the State makes available to workers facing job loss and economic distress.

      (B) GRANTS.—The Secretary may award to each State a grant, not to exceed $30,000, to enable the State to conduct the study described in subparagraph (A).

      (C) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the grant, each State that receives a grant under subparagraph (B) shall submit to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives the report described in subparagraph (A).

      (D) DISTRIBUTION OF STATE REPORTS.—A report prepared by a State under this paragraph shall be distributed to all the one-stop partners in the State.

Subchapter D—Payment and Enforcement for Provisions

SEC. 244. PAYMENTS TO STATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, from time to time, shall certify to the Secretary of the Treasury for payment to each cooperating State, the amount of payment provided for by this chapter.

(b) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary, from time to time, shall certify to the Secretary of the Treasury for payment to each cooperating State, the amount of payment provided for by this chapter.
and as a result of the false statement or representation, the person received any payment under this chapter to which the person was not entitled.

(2) FAILURE TO DISCLOSE.—The person knowingly failed, or caused another to fail, to disclose a material fact, and as a result of the non-disclosure, the person received any payment under this chapter to which the person was not entitled.

(3) HEARING.—Except for overpayments determined by a court of competent jurisdiction, no repayment may be required, and no deduction may be made, under this section until a determination under subsection (a) of the cooperating State or the Secretary, as the case may be, has been made, notice of the determination and an opportunity for a fair hearing has been given to the person concerned, and the determination has become final.

(4) RECOVERED FUNDS.—Any amount recovered under this section shall be returned to the Treasury of the United States.

SEC. 247. CRIMINAL PENALTIES.

Whoever makes a false statement of a material fact knowing it to be false, or knowingly fails to disclose a material fact, for the purpose of obtaining or increasing for that person or for any other person any payment authorized to be furnished under this chapter or pursuant to an agreement under section 222 shall be fined not more than $10,000, imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both.

SEC. 248. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Labor, for the period beginning October 1, 2001, and ending September 30, 2007, such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter, including such additional sums for administrative expenses as may be necessary for the department to meet the increased workload created by the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act of 2002, provided that funds generally used for training or other expenses may not be used for expenses of administering the trade adjustment assistance for workers program. Amounts appropriated under this section shall remain available until expended.

SEC. 249. REGULATIONS.

The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

SEC. 250. SUBPOENA POWER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may require by subpoena the attendance of witnesses and the production of relevant evidence, and make on the spot determination under the provisions of this chapter.

(b) COURT ORDER.—If a person refuses to obey a subpoena issued under subsection (a), a competent United States district court, upon petition by the Secretary, may issue an order requiring compliance with such subpoena.

SEC. 251. DISPLACED WORKER SELF-EMPLOYMENT TRAINING PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration (in this section referred to as the “Administrator”) shall establish a self-employment training program (in this section referred to as the “Program”) for adversely affected workers (as defined in chapter 2 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974), to be administered by the Small Business Administration.

(b) ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANCE.—If an adversely affected worker seeks or receives assistance through the Program, such action shall not affect the worker’s receipt of benefits under chapter 2 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974.

(c) TRAINING ASSISTANCE.—The Program shall include, at a minimum:

(1) pre-business startup planning;

(2) awareness of basic credit practices and credit requirements;

(3) developing business plans, financial packages, and credit applications.

(d) OUTREACH.—The Program should include outreach to adversely affected workers and counseling and lending partners of the Small Business Administration.

SEC. 252. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit quarterly reports to the Committee on Finance and the Committee on Small Business of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives regarding the implementation of this section, including Program delivery, staffing, and administrative expenses related to such implementation.

(b) GUIDELINES.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall issue such guidelines as the Administrator determines to be necessary to carry out this section.

SEC. 253. EFFECTIVE DATE.—The Program shall terminate 3 years after the date of final publication of guidelines under subsection (f).

TITLE II—TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR FIRMS

SEC. 254. REALLOCATION OF FUNDING.

The funding provided for training services under chapter 3 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2341(c)) is amended to read—

(1) in paragraph (1) to read as follows—

(1)(A)(i) sales or production, or both, of the firm have decreased absolutely, or

(2) sales or production, or both, of an article that is produced for not more than 15 percent of the total production or sales of the firm during the 12-month period for which data are available have decreased absolutely; and

(3) increases in the number of volume of imports of articles like or directly competitive with articles which are produced by such firm contributed importantly to such total or partial separation, or threat thereof, and to such decline in sales or production; or

(2) a shift in production by the workers’ firm or subdivision to a foreign country of articles like or directly competitive with articles which are produced by that firm or subdivision contributed importantly to the workers’ separation or threat of separation; and

and inserting “paragraph (1)(C)” and striking “paragraph (1)”.

TITLE III—TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR COMMUNITIES

SEC. 255. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this title is to assist communities with economic adjustment through the integration of political and economic organizations, the coordination of Federal, State, and local resources, the creation of community-based development strategies, and the provision of economic transition assistance.

SEC. 256. TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR COMMUNITIES.

Chapter 4 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2371 et seq.) is amended to read as follows—

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**CHAPTER 4—COMMUNITY ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT**

**SEC. 271. DEFINITIONS.**

"In this chapter:

(1) CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE.—The term ‘civilian labor force’ has the meaning given in section 250.1 of the regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Labor.

(2) COMMUNITY.—The term ‘community’ means a county or equivalent political subdivision of a State.

(A) RURAL COMMUNITY.—The term ‘rural community’ means a community that has a rural-urban continuum code of 4 through 9.

(B) URBAN COMMUNITY.—The term ‘urban community’ means a community that has a rural-urban continuum code of 0 through 3.

(3) COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE.—The term ‘Community Economic Development Coordinating Committee’ means a community group established under section 274 that consists of major groups significantly affected by an increase in imports or a shift in production, including local, regional, tribal, and State governments, regional councils of governments and economic development, and business, labor, education, health, religious, and other community-based organizations.

(C) DIRECTOR.—The term ‘Director’ means the Director of the Office of Community Trade Adjustment.

(D) ELIGIBLE COMMUNITY.—The term ‘eligible community’ means a community certified under section 273 as eligible for assistance under this chapter.

(E) JOB LOSS.—The term ‘job loss’ means the total or partial separation of an individual, as those terms are defined in section 221.

(F) OFFICE.—The term ‘Office’ means the Office of Community Trade Adjustment established under section 272.

(G) RURAL-URBAN CONTINUUM CODE.—The term ‘rural-urban continuum code’ means a code assigned to a community according to the rural-urban continuum code system, as defined by the Economic Research Service of the Department of Agriculture.

(H) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of Commerce.

**SEC. 272. OFFICE OF COMMUNITY TRADE ADJUSTMENT.**

"(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Within 6 months of the date of enactment of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act of 2002, there shall be established the Office of Community Trade Adjustment, within the Economic Development Administration of the Department of Commerce an Office of Community Trade Adjustment.

(B) OFFICE.—The Office shall be headed by a Director, and shall have such staff as may be necessary to carry out the responsibilities described in this chapter.

(C) COORDINATION OF FEDERAL RESPONSE.—The Office shall—

(1) provide leadership, support, and coordination for a comprehensive management program that sets economic dislocation in eligible communities;

(2) establish an easily accessible, one-stop clearinghouse for States and eligible communities to obtain information regarding economic dislocation assistance available under Federal law;

(3) coordinate the Federal response to an eligible community—

(A) by identifying all Federal, State, and local resources that are available to assist the eligible community in recovering from economic distress;

(B) by ensuring that all Federal agencies offering assistance to an eligible community do so in a coordinated and integrated manner that ensures that an eligible community has access to all available Federal assistance;

(C) by assuring timely coordination and cooperation, both within Federal, State, and regional officials concerning community economic adjustment;

(3) by identifying economic problems in the community that result from an increase in imports or shift in production;

(4) integrate the major groups and organizations significantly affected by the economic adjustment;

(5) establish specific criteria for submission and evaluation of a strategic plan submitted under section 276;

(6) administer the grant programs established under sections 276 and 277; and

(7) establish an interagency Trade Adjustment Assistance Working Group, consisting of the representatives of any Federal department or agency with responsibility for economic adjustment assistance, including the Department of Commerce, the Department of Labor, the Department of Education, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Small Business Administration, the Department of the Treasury, the Department of Commerce, the Office of the United States Trade Representative, and the National Economic Council.

(3) WORKING GROUP.—The working group established under subsection (c)(7) shall examine other options for addressing trade impacts on communities, including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) Seeking legislative language directing the Foreign Trade Zone (‘FTZ’) Board to expedite consultation with foreign companies on expansion of foreign companies or foreign companies that have been found eligible for trade adjustment assistance.

(2) Seeking legislative language to make new markets tax credits available in communities impacted by trade.

(3) Seeking legislative language to make work opportunity tax credits available for hiring unemployed workers who are certified eligible for trade adjustment assistance.

(4) Examining ways to assist trade impacted rural communities and industries take advantage of the programs of the Department of Agriculture’s rural development program.

**SEC. 273. NOTIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION AS ELIGIBLE COMMUNITY.**

"(a) NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary of Labor, not later than 15 days after the Director certifies a community as eligible under subsection (b), the Director shall notify the community—

(1) of its determination under subsection (b);

(2) of the provisions of this chapter;

(3) how to obtain the clearance house established under section 272(c); and

(4) how to obtain technical assistance provided under section 272(c).

(b) COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE.—

(1) LOCAL PARTICIPATION.—The Community Economic Development Coordinating Committee established by an eligible community under section 274(a) shall include representatives of those groups significantly affected by economic dislocation, such as local, regional, tribal, and State governmental units, educational institutions, economic development organizations, business, labor, education, health organizations, religious, and other community-based groups providing assistance to workers, their families, and communities.

(2) FEDERAL PARTICIPATION.—Pursuant to section 275(b)(3), the community economic adjustment advisor, assigned by the Director to assist an eligible community, shall serve as an ex officio member of the Community Economic Development Coordinating Committee, and shall advise the participating representatives of other Federal agencies on that Committee as necessary.

(c) EXISTING ORGANIZATION.—An eligible community may designate an existing organization in that community as the Community Economic Development Coordinating Committee if that organization meets the requirements of paragraph (1) for the purposes of this chapter.

(d) DUTIES.—The Community Economic Development Coordinating Committee shall—

(1) determine the community economic adjustment required as a result of the increase in imports or shift in production;

(2) assess the capacity of the community to respond to the required economic adjustment and the needs of the community as it undertakes economic adjustment, taking into consideration factors such as the number of jobs lost, the size of the community, the diversity of industries, the skills of the labor force, the condition of the current labor market, the availability of financing, and the adequacy and availability of public services, and the existence of a basic and advanced infrastructure in the community;

(3) facilitate a dialogue between concerned interests in the community, represent the impacted community, and ensure all interests in the community work collaboratively toward collective goals without duplication of effort or resources;
“(4) oversee the development of a strategic plan for community economic development, taking into consideration the factors mentioned under paragraph (2), and consistent with the criteria established by the Secretary for the strategic plan developed under section 276;

“(5) create an executive council of members of the Community Economic Development Coordinating Committee to develop or implement the strategic plan, and be an eligible recipient for funding for economic adjustment for that community.

“SEC. 275. COMMUNITY ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT ADVISORS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to section 272(c)(3)(G), the Director shall assign a community economic adjustment advisor to each eligible community.

“(b) DUTIES.—The community economic adjustment advisor shall:

“(1) provide technical assistance to the eligible community, assist in the development and implementation of a strategic plan, including applying for any grant available under this Act or any other Federal law to develop or implement that plan;

“(2) at the local and regional level, coordinate the response of all Federal agencies offering assistance to the eligible community;

“(3) serve as an ex officio member of the Community Economic Development Coordinating Committee, established by an eligible community under section 274;

“(4) act as liaison between the Community Economic Development Coordinating Committee established by the eligible community and all other Federal agencies that offer assistance to eligible communities, including the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Defense, the Department of Education, the Department of Labor, the Housing and Urban Development, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Small Business Administration, the Department of the Treasury, the National Economic Council, and other offices or agencies of the Department of Commerce;

“(5) report regularly to the Director regarding the progress of development activities in the community to which the community economic adjustment advisor is assigned; and

“(6) perform other duties as directed by the Secretary.

“SEC. 276. STRATEGIC PLANS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—With the assistance of the economic adjustment advisor, an eligible community may develop a strategic plan for community economic adjustment and diversification.

“(b) REQUIREMENTS FOR STRATEGIC PLAN.—A strategic plan shall contain, at a minimum, the following:

“(1) A description and justification of the capacity for economic adjustment, including the method of financing to be used, the anticipated management of the Community Economic Development Coordinating Committee, and the commitment of the community to the strategic plan over the long term.

“(2) A description of how the plan and the projects to be undertaken by the eligible community will lead to job creation and job retention in the community.

“(3) A description of how the plan and the projects to be undertaken by the eligible community will lead to job creation and job retention in the community.

“(4) A description of any alternative development strategies considered, particularly any less costly alternatives, and why those plans were rejected in favor of the proposed plan.

“(5) A description of any additional steps the eligible community can take to achieve economic adjustment and diversification, including how the plan and the projects will contribute to establishing or maintaining a level of public services necessary to attract and retain economic investment.

“(6) A description and justification for the cost and timing of Federal assistance and any necessary non-Federal funding, including how such assistance and funding will be used to achieve economic adjustment and diversification, including any necessary infrastructure improvements in the eligible community.

“(7) A description of the occupational and workforce conditions in the eligible community, including any existing or necessary assistance to attract and retain the necessary workforce, including but not limited to existing levels of workforce skills and competencies, and educational programs available for workforce training and retraining.

“(8) A description of any other Federal law to develop or implement the strategic plan, and be an eligible recipient for funding for economic adjustment for that community.

“(9) A description of the occupational and workforce conditions in the eligible community, including any existing or necessary assistance to attract and retain the necessary workforce, including but not limited to existing levels of workforce skills and competencies, and educational programs available for workforce training and retraining.

“(10) A description of any other Federal law to develop or implement the strategic plan, and be an eligible recipient for funding for economic adjustment for that community.

“SEC. 277. GRANTS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

“The Director, upon receipt of an application from a Community Economic Development Coordinating Committee on behalf of an eligible community, may award a grant to that community to be used to develop the strategic plan.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director, upon receipt of an application from a Community Economic Development Coordinating Committee on behalf of an eligible community, may award a grant to that community to be used to develop the strategic plan.

“(b) AMOUNT.—The amount of a grant made under paragraph (1) shall be determined by the Secretary, but may not exceed $50,000 to each community.

“(c) LIMIT.—Each community can only receive 1 grant under this subsection for the purpose of developing a strategic plan in any 5-year period.

“(d) STRATEGIC PLAN DEVELOPED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE DIRECTOR FOR EVALUATION AND APPROVAL.

“SEC. 278. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the purposes of this chapter:

“(1) that the national average price for the agricultural commodity, or a class of goods such as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

“(2) that the national average price for the agricultural commodity, or a class of goods such as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

“SEC. 292. PETITIONS; GROUP ELIGIBILITY.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—A petition for a certification of eligibility to apply for adjustment assistance under this chapter may be filed with the Secretary by a group of agricultural commodity producers as eligible to apply for adjustment assistance together as a unit, provided that the petition is filed by a group for the most recent marketing year for which the national average price is available.
that increases in imports of articles like or directly competitive with the agricultural commodity, or class of goods within the agricultural commodity, produced by the group for the most recent marketing year for which the national average price is available is equal to or less than the price determined under subsection (c)(1); and

(2) the requirements of subsection (c)(2) are met.

(e) DETERMINATION OF QUALIFIED YEAR AND COMMODITY.—In this chapter:

(1) QUALIFIED YEAR.—The term ‘qualified year’, with respect to a group of agricultural commodity producers certified as eligible under section 293, means each consecutive year after the year in which the group is certified that the Secretary makes the determination under subsection (c) of this section.

(2) CLASSES OF GOODS WITHIN A COMMODITY.—In any case in which there are separate classes of goods within an agricultural commodity, the Secretary shall treat each class as a separate commodity in determining group eligibility, the national average price, and level of imports under procedures established by the Secretary.

SEC. 293. DETERMINATIONS BY SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date on which a petition is filed under section 292, but in any event not later than 40 days after that date, the Secretary shall determine whether the petitioning group meets the requirements of section 292 (c) or (d), as the case may be, and shall, if the group meets the requirements, issue a certification of eligibility to apply for assistance under this chapter covering agricultural commodity producers in any group that meets the requirements. Each certification shall specify the date on which eligibility under this chapter begins.

(b) NOTICE.—Upon making a determination on a petition, the Secretary shall promptly publish a summary of the determination in the Federal Register, together with the Secretary’s reasons for making the determination.

(c) TERMINATION OF CERTIFICATION.—Whenever the Secretary determines, with respect to any certification of eligibility under this chapter, that the price for the agricultural commodity covered by the certification is no longer attributable to the conditions described in section 292, the Secretary shall terminate such certification only cause notice of such termination to be published in the Federal Register, together with the Secretary’s reasons for making such determination.

SEC. 294. STUDY BY SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE WHEN INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION BEGINS INVESTIGATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Whenever the International Trade Commission (in this chapter referred to as the ‘Commission’) begins an investigation with respect to an agricultural commodity, the Commission shall immediately notify the Secretary of the investigation. Upon receipt of the notification, the Secretary shall conduct a study of—

(1) the number of agricultural commodity producers producing a like or directly competitive agricultural commodity who have been or are likely to be certified as eligible for adjustment assistance under this chapter, and

(2) the extent to which the adjustment of such imports through competition may be facilitated through the use of existing programs.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 15 days after the day on which the Commission makes its report under section 201(f), the Secretary shall submit a report to the President setting forth the findings of the study described in subsection (a). Upon making the report to the President, the Secretary shall also promptly make the report public (with the exception of information which the Secretary determines to be confidential) and shall have a summary of the report published in the Federal Register.

SEC. 295. BENEFIT INFORMATION TO AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY PRODUCERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide full information to producers about the benefit allowances, training, and other employment services available under this title and about the petition and application procedures, and the appropriate filing dates, for such allowances, training, and services. The Secretary shall provide whatever assistance is necessary to enable groups to prepare petitions or applications for program benefits under this title.

(b) NOTICE OF BENEFITS.—(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall mail written notice of the benefits available under this chapter to each agricultural commodity producer that the Secretary has reason to believe is covered by a certification made under this chapter.

(2) OTHER NOTICE.—The Secretary shall publish notice of the benefits available under this chapter to each agricultural commodity producer that is certified by the Secretary under this chapter to each agricultural commodity producer that the Secretary has reason to believe is covered by a certification made under this chapter.

(c) NOTICE OF BENEFITS TO WORKERS.—The Secretary shall also provide information concerning procedures for applying for and receiving all other Federal assistance and services available to workers facing economic distress.

SEC. 296. QUALIFYING REQUIREMENTS FOR AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY PRODUCERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the provisions of section 298, an adversely affected agricultural commodity producer described in subsection (a) shall be entitled to adjustment assistance under this chapter in any year in which the average adjusted gross income of the producer exceeds $2,500,000.

(b) AMOUNT OF CASH BENEFITS.—(1) IN GENERAL.—The amount of cash benefits that an agricultural commodity producer in any year may receive under this chapter, and the amount of cash benefits for the five preceding taxable years, shall be determined in accordance with procedures established by the Secretary.

(2) LIMITATION.—(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, an agricultural commodity producer shall not be eligible for assistance under this chapter in any year in which the average adjusted gross income of the producer exceeds $2,500,000.

(B) CERTIFICATION.—To comply with the limitation under subparagraph (A), an individual or entity shall provide to the Secretary—

(i) a certification by a certified public accountant or another third party that is acceptable to the Secretary that the average adjusted gross income of the producer does not exceed $2,500,000; or

(ii) information and documentation regarding the adjusted gross income of the producer through other procedures established by the Secretary.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

(1) ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME.—The term ‘adjusted gross income’ means adjusted gross income of an agricultural commodity producer—

(A) as defined in section 62 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and implemented in accordance with procedures established by the Secretary; and

(B) that is earned directly or indirectly from all agricultural and nonagricultural sources of availing oneself or entity for a fiscal or corresponding crop year.

(2) AVERAGE ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME.—(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘average adjusted gross income’ means the average of the adjusted gross income of a producer for each of the 3 preceding taxable years.

(B) EFFECTIVE ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME.—In the case of a producer that does not have an adjusted gross income for each of the three preceding taxable years, the Secretary shall establish rules that provide the producer with the effective adjusted gross income for the applicable year.

(d) AMOUNT OF CASH BENEFITS.—(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the provisions of section 298, an adversely affected agricultural commodity producer described in subsection (a) shall be entitled to adjustment assistance under this chapter in an amount equal to the product of—

(A) one-half of the difference between—

(i) an amount equal to 80 percent of the average of the national average price of the agricultural commodity covered by the application described in subsection (a) for the 5 marketing years preceding the most recent marketing year, and

(ii) the national average price of the agricultural commodity for the most recent marketing year; and

(B) the amount of the agricultural commodity produced by the agricultural commodity producer in the most recent marketing year.

(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR SUBSEQUENT QUALIFIED YEARS.—The amount of cash benefits for a qualified year shall be determined in the same manner as cash benefits are determined under paragraph (1) except that the average national price of the agricultural commodity shall be determined under paragraph (1)(A)(i) by using the 5-year-marketing period used to determine the amount of cash benefits for the first certification.

(c) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF CASH ASSISTANCE.—The maximum amount of cash benefits an agricultural commodity producer may receive in any 12-month period shall not exceed $10,000.

(d) LIMITATIONS ON OTHER ASSISTANCE.—An agricultural commodity producer that is entitled to receive a cash benefit under this chapter—

(1) shall not be eligible for any other cash benefit under this title;

(2) shall be entitled to employment services and training benefits under part III of subchapter C of chapter 2.

SEC. 297. TRADE AND RECOVERY OF OVERPAYMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—
“(1) REPAYMENT.—If the Secretary, or a court of competent jurisdiction, determines that any person has received any payment under this chapter to which the person was not entitled, such person shall be liable to repay such amount to the Secretary, except that the Secretary may waive such repayment if the Secretary determines, in accordance with guidelines prescribed by the Secretary, that the amount so payable is not owing to a failure of the person to repay the amount or to carry out the purposes of this Act.

“(2) RECOVERY OF OVERPAYMENT.—Unless an overpayment is otherwise recovered, or waived under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall recover the overpayment by deductions from any sums payable to such person under this chapter.

“(b) FALSE STATEMENT.—A person shall, in addition to any other penalty provided by law, be liable for any further payments under this chapter—

“(1) if the Secretary, or a court of competent jurisdiction, determines that the person—

“(A) knowingly has made, or caused another to make, a false statement or representation of a material fact; or

“(B) knowingly has failed, or caused another to fail, to make a material fact; and

“(2) as a result of such false statement or representation, or of such nondisclosure, such person has received any payment under this chapter to which the person was not entitled.

“(c) NOTICE AND DETERMINATION.—Except for overpayments determined by a court of competent jurisdiction, no deduction may be made, under this section until a determination under subsection (a) has been made, notice of such determination and an opportunity for a fair hearing thereon has been given to the person concerned, and the determination has become final.

“(d) PAYMENT TO TREASURY.—Any amount recovered under this section shall be returned to the Treasury of the United States.

“(e) PENALTIES.—Whoever makes a false statement of a material fact knowing it to be false, or knowingly fails to disclose a material fact, for the purpose of obtaining or increasing for himself or for any other person any payment authorized to be furnished under this chapter shall be fined not more than $10,000 or imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both.

**SEC. 298B. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Agriculture not to exceed $90,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2002 through 2007 to carry out the purposes of this Act.

(b) PROPORTIONATE REDUCTION.—If in any year, the amount appropriated under this chapter is insufficient to meet the requirements for adjustment assistance payable under this chapter, the amount of assistance payable under this chapter shall be reduced proportionately.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall become effective 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

**TITLE V—TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR FISHERMEN**

**SEC. 301. TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR FISHERMEN.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title II of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2251 et seq.), as amended by title IV of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“CHAPTER 7—ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR FISHERMEN

**SEC. 299. DEFINITIONS.**

“In this chapter:

“(1) COMMERCIAL FISHING, FISH FISHERY, FISHING, FISHER, PERSON, and UNITED STATES FISH PROCESSOR.—The terms ‘commercial fishing’, ‘fish’, ‘fishery’, ‘fishing’, ‘fishing vessel’, ‘person’, and ‘United States fish processor’ have the same meanings as such terms have in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1802).

“(2) PRODUCER.—The term ‘producer’ means any person who—

“(A) is engaged in commercial fishing; or

“(B) is a United States fish processor.

“(3) CONTRIBUTED IMPORTANTLY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘contributed importantly’ means a cause which is important but not necessarily more important than any other cause.

“(B) DETERMINATION OF CONTRIBUTED IMPORTANTLY.—The determination of whether imports of articles like or directly competitive with a fish caught through commercial fishing or processed by a United States fish processor with respect to which a petition under this chapter was filed contributed importantly to the decline in price of the price of the fish shall be made by the Secretary.

“(4) DUTY AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE.—The term ‘duty authorized representative’ means an association of producers.

“(5) NATIONAL AVERAGE PRICE.—The term ‘national average price’ means the national average price paid to a producer for fish in a marketing year as determined by the Secretary.

“(6) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of Commerce.

“(7) TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE CENTER.—The term ‘Trade Adjustment Assistance Center’ shall have the same meaning as such term has in section 253.

**SEC. 299A. PETITIONS; GROUP ELIGIBILITY.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—A petition for a certification of eligibility to apply for adjustment assistance under this chapter may be filed with the Secretary by a group of producers or by their duly authorized representative. Upon receipt of the petition, the Secretary shall promptly publish notice in the Federal Register that the Secretary has received the petition and initiated an investigation.

(b) HEARINGS.—If the petitioner, or any other person found by the Secretary to have a substantial interest in the proceedings, submits not later than 10 days after the date of the Secretary’s publication under subsection (a) a request for a hearing, the Secretary shall provide for a public hearing and afford such interested person an opportunity to be present, to produce evidence, and to be heard.

(c) GROUP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary may certify a group of producers as eligible to apply for adjustment assistance under this chapter if the Secretary determines—

“(1) that the national average price for the fish, or class of fish, produced by the group for the most recent marketing year for which the national average price is available is less than 80 percent of the average of the national average price for such fish, or such class of fish, for the 5 marketing years preceding the most recent marketing year;

“(2) that increases in imports of articles like or directly competitive with the fish, or class of fish, produced by the group contributed importantly to the decline in price described in paragraph (1); and

“(3) that the conditions described in section 299A, but in any event not later than 40 days after the date of the Secretary’s determination under subsection (c) or (d), as the case may be, and shall, if the group meets the requirements, issue a certification of eligibility to apply for assistance under this chapter covering producers in any group that meets the requirements. Each certification shall specify the date on which eligibility under this chapter begins.

“(b) NOTICE.—Upon making a determination on a petition, the Secretary shall promptly publish notice in the Federal Register, together with the Secretary’s reasons for making the determination.

“(c) TERMINATION OF CERTIFICATION.—Whenever the Secretary determines that any certification of eligibility under this chapter, that the decline in price for the fish covered by the certification is no longer attributable to the conditions described in section 299A, the Secretary shall terminate such certification and promptly cause notice of such termination to be published in the Federal Register, together with the Secretary’s reasons for making such determination.

**SEC. 299B. STUDY BY SECRETARY WHEN INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION FINDS DETERMINATION.**

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Whenever the International Trade Commission in this chapter referred to as the ‘Commission’) begins an investigation under section 302 with respect to a fish, the Commission shall immediately notify the Secretary of the investigation. Upon receipt of the notification, the Secretary shall immediately conduct a study of—

“(1) the number of producers producing a like or directly competitive agricultural commodity who have been or are likely to be certified as eligible to receive adjustment assistance under this chapter, and

“(2) the extent to which the adjustment of such producers to the import competition may be facilitated through the use of existing programs.

“(b) REPORT.—Not later than 15 days after the day on which the Commission makes its report under section 202(f), the Secretary shall submit a report to the President setting forth the findings of the study under subsection (a). Upon making his report to the President, the Secretary shall also promptly make the report public (with the exception being where the Secretary determines to be confidential) and shall have a summary of it published in the Federal Register.

**SEC. 299D. BENEFIT INFORMATION TO PRODUCERS.**

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide full information to producers about the benefits available under this title and the application procedures, and the appropriate filing dates, for such allowances, training, and services. The Secretary shall provide whatever assistance is necessary to enable groups to prepare petitions or applications for program benefits under this title.

“(b) NOTICE OF BENEFITS.—The Secretary shall mail written notice of the benefits available under
this chapter to each producer that the Secretary has reason to believe is covered by a certification made under this chapter.

"(2) OTHER NOTICE.—The Secretary shall publish notice of its availability under this chapter to producers that are covered by each certification made under this chapter in newspapers of general circulation in the areas in which producers reside.

"SEC. 299E. QUALIFYING REQUIREMENTS FOR PRODUCERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Payment of a trade adjustment assistance payment shall be made to an adversely affected producer covered by a certification under this chapter to producers that have been certified by the Secretary for the adverse effects of any fishery. The Secretary shall not make a trade adjustment assistance payment to any producer if

(i) such producer was not adversely affected by the overcapitalization of any fishery.

(ii) such producer has not received cash benefits under any provision of this title other than this chapter.

(iii) such producer received cash benefits under any provision of this title other than this chapter for the most recent marketing year.

(b) PROHIBITION OF PARTIAL PAYMENTS.—No part of the amount of a trade adjustment assistance payment shall be paid to any producer under this chapter that received a partial payment under section 299B, if the following conditions are met:

(1) the producer submits to the Secretary sufficient information to establish the amount of fishing or processing income for the latest year in which no adjustment assistance was received by the producer under this chapter;

(2) the producer certifies that the producer has not received cash benefits under any provision of this title other than this chapter.

(c) AMOUNT OF CASH BENEFITS.—

(1) REQUIREMENTS.—The amount of the trade adjustment assistance payment shall be determined, subject to the provisions of subsection (b), by the Secretary, after consultation with the Department of Commerce, based on the following information:

(a) the amount of cash benefits received under section 299B, if the following conditions are met:

(1) the Secretary makes a determination and prescribed by the Secretary, that

(i) such producer is not eligible for any cash benefits for the adversely affected fish; and

(ii) such producer shall receive the overpayment by deductions from any sums payable to such person under this chapter.

(b) FALLEN FISHERMAN.—In the case of a producer under this chapter to which the person was not entitled, the Secretary may waive such repayment if the Secretary determines, in accordance with guidelines prescribed by the Secretary, that—

(1) the production was made without fault on the part of such person; and

(2) repaying such premium would be contrary to equity and good conscience.

(2) RECOVERY OF OVERPAYMENT.—Unless an overpayment is waived under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall recover the overpayment by deductions from any sums payable to such person under this chapter.

(d) E LIGIBLE COVERAGE MONTH.—For purposes of this subsection, an individual is an eligible coverage month if, as of the first day of such month—

(1) the taxpayer is an eligible individual,

(2) the taxpayer is covered by qualified health insurance under which at least 50 percent of the cost of health insurance, which are chosen under a cafeteria plan or provided under a cafeteria plan, is paid or incurred by an employer (or former employer) of the taxpayer or the taxpayer’s spouse.

"(2) OTHER SPECIFIED COVERAGES.—For purposes of this subsection, an individual is eligible for self-employed coverage in any month if, as of the first day of such month—

(1) the taxpayer is an eligible individual,

(2) the taxpayer is covered under qualified health insurance under which at least 50 percent of the cost of health insurance, which are chosen under a cafeteria plan or provided under a cafeteria plan, is paid or incurred by an employer (or former employer) of the taxpayer or the taxpayer’s spouse.

"(3) EXCLUSION OF MONTHS IN WHICH INDIVIDUAL IS IMPRISONED.—Such term shall not include any month with respect to an individual if, as of the first day of such month, such individual is imprisoned under Federal, State, or local authority.

"(2) OTHER SPECIFIED COVERAGES.—For purposes of this subsection, an individual is eligible for self-employed coverage in any month if, as of the first day of such month—

(1) the taxpayer is an eligible individual,

(2) the taxpayer is covered under qualified health insurance under which at least 50 percent of the cost of health insurance, which are chosen under a cafeteria plan or provided under a cafeteria plan, is paid or incurred by an employer (or former employer) of the taxpayer or the taxpayer’s spouse.

"(4) SPECIAL RULE.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘eligible individual’ means an individual who is qualified to receive payment of a trade adjustment assistance allowance under section 122B of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended by section 111 of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act of 2002.
(d) QUALIFIED HEALTH INSURANCE.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘qualified health insurance’ means health insurance coverage described under section 173(f) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2918(f)).

(e) COORDINATION WITH ADVANCE PAYMENTS OF CREDIT.—

(f) RECAPTURE OF EXCESS ADVANCE PAYMENTS.—If any payment is made by the Secretary under section 7527 during any calendar year to a provider of qualified health insurance for any individual, then the tax imposed by this chapter for the individual’s last taxable year beginning in such calendar year shall be increased by the aggregate amount of such payments.

(g) ADVANCE PAYMENT OF TRAD-
(i) COBRA continuation coverage;
(ii) State-based continuation coverage provided by the State under a State law that requires such coverage even though the coverage would not be required under the provisions of law referred to in paragraph (4)(A);
(iii) the enrollment of the eligible worker and the eligible worker's spouse and dependents in health insurance coverage offered through a qualified State high risk pool or other comparable State-based health insurance coverage alternative;
(iv) the enrollment of the eligible worker and the eligible worker's spouse and dependents in the health insurance program offered for State employees;
(v) a direct payment arrangement entered into by the State and a group health plan (including a multiemployer plan as defined in section 3(37) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1002(37))), an issuer of health insurance coverage, an administrator or a trust, on behalf of the eligible worker and the eligible worker's spouse and dependents;
(vi) the enrollment of the eligible worker and the eligible worker's spouse and dependents in a State-based health insurance program that is comparable to the health insurance program offered for State employees;
(vii) State-based continuation coverage provided to workers, spouses, and dependents that is comparable to the State continuation coverage provided to eligible workers;
(viii) the enrollment of the eligible worker and the eligible worker's spouse and dependents in a State-established, State-funded health plan;
(ix) the enrollment of the eligible worker and the eligible worker's spouse and dependents in health insurance coverage offered through a State arrangement with a private sector health care coverage purchasing pool; or
(x) in the case of an eligible worker who was enrolled in a State-based health insurance coverage during the 6-month period that ends on the date on which the worker became unemployed, enrollment in such individual health insurance coverage;

(B) ESTABLISHMENT OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE MECHANISMS.—To establish or administer:
(i) a qualified State high risk pool for the purpose of providing health insurance coverage to an eligible worker and the eligible worker's spouse and dependents;
(ii) a State-based program for the purpose of providing health insurance coverage to an eligible worker and the eligible worker's spouse and dependents that is comparable to the State health insurance program for State employees;
(iii) a program under which the State enters into arrangements described in subparagraph (A)(vi); or

(C) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—To pay the administrative expenses related to the enrollment of eligible workers and the eligible worker's spouses and dependents in health insurance coverage described in subparagraph (A), including—
(i) eligibility verification activities;
(ii) the notification of eligible workers of available health insurance coverage options;
(iii) processing qualified health insurance credit claims under section 36B of title II of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;
(iv) providing assistance to eligible workers in enrolling in health insurance coverage;
(v) the development or implementation of necessary data management systems; and
(vi) any other expenses determined appropriate by the Secretary.

(2) REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE.—With respect to health insurance coverage provided to eligible workers under any of clauses (ii) through (viii) of paragraph (1)(A), the State shall ensure that—
(A) enrollment is guaranteed for workers who are eligible for health insurance coverage under an eligibility certificate described in section 7527 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and who pay the remainder of the premium for such enrollment;
(B) no pre-existing condition limitations are imposed with respect to such eligible workers;
(C) the cost of benefits which are the same as (or substantially similar to) the benefits provided to similarly situated individuals who are not an eligible worker;
(D) benefits under the coverage are not less than the benefits provided to similarly situated individuals who are not eligible workers;
(E) the standard loss ratio for the coverage is not less than 65 percent;
(F) in the case of coverage provided under paragraph (1)(A)(v), the premiums and benefits are comparable to the premiums and benefits applicable to State employees; and
(G) such coverage otherwise meets requirements established by the Secretary.

(2) EXPEDITED PROCEDURES.—With respect to applications submitted by States for grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall—
(A) not later than 15 days after the date on which the Secretary receives a completed application from a State, notify the State of the determination of the Secretary with respect to the application or disapproval of the application;
(B) in the case of a State application that is disapproved by the Secretary, provide technical assistance, at the request of the State, in a timely manner to enable the State to submit an approved application; and
(C) develop procedures to expedite the provision of funds to States with approved applications.

(A) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—

(A) EXPEDITED PROCEDURES.—With respect to applications submitted by States for grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall—

(B) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—The Secretary shall ensure that funds made available under this section shall be carried out subsection (a)(4)(A) to carry out subsection (a)(4)(A) are available to States throughout the period described in section 174(c)(2)(A).

(A) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this sub- section:

(A) COBRA CONTINUATION COVERAGE.—The term ‘COBRA continuation coverage’ means coverage under a group health plan provided by an employer pursuant to title XXII of the Public Health Service Act, section 4980B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, part 6 of subtitle B of title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, or section 895a of title 5, United States Code.

(B) ELIGIBLE WORKER.—The term ‘eligible worker’ means an individual who—

(i) is entitled to receive payment of a trade adjustment allowance under section 235 of the Trade Act of 1974; or
(ii) is entitled to benefits under title XVI of such Act (other than under section 1928).

(C) CERTAIN OTHER COVERAGE.—Such individual—

(i) is entitled to benefits under part A of title XVIII of the Social Security Act or is entitled under part B of such title, or
(ii) is entitled to receive benefits under chapter 89 of title II, United States Code;

(D) GROUP HEALTH PLAN.—The term ‘group health plan’ has the meaning given that term in section 2791(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg-91(a)), section 607(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1167(1)), and section 4980B(b)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(E)-health insurance coverage.—The term ‘health insurance coverage’ has the meaning that is given to that term in section 2791(c)(2) of the Public Health Service Act.

(F) STANDARD LOSS RATIO.—The term ‘standard loss ratio’, with respect to the pool of insured individuals under coverage described in clauses (ii) through (viii) of paragraph (A) for a year, means—

(i) the amount of claims incurred with respect to the pool of insured individuals in each such type of coverage for such year, divided by

(ii) the premiums paid for enrollment in each such coverage for such year.

(G) INTERNAL HEALTH AND OTHER ASSISTANCE.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—Funds made available to a State under paragraph (4)(B) of subsection (a) may be used by the State to provide assistance and support services to eligible workers, includ-

(A) health care coverage, transportation, child care, dependent care, and income assistance.

(B) INCOME SUPPORT.—With respect to any income assistance provided to an eligible worker with such funds, such assistance shall supplement and not supplant other income support or assistance provided under chapter 2 of title II of the Trade Adjustment Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 227 et seq.) (as in effect on the day before the effective date of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act of 2002) or the unemployment compensation laws of the State wherein the eligible worker resides.

(C) HEALTH CARE COVERAGE.—With respect to any health care coverage assistance provided to an eligible worker with such funds, the following rules shall apply:

(i) The State may provide assistance in obtaining health care coverage to the eligible worker and to the eligible worker’s spouse and dependents.

(ii) Such assistance shall supplement and may not supplant any other State or local funds used to provide health care coverage and may not supplant any Federal or State matching funds or non-Federal contributions required under any program.
“(4) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—

“(A) EXPEDITED PROCEDURES.—With respect to applications submitted by States for grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall—

“(i) in the case of a State that applies for grants under this subsection, notify the State of its eligibility for such grants within 15 days after the date on which the Secretary receives a completed application from a State, notify the State of the determination of the Secretary with respect to the approval of such application; and

“(ii) in the case of a State application that is disapproved by the Secretary, provide technical assistance, at the request of the State, in a timely manner to enable the State to submit an approved application; and

“(iii) develop procedures to expedite the provision of funds to States with approved applications.

“(B) AVAILABILITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—The Secretary shall ensure that funds made available under section 174(c)(1)(B) to carry out subsection (a)(4)(A) are available to States throughout the period described in section 174(c)(2)(B).

“(C) COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.—In this subsection, the term ‘eligible community’ means any area which is determined by the Secretary to be an eligible area under such Act.

“(5) BUDGETING.—In this section, ‘contingency budget’ means—

“(i) the amount provided by the President pursuant to section 2003 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974; and

“(ii) any amount provided under subsection (b) of section 2005 of such Act.

“(6) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 2005 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2862(a)(2)(A)) is amended by inserting ‘any amount provided under subsection (b) of section 2005 of such Act’ in place of the amount provided by the President pursuant to section 2003 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974.


“(i) in the case of a community that is eligible to apply for funds under subsection (b) of section 2005 of such Act, develop procedures to expedite the provision of funds to eligible communities throughout the period described in section 2005(c)(2)(B) of such Act.

“(ii) in the case of a community that is disapproved by the Secretary, provide technical assistance, at the request of the community, in a timely manner to enable the community to submit an approved application; and

“(iii) develop procedures to expedite the provision of funds to eligible communities with approved applications.

“(B) Section 2007 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 2862(a)(3)) is amended by inserting ‘any amount provided under subsection (b) of section 2005 of such Act’ in place of the amount provided by the President pursuant to section 2003 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974.

“(8) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—(A) Section 2008 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 2862(a)(4)) is amended by inserting ‘any amount provided under subsection (b) of section 2005 of such Act’ in place of the amount provided by the President pursuant to section 2003 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974.

“(B) Section 2009 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 2862(a)(5)) is amended by inserting ‘any amount provided under subsection (b) of section 2005 of such Act’ in place of the amount provided by the President pursuant to section 2003 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974.

“(C) Section 2010 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 2862(a)(6)) is amended by inserting ‘any amount provided under subsection (b) of section 2005 of such Act’ in place of the amount provided by the President pursuant to section 2003 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974.

“TITLE VII—CONFORMING AMENDMENTS AND EFFECTIVE DATE

SEC. 201. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

“(a) AMENDMENTS TO THE TRADE ACT OF 1974.—

“(1) ASSISTANCE TO INDUSTRIES.—Section 253 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2231) is amended by—

“(A) striking ‘certified’ as eligible to apply for assistance under sections 231 or 251’; and

“(B) inserting ‘certified as eligible for trade adjustment assistance benefits under section 231, or as eligible to apply for adjustment assistance under section 251’.

“(2) GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE REPORT.—Section 200 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2291) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 200. GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE REPORT.

“(a) STUDY AND REPORT.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study of the effectiveness of such programs established under such Act, and shall report the results of such study to the Congress no later than January 31, 2005. Such report shall include an evaluation of—

“(1) the effectiveness of such programs in aiding workers, farms, and communities to adjust to changed economic conditions resulting from changes in the patterns of international trade; and

“(2) the coordination of the administration of such programs and other Government programs which provide unemployment compensation and relief to depressed areas.

“(b) ASSISTANCE TO OTHER DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES.—In carrying out his responsibilities under this section, the Comptroller General shall, to the extent practical, avail himself of the assistance of the Departments of Labor, Commerce, and Agriculture and the Small Business Administration. The Secretaries of Labor, Commerce, and Agriculture and the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall make available to the Comptroller General any assistance necessary for an effective evaluation of the adjustment assistance programs established under this title.

“(c) COMMITTEE PROVISIONS.—Section 281 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2292) is amended by—

“(a) striking ‘Department of Commerce’ and inserting ‘Departments of Labor, Commerce, and Agriculture’.;

“(b) striking ‘Department of Commerce’ and inserting ‘The Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Labor’.

“(d) striking ‘Department of Agriculture’ and inserting ‘The Secretaries of Commerce, Labor, and Agriculture’.

“(e) Section 282 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2293) is amended by—

“(a) striking ‘Department of Commerce’ and inserting ‘Departments of Labor, Commerce, and Agriculture’;

“(b) inserting ‘The Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Labor’;

“(c) striking ‘Department of Agriculture’;

“(4) TRADE MONITORING SYSTEM.—Section 282 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2293) is amended by striking ‘The Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Labor’; and

“(c) the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Labor shall develop, in consultation with the appropriate agencies of the Government, a comprehensive system for monitoring the effects of adjustments on trade and employment. The system shall be designed to provide timely information to the Congress and to the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Labor; and

“(d) the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Labor shall report annually to the Congress, beginning in fiscal year 2004, a description of the system established under this subsection.

“(5) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Section 285 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2295) is amended by—

“(a) striking ‘Secretary of Commerce’ and inserting ‘Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Labor’;

“(b) striking ‘Department of Commerce’ and inserting ‘Departments of Labor, Commerce, and Agriculture’;

“(c) striking ‘Secretary of Commerce’ and inserting ‘The Secretaries of Commerce, Labor, and Agriculture’;

“(d) the amendment made by paragraph (a) applies; and

“(e) the amendment made by paragraph (b) shall be effective on or before September 30, 2007.


“(b) The amendment made by paragraph (a) of this section shall be effective on or before September 30, 2007.

“TITLE VIII—ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT PROGRAMS

SEC. 230. ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT PROGRAMS.

“(a) ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR WORKERS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), trade adjustment assistance, vouchers, allowances, and other payments or benefits may not be provided under chapter 6 after September 30, 2007.

“(2) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), if on or before September 30, 2007, the worker meets the eligibility requirements of that chapter, such payments or benefits may be provided under chapter 6 or 7 after September 30, 2007.

“(B) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), an agricultural commodity producer or producer of other commodities (as defined in section 292(d)) shall continue to receive trade adjustment assistance benefits and other benefits under chapter 6 or 7, whichever applies, for any period for which the agricultural commodity producer or producer meets the eligibility requirements of chapter 6 or 7, whichever applies, if on or before September 30, 2007, the agricultural commodity producer or producer is—

“(i) certified as eligible for adjustment assistance benefits under chapter 6 or 7, whichever applies; and

“(ii) otherwise eligible to receive adjustment assistance benefits under such chapter 6 or 7.

“(c) STUDY.—The table of contents for chapters 2, 3, and 4 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974 is amended to read as follows:

“CHAPTER 2—ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR WORKERS

“SUBCHAPTER A—GENERAL PROVISIONS

“Sec. 201. Definitions.


“Sec. 203. Administration absent State agreement.

“Sec. 204. Data collection; evaluations; reports.

“Sec. 205. Study by Secretary of Labor when inadequate funding available.

“Sec. 206. Report by Secretary of Labor on likely impact of trade agreements.

“SUBCHAPTER B—CERTIFICATIONS

“Sec. 211. Certification as adversely affected workers.

“Sec. 212. Benefit information to workers.

“SUBCHAPTER C—PROGRAM BENEFITS

“Sec. 231. Trade adjustment allowances.

“Sec. 232. Comprehensive assistance.

“Sec. 233. Trade adjustment allowances.

“PART II—TRADE ADJUSTMENT ALLOWANCES

“Sec. 235. Qualifying requirements for workers.

“Sec. 236. Weekly amounts.

“Sec. 237. Limitations on trade adjustment allowances.

“Sec. 238. Application of State laws.

“PART III—EMPLOYMENT SERVICES, TRAINING, AND OTHER ALLOWANCES

“Sec. 239. Employment services.

“Sec. 240. Training.

“Sec. 240A. Job training programs.

“Sec. 241. Job search allowances.

“Sec. 242. Relocation allowances.

“Sec. 243. Supportive services; wage insurance.

“Sec. 244. Reemployment allowances.

“Sec. 245. Assistance for farmers and fishermen.
(h) INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.—

(1) ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME.—Section 62(a)(12) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to the definition of adjusted gross income) is amended by inserting “trade adjustment allowances under section 231 or 232” and inserting “trade adjustment allowances under section 235 or 236”.

(2) FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT.—(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 3304(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to the approval of State unemployment insurance laws) is amended to read as follows: “(b) compensation shall not be denied to an individual for any week because the individual is in training with the approval of the State agency, or in training approved by the Secretary of Labor pursuant to chapter 2 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974 (or because of the application, to any such week in training, of State laws provisions relating to availability for work, active search for work, or refusal to accept work).”;

(B) EFFECTIVE DATE.—(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), the amendments made by this paragraph shall apply in the case of compensation paid for weeks beginning on or after the date that is 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(ii) MEETING OF STATE LEGISLATURE.—(I) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary of Labor identifies a State as requiring a change to its statutes or regulations in order to comply with the amendments made by subparagraph (A), the amendments made by subparagraph (A) shall apply in the case of compensation paid for weeks beginning after the earlier of—

(aa) the date the State changes its statutes or regulations in order to comply with the amendments made by this section; or

(bb) the end of the first session of the State legislature which begins after the date of enactment of this Act or which began prior to such date and remained in session for at least 25 calendar days after such date; except that in no case shall the amendments made by this Act apply before the date described in clause (i).

(ii) SESSION DEFINED.—In this clause, the term “session” means a regular, special, budget, or other session of a State legislature.

(c) AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 28.—(1) CIVIL ACTIONS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.—Section 1581(d) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “section 223” and inserting “section 223 or 224”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “and”; and

(C) by striking paragraph (3), and inserting the following:

“(2) any final determination of the Secretary of Commerce under section 293 of the Trade Act of 1974 or any final determination of the Secretary of Commerce under section 293(b) of that Act.”

(2) PERSONS ENTITLED TO COMMENCE A CIVIL ACTION.—Section 240 of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by amending subsection (d)(1) to read as follows:

“(1)(A) A civil action to review any final determination of the Secretary of Commerce under section 293 of the Trade Act of 1974 with respect to the eligibility of an agricultural commodity producer for adjustment assistance may be commenced in the Court of International Trade by a producer that applies for assistance under such Act and is aggrieved by such final determination; or by any other interested party that is aggrieved by such final determination.”; and

(B) by striking paragraph (3), and inserting the following:

“(3) A civil action to review any final determination of the Secretary of Agriculture under section 293 of the Trade Act of 1974 with respect to the eligibility of an agricultural commodity producer for adjustment assistance may be commenced in the Court of International Trade by an agricultural commodity producer that applies for assistance under such Act and is aggrieved by such final determination, or by any other interested party that is aggrieved by such final determination.”.

(3) TIME FOR COMMENCEMENT OF ACTION.—Section 2636(d) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by striking “under section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974 or any final determination of the Secretary of Commerce under section 251 or section 271 of such Act” and inserting “under section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974, a final determination of the Secretary of Commerce under section 251 of such Act, a final determination of the Secretary of Agriculture under section 293 of that Act, or a final determination of the Secretary of Commerce under section 299B of that Act”.

(4) SCOPE AND STANDARD OF REVIEW.—Section 2640(c) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by striking “under section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974 or any final determination of the Secretary of Commerce under section 251 or section 271 of such Act” and inserting “under section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974, a final determination of the Secretary of Commerce under section 251 of such Act, a final determination of the Secretary of Agriculture under section 293 of that Act, or a final determination of the Secretary of Commerce under section 299B of that Act.”

(5) RELIEF.—Section 2643(c)(2) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by striking “under section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974 or any final determination of the Secretary of Commerce under section 251 or section 271 of such Act” and inserting “under section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974, a final determination of the Secretary of Commerce under section 251 of such Act, a final determination of the Secretary of Agriculture under section 293 of that Act, or a final determination of the Secretary of Commerce under section 299B of that Act.”

(6) AMENDMENT TO THE FOOD STAMP ACT OF 1977.—Section 6(q)(1)(B) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2015(q)(1)(B)) is amended by striking “section 236” and inserting “section 240”.

TITLE VIII—SAVINGS PROVISIONS AND EFFECTIVE DATE

SEC. 801. SAVINGS PROVISIONS.

(a) PROCEEDINGS NOT AFFECTED.—(1) IN GENERAL.—The provisions of this division shall not be construed to affect proceedings for certification for benefits under chapter 2 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974 that were in effect on September 30, 2001. Determinations shall be issued, terms and conditions shall be made, and appeals shall be taken in accordance with such proceedings as if this division had not been enacted, and orders issued in any proceeding shall continue in effect unless modified, terminated, or revoked by a duly authorized official, by a court of competent jurisdiction, or by operation of law.

(b) MODIFICATION OR DISCONTINUANCE.—Nothing in this subsection shall be deemed to prohibit the discontinuance or modification of any...
proceeding under the same terms and conditions and to the same extent that the proceeding could have been discontinued or modified if this division had not been enacted.

(b) NOT TO AFFECT.—The provisions of this division shall not affect any suit commenced before October 1, 2001, and in all those suits, proceedings shall be had, appeals taken, and judgment rendered in the same manner and with the same effect as if this division had not been enacted.

(c) NONABATEMENT OF ACTIONS.—No suit, action, or other proceeding commenced before or against the Federal Government, or by or against any individual in the official capacity of that individual as an officer of the Federal Government, shall abate by reason of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 802. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in sections 401(b), 501(b), and 701(b)(2)(B), titles IX, X, and XI, and subsections (b), (c), and (d) of this section, the amendments made by this division shall apply to—

(1) petitions for certification filed under chapter 2 or chapter 3 of the Act on or after the date that is 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) certifications for assistance under chapter 4 of the Act issued on or after the date that is 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) BEYOND CHALLENGED AS ELIGIBLE BEFORE EFFECTIVE DATE.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), a worker shall continue to receive (or be eligible to receive) trade adjustment assistance and other benefits under chapter 2 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974, as in effect on September 30, 2001, for any week during the qualified period for which the worker meets the eligibility requirements of such chapter as in effect on such date, if on or before such date, the worker—

(1) was certified as eligible for trade adjustment assistance benefits under such chapter as in effect on such date; and

(2) would otherwise be eligible to receive trade adjustment assistance benefits under such chapter as in effect on such date.

(c) WORKERS WHO BECAME ELIGIBLE DURING QUALIFIED PERIOD.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (a) or any other provision of law, including section 205 of the Act of 1974, any worker who would have been eligible to receive trade adjustment assistance or other benefits under chapter 2 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974 during the period for which such chapter has been in effect during such period, shall be eligible to receive trade adjustment assistance and other benefits under chapter 2 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974, as in effect on September 30, 2001, for any week during the qualified period for which the worker meets the eligibility requirements of such chapter as in effect on September 30, 2001.

(2) QUALIFIED PERIOD.—For purposes of this subsection, the term “qualified period” means the period beginning on October 1, 2001 and ending on the date that is 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

TITILE IX—REVENUE PROVISIONS

SEC. 901. CUSTOM USER FEES.


SEC. 1001. COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABELING OF COVERED PRODUCTS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED COMMODITY.—The term “covered commodity” means—

(A) a perishable agricultural commodity; and

(B) any fish or shellfish, and any fillet, steak, nugget, or any other flesh from fish or shellfish, whether fresh, frozen, canned, smoked, or otherwise preserved.

(2) FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT.—The term “food service establishment” means a restaurant, cafeteria, lunchroom, food stand, cafeteria, fast food stand, food store, food service establishment operated as an enterprise engaged in the business of selling food to the public.

(b) NOTICE OF COUNTRY OF ORIGIN.

(1) REQUIREMENT.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), a retailer of a covered commodity shall inform consumers, at the final point of sale of the covered commodity to consumers, of the country of origin of the covered commodity.

(2) NOTICE TO CUSTOMER.—A retailer of a covered commodity may designate the covered commodity as having a United States country of origin only if the covered commodity is exclusively harvested and processed in the United States, or in the case of farm-raised fish and shellfish, is hatched, raised, harvested, and processed in the United States.

(c) EXEMPTION FOR FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS.—The Secretary may exempt food service establishments from the requirements of this section for normal retail quantities.

(d) METHOD OF NOTIFICATION.—In this section:

(1) IN GENERAL.—The information required by subsection (b) may be provided to consumers by means of a label, stamp, mark, placard, or other clear and visible sign on the covered commodity or on the package, display, holding unit, or bin containing the covered commodity at the final point of sale to consumers.

(2) Labeled Commodities.—If the covered commodity is already individually labeled for retail sale regarding country of origin, the retailer shall not be required to provide any additional information to comply with this section.

(e) Audit Verification System.—The Secretary shall—

(1) require that any person that prepares, distributes, or arranges for the sale of any labeled commodity for retail sale maintain a verifiable recordkeeping audit trail that will permit the Secretary to enforce compliance with the regulations promulgated under subsection (g).

(2) INFORMATION.—Any person engaged in the business of supplying a covered commodity to a retailer shall provide the retailer with information indicating the country of origin of the covered commodity.

(f) ENFORCEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each Federal agency having jurisdiction over retailers of covered commodities shall, at such time as the necessary regulations are adopted under subsection (g), adopt measures intended to ensure that the requirements of this section are followed by affected retailers.

(2) VIOLATION.—A violation of subsection (b) shall be treated as a violation under the Agriculture Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621 et seq.).

(g) REGULATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may promulgate such regulations as are necessary to carry out this section within 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) PARTNERSHIPS WITH STATES.—In promulgating the regulations, the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, enter into partnership with States that have the enforcement infrastructure necessary to carry out this section.

(h) APPLICATION.—This section shall apply to the retail sale of a covered commodity beginning on the date that is 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1002. SUGAR POLICY.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the tariff-rate quotas imposed on imports of sugar, syrups and sugar-containing products under chapters 17, 18, 19, and 21 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States are an essential element of United States sugar policy;

(2) circumvention of the tariff-rate quotas will, if unchecked, make it impossible to achieve the objectives of United States sugar policy;

(3) the tariff-rate quotas have been circumvented frequently, defeating the purposes of United States sugar policy and causing disruptions to the United States market for sweeteners, injury to domestic growers, refiners, and processors of sugar, and adversely affecting legitimate exporters of sugar to the United States;

(4) it is essential to United States sugar policy that the tariff-rate quotas be enforced and that deceptive practices be prevented, including the importation of products with no commercial use and failure to disclose all relevant information to the United States Customs Service; and

(5) unless action is taken to prevent circumvention, circumvention of the tariff-rate quotas will continue and will ultimately destroy United States sugar policy.

(b) POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States to maintain the integrity of the tariff-rate quotas on sugars, syrups, and sugar-containing products by stopping circumvention as soon as it becomes apparent. It is also the policy of the United States that products not used to circumvent the tariff-rate quotas, such as molasses used for animal feed or rum, not be affected by any action taken pursuant to this Act.

(c) IDENTIFICATION OF IMPORTS.—

(1) IDENTIFICATION.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and on a regular basis thereafter, the Secretary of Agriculture shall—

(a) prepare and submit to the President a list of the imports of articles that are circumventing-tariff-rate quotas on sugars, syrups, or sugar-containing products imposed under chapters 17, 18, 19, or 21 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States; and

(b) report to the President the articles found to be circumventing the tariff-rate quotas.

(2) ACTION BY PRESIDENT.—Upon receiving the report from the Secretary of Agriculture, the President shall, by proclamation, include any articles identified by the Secretary in the appropriate tariff-rate quota provision of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule.

TITLE XI—CUSTOMS REAUTHORIZATION

SEC. 1101. SHORT TITLE. This title may be cited as the “Customs Border Security Act of 2002”.

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(b) Fiscal Year 2004.—Of the amounts made available for fiscal year 2004 under section 301(b)(1)(B) of the Customs Procedures and Reform and Simplification Act of 1978 (19 U.S.C. 2075(b)(1)(B)) as amended by section 1121(a) of this title, $9,000,000 shall be available until expended for the maintenance and support of the equipment and training of personnel to maintain and support the equipment described in subsection (a).

(c) Acquisition of Technologically Superior Equipment; Transfer of Funds.—

(1) In General.—The Commissioner of Customs may use amounts made available for fiscal year 2003 under section 301(b)(1)(A) of the Customs Procedures and Reform and Simplification Act of 1978 (19 U.S.C. 2075(b)(1)(A)) as amended by section 1111(a) of this title, for the acquisition of equipment other than the equipment described in subsection (a) if such other equipment—

(A) is technologically superior to the equipment described in subsection (a); and

(b) will achieve at least the same results at a cost that is the same or less than the equipment described in subsection (a); or

(c) can be obtained at a lower cost than the equipment described in subsection (a).

(2) Transfer of Funds.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Commissioner of Customs may reallocate an amount not to exceed 10 percent of—

(I) the amount specified in any of subparagraphs (A) through (R) of subsection (a)(1) for equipment specified in any other of such subparagraphs (A) through (R);

(II) the amount specified in any of subparagraphs (A) through (G) of subsection (a)(2) for equipment specified in any other of such subparagraphs (A) through (G); and

(III) the amount specified in any of subparagraphs (A) through (E) of subsection (a)(3) for equipment specified in any other of such subparagraphs (A) through (E).

SEC. 1113. COMPLIANCE WITH PERFORMANCE PLAN REQUIREMENTS.

As part of the annual performance plan for each of the fiscal years 2003 and 2004 covering each program activity set forth in the budget of the United States Customs Service, as required under section 1115 of title 31, United States Code, the Commissioner of Customs shall establish performance goals, performance indicators, and comply with all other requirements contained in paragraphs (1) through (6) of subsection (a) of such section with respect to each program activity to be carried out pursuant to sections 1112 of this title.

CHAPTER 2—CHILD CYBER-SMUGGLING CENTER OF THE CUSTOMS SERVICE

SEC. 1121. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR PROGRAM TO PREVENT CHILD PORNOGRAPHY/CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION.

(a) Authorization of Appropriations.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Customs Service $10,000,000 for fiscal year 2003 to carry out the program to prevent child pornography/child sexual exploitation published by the Child Cyber-Smuggling Center of the Customs Service.

(b) Use of Amounts for Child Pornography/Child Sexual Exploitation.—

(1) In General.—The amount appropriated under subsection (a) of this section, the Customs Service shall provide 3.75 percent of such amount to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children for the operation of the child pornography cyber tipline of the Center and for increased public awareness of the tipline.

CHAPTER 3—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 1131. ADDITION TO CUSTOMS SERVICE OFFICERS FOR UNITED STATES-CANADA BORDER.

Of the amounts made available for fiscal year 2003 under paragraphs (3) and (2)(A) of section 301(b) of the Customs Procedures and Reform and Simplification Act of 1978 (19 U.S.C. 2075(b)), as
amended by section 1111 of this title, $25,000,000 shall be available until expended for the Customs Service to hire approximately 285 additional Customs Service officers to address the needs of the ports and ports along the United States-Canada border.

SEC. 1132. STUDY AND REPORT RELATING TO PERSONNEL PRACTICES OF THE CUSTOMS SERVICE.

(a) STUDY.—The Commissioner of Customs shall conduct a study of current personnel practices of the Customs Service, including the effectiveness and implementation of the Customs Service and other Federal agencies that employ similarly-situated personnel.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of Customs shall submit to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a report containing the results of the study conducted under subsection (a).

SEC. 1133. STUDY AND REPORT RELATING TO ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES OF THE CUSTOMS SERVICE.

(a) STUDY.—(1) The Commissioner of Customs shall conduct a study of actions by the Customs Service to ensure that appropriate accounting practices are being provided to Customs Service personnel who are responsible for financial auditing of importers.

(b) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of Customs shall submit to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a report containing the results of the study conducted under subsection (a).

SEC. 1134. ESTABLISHMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF COST ACCOUNTING SYSTEM, REPORTS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION.

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September 30, 2003, the Commissioner of Customs shall, in accordance with the audit of the Customs Service's fiscal year 2002 cost accounting system performed by the Comptroller General, establish and implement a cost accounting system for expenses incurred in both commercial and non-commercial operations of the Customs Service.

(2) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT.—The cost accounting system described in paragraph (1) shall provide for an identification of expenses based on the type of operation, the port at which the operation took place, the amount of time spent on the operation, and the nature of the goods entered or exported by the Customs Service, and an identification of expenses based on any other appropriate classification necessary to provide for an accurate and complete accounting of the expenses.

(b) REPORTS.—Beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and ending on the date on which the cost accounting system described in subsection (a) is fully implemented, the Commissioner of Customs shall prepare and submit to Congress on a quarterly basis a report on the progress of implementing the cost accounting system pursuant to paragraph (a).

SEC. 1135. STUDY AND REPORT RELATING TO TIMELINESS OF PROSPECTIVE RULING.

(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General shall conduct a study on the extent to which the Office of Regulations and Rulings of the Customs Service has made improvements to decrease the amount of time to issue prospective rulings from the date on which a request for the ruling is received by the Office of Regulations and Rulings.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a report containing the results of the study conducted under subsection (a).

SEC. 1136. STUDY AND REPORT RELATING TO CUSTOMS USER FEES.

(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General shall conduct a study on the extent to which the amount of each customs user fee imposed under section 1301(a) of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c(a)) is commensurate with the level of services provided by the Customs Service relating to the fee so imposed.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a report in classified form containing—

(1) the results of the study conducted under subsection (a);

(2) recommendations for the appropriate amount of the customs user fees if such results indicate that the fees are not commensurate with the level of services provided by the Customs Service.

SEC. 1137. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR ANTITERRORISM PROVISIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Treasury such sums as may be necessary to provide an increase in the annual rate of basic pay—

(1) for all journeyman Customs inspectors and Canine Enforcement Officers who have completed at least one year’s service and are receiving an annual rate of basic pay for positions at GS-9 of the General Schedule under section 5332 of title 5, United States Code, and section 1905 of title 18, United States Code; and

(2) for the personnel described in subparagraph (A), at the appropriate GS level of the General Schedule under section 5332.

CHAPTER 4—ANTITERRORISM PROVISIONS

SEC. 1140. STUDY AND REPORT RELATING TO POTENTIAL IMPACT OF ANTITERRORISM PROVISIONS.

The Comptroller General shall conduct a study on the extent to which the Office of Regulations and Rulings of the Customs Service has made improvements to decrease the amount of time to issue prospective rulings from the date on which a request for the ruling is received by the Office of Regulations and Rulings.

SEC. 1141. EMERGENCY ADJUSTMENTS TO OFFICES, PORTS OF ENTRY, OR STAFFING OF THE CUSTOMS SERVICE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Whenever the President determines is necessary to respond to a specific threat to human life or national interests, is authorized to take any action that may be necessary to direct responses to the national emergency or specific threat.

(b) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, the Commissioner of Customs, when necessary to respond to a specific threat to human life or national interests, is authorized to close any Customs office or port of entry and make other adjustments to the customs laws of the United States, the pilot, the master, operator, or owner of such carrier (or the authorized agent of such operator or owner) shall provide by electronic transmission cargo manifest information in advance of such entry or clearance in such manner, time, and form as prescribed by regulations issued by the Secretary. The Secretary may exclude any class of land, air, or vessel carrier for which the Secretary concludes the requirements of this subparagraph are not necessary.

(c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term "cargo information" means a ruling that is received by an importer on goods that are entered on or cleared through the United States and that relates to the proper classification, valuation, or marking of such goods.

SEC. 1142. MANDATORY ADVANCED ELECTRONIC INFORMATION FOR CARGO AND PASSENGERS.

(a) CARGO INFORMATION.—(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 431(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1431(b)) is amended—

(A) by inserting in the first sentence, by striking “Any manifest” and inserting “(1) Any manifest” and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Commissioner of Customs, when necessary to respond to a specific threat to human life or national interests, is authorized to close any Customs office or port of entry and make other adjustments to the customs laws of the United States, the pilot, or any other lesser action that may be necessary to respond to the specific threat.

(3) The Secretary of the Treasury or the Commissioner of Customs shall notify the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate not later than 72 hours after taking any action under paragraph (1) or (2).”.

(b) PASSENGER INFORMATION.—Section 431(b)(1) of such Act are each amended by inserting before the semicolon “or subsection (b)(2)”.

SEC. 1143. PASSENGER AND CARGO MANIFEST INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR LAND, AIR, OR VESSEL CARRIERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For every person arriving or departing on a land, air, or vessel carrier required to make entry or obtain clearance under the customs laws of the United States, the pilot, the master, operator, or owner of such carrier (or the authorized agent of such operator or owner) shall provide by electronic transmission cargo manifest information in advance of such entry or clearance in such manner, time, and form as prescribed by regulations issued by the Secretary.

(b) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (a) of this section does not apply to air or vessel carriers of persons on which the Secretary determines that regulations under paragraphs (a)(1), (a)(2), or (a)(3) are necessary to ensure aviation and maritime safety pursuant to the laws enforced or administered by the Customs Service.

SEC. 1144. DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

(1) the term ‘‘land carrier’’ means a land, air, or vessel carrier, as the case may be, that transports goods or passengers for payment or other consideration, including money or services rendered.

(2) the term ‘‘passenger’’ means a person on which the Secretary determines that regulations under paragraphs (a)(1), (a)(2), or (a)(3) are necessary to ensure aviation and maritime safety pursuant to the laws enforced or administered by the Customs Service.
SEC. 1143. BORDER SEARCH AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN CONTRABAND IN OUTBOUND MAIL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Tariff Act of 1930 is amended by inserting after section 582 the following:

"SEC. 583. EXAMINATION OF OUTBOUND MAIL.

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of ensuring compliance with the Customs laws of the United States and other laws enforced by the Customs Service (as defined in section 1715 or 1716 of title 18, United States Code) the following:

(a) SEARCH OF MAIL NOT SEALED AGAINST INSPECTION WEIGHING 16 OUNCES OR LESS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, subsection (a)(1) shall not apply to mail weighing 16 ounces or less sealed against inspection under the postal laws and regulations of the United States.

(b) CERTIFICATION BY SECRETARY.—Not later than 3 months after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary of State shall determine whether the application of section 583 of the Tariff Act of 1930 to foreign mail transiting the United States that is imported or exported by the United States Postal Service is being handled in a manner consistent with international law and any international obligation of the United States.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), and the amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) CERTIFICATION WITH RESPECT TO FOREIGN MAIL.—The provisions of section 583 of the Tariff Act of 1930 relating to foreign mail transiting the United States that is imported or exported by the United States Postal Service shall not apply to such foreign mail unless the Secretary certifies to Congress that the application of such section 583 is consistent with international law and any international obligation of the United States.

SEC. 1144. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR REESTABLISHMENT OF CUSTS OPERATIONS IN NEW YORK CITY.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated for textile transshipment enforcement operations of the Customs Service $9,500,000 for fiscal year 2003.

(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Of the amount appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations under subsection (a) are authorized to remain available until expended.

SEC. 1152. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR TEXTILE TRANSSHIPMENT ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated for textile transshipment enforcement operations of the Customs Service $9,500,000 for fiscal year 2003.

(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Of the amount appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations under subsection (a) are authorized to remain available until expended.

SEC. 1155. GAO AUDIT OF TEXTILE TRANSSHIPMENT MONITORING BY CUSTS SERVICE.

(a) GAO AUDIT.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct an audit of the system established and carried out by the Customs Service to monitor textile transshipment.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 9 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and Committee on Finance of the Senate a report that contains the results of the study conducted under subsection (a), including recommendations for improvements to the transshipment monitoring system.
(D) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Seoul, South Korea, to address the trade issues in the geographic region.  

(E) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the proposed Customs attached office in New Delhi, India, to address the threat of illegal textile transshipment and other trade enforcement issues.  

(F) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Rome, Italy, to address trade enforcement issues in the geographic region.  

(7) AUDITORS.—$179,606 for 2 attorneys for the Office of the Chief Counsel of the Customs Service, in cases involving issues under free trade agreements with Jordan and Israel.  

(8) AUDITORS.—$350,000 for 6 Customs auditors to perform internal control reviews and document and record reviews of suspect importers.  

(9) ADDITIONAL TRAVEL FUNDS.—$250,000 for deployment of additional textile production verification teams to sub-Saharan African countries.  

(10) TRAINING.—(A) $75,000 for training of Customs personnel.  

(B) $200,000 for training for foreign counterparts in risk management analytical techniques and for teaching factory inspection techniques, model law Development, and enforcement techniques.  

(11) OUTREACH.—$60,000 for outreach efforts to United States importers.  

TITLE III. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT.  

Of the amounts made available for fiscal year 2003 under section 301(b)(2)(A) of the Customs Procedural Reform and Simplification Act of 1978 (19 U.S.C. 2075(b)(2)(A)), as amended by section 3301(d)(1) of this title, $1,317,000 shall be available until expended for the Customs Service to provide technical assistance to help sub-Saharan African countries develop and implement effective visa and anti-transshipment systems as required by the African Growth and Opportunity Act (title I of Public Law 106–200), as follows:  

(1) TRAVEL FUNDS.—$600,000 for import specialists, special agents, and other qualified Customs personnel to travel to sub-Saharan African countries to provide technical assistance in developing and implementing effective visa and anti-transshipment systems.  

(2) IMPORT SPECIALISTS.—$266,000 for 4 import specialists to be assigned to Customs headquarters to provide technical assistance to sub-Saharan African countries for developing and implementing effective visa and anti-transshipment systems.  

(3) CUSTOMS EXPERTS.—$151,000 for 2 data reconciliation analysts to review parcel shipments.  

(4) SPECIAL AGENTS.—$390,000 for 2 special agents to be assigned to Customs headquarters to be available to provide technical assistance to sub-Saharan African countries in the performance of investigations and other enforcement initiatives.  

Subtitle B—Office of the United States Trade Representative  

SEC. 1161. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.  

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 141(g)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2171(g)(1)) is amended—  

(1) in subparagraph (A)—  

(A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ‘‘2003’’ and inserting ‘‘2004’’;  

(B) in the matter preceding clause (ii), by striking ‘‘2003’’ and inserting ‘‘2004’’; and  

(C) in clause (i) to read as follows:  

‘‘(i) $30,000 for fiscal year 2003,’’; and  

(D) in clause (ii) to read as follows:  

‘‘(ii) $30,000 for fiscal year 2004.’’; and  

(2) in subparagraph (B)—  

(A) in clause (i), by adding ‘‘and’’ at the end;  

(B) by striking clause (ii); and  

(C) by striking clause (iii) as clause (ii).  

(b) SUBMISSION OF OUT-YEAR BUDGET PROJECTIONS.—Section 141(g) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2171(g)) is amended by adding at the end the following:  

‘‘(3) By not later than the date on which the President submits to Congress the budget of the United States Government for a fiscal year, the United States Trade Representative shall submit to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate the projected amount of funds for the succeeding fiscal year that will be necessary for the Office to carry out its functions.  

(4) ADDITIONAL STAFF FOR OFFICE OF ASSISTANT U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE FOR CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS.—  

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2003 for the salaries and expenses of two additional legislative specialist employee positions within the Office of the Assistant United States Trade Representative for Congressional Affairs.  

(2) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations under paragraph (1) are authorized to remain available until expended.  

Subtitle C—United States International Trade Commission  

SEC. 1171. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.  

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 330(e)(2)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1330(e)(2)(A)) is amended—  

(1) in clause (i) to read as follows:  

‘‘(i) $51,400,000 for fiscal year 2003.’’; and  

(2) in clause (ii) to read as follows:  

‘‘(ii) $52,800,000 for fiscal year 2004.’’; and  

(b) SUBMISSION OF OUT-YEAR BUDGET PROJECTIONS.—Section 330(e) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1330(e)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:  

‘‘(4) By not later than the date on which the President submits to Congress the budget of the United States Government for a fiscal year, the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate the projected amount of funds for the succeeding fiscal year that will be necessary for the Commission to carry out its functions.’’.  

Subtitle D—Other Trade Provisions  

SEC. 1181. INCREASE IN AGGREGATE VALUE OF ARTICLES EXEMPT FROM DUTY ACQUISITION ALLOWED BY UNITED STATES RESIDENTS.  

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subheading 9804.00.65 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is amended in the article description column by striking ‘‘$400’’ and inserting ‘‘$800’’.  

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) takes effect 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.  

SEC. 1182. REGULATORY AUDIT PROCEDURES.  

Section 200(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1309(b)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:  

‘‘(6)(A) If during the course of any audit concluded under this subsection, the Customs Service identifies overpayments of duties or fees or over-declarations of quantities or values that are within the time period and scope of the audit that the Customs Service has defined, then in calculating the loss of revenue or monetary penalties under section 529, the Customs Service shall treat the overpayments or over-declarations on finally liquidated entries as an offset to any underpayments or underdeclarations, or also identified on finally liquidated entries if such overpayments or over-declarations were not made by the person being audited for the purpose of violating any law.  

‘‘(B) Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to authorize a refund not otherwise authorized under section 529.’’.  

Subtitle E—Sense of Congress  

SEC. 1191. SENSE OF SENATE.  

It is the sense of the Senate that fees collected for certain customs services (commonly referred to as ‘‘customers user fees’’) provided for in section 13031 of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c) may be used only for the operations and programs of the United States Customs Service.  

DIVISION B—BIPARTISAN TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY  

TITLE XXI—TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY  

SEC. 2101. SHORT TITLE. FINDINGS.  

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the ‘‘Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002’’.  

(b) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:  

(1) The expansion of international trade is vital to the national security and economic growth of the United States. Trade is critical to the economic growth and strength of the United States and to its leadership in the world. Stable trading relationships promote security and prosperity. Trade agreements today serve the same purposes that security pacts played during the Cold War, binding nations together through a series of mutual rights and obligations. Leadership by the United States in international trade fosters open markets, democracy, and peace throughout the world.  

(2) The national security of the United States depends on its economic security, which in turn is founded upon a vibrant and growing industrial base. Trade expansion has been the engine of economic growth. Trade agreements maximize opportunities for the critical sectors and building blocks of the economy of the United States, such as information technologies and other leading technologies, basic industries, capital equipment, medical equipment, services, agriculture, environmental technology, and intellectual property. Trade will create new opportunities for the United States and preserve the unparalleled strength of the United States in economic, political, and military affairs. The United States, secured and strong, and economic opportunities, will meet the challenges of the twenty-first century.  

(3) Support for continued trade expansion requires that dispute settlement procedures under international trade agreements not add to or diminish the rights and obligations provided in such agreements. Nevertheless, in several cases, dispute settlement panels and the WTO Appellate Body have added to obligations and diminished rights of the United States under WTO Agreements. In particular, dispute settlement panels and the Appellate Body:  

(A) given insufficient deference to the expertise and fact-finding of the Department of Commerce and the United States International Trade Commission;  

(B) imposed an obligation concerning the causal relationship between increased imports into the United States and serious injury to domestic industry necessary to support a safeguard measure that is different from the obligations set forth in the applicable WTO Agreement;  

(C) imposed an obligation concerning the exclusion from safeguards measures of products imported from countries party to a free trade agreement that is different from the obligations set forth in the applicable WTO Agreements;  

(D) imposed obligations on the Department of Commerce with respect to the use of facts available in antidumping and investigation that are different from the obligations set forth in the applicable WTO Agreements; and  

(E) accorded insufficient deference to the Department of Commerce methodology for adjusting countervailing duties following the privatization of a subsidized foreign producer.  

SEC. 2102. TRADE NEGOTIATING OBJECTIVES.  

(a) OVERALL TRADE NEGOTIATING OBJECTIVES.—The overall trade negotiating objectives of the United States for agreements subject to the provisions of section 2003 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2413) are to:  

(1) obtain more open, equitable, and reciprocal market access;
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(2) to obtain the reduction or elimination of barriers and distortions that are directly related to trade and that decrease market opportunities for United States exports or otherwise distort United States trade;

(3) to further strengthen the system of international trading disciplines and procedures, including dispute resolution;

(4) to foster economic growth, raise living standards, and promote full employment in the United States and to enhance the global economy;

(5) to ensure that trade and environmental policies are mutually supportive and to seek to protect and preserve the environment and enhance sustainable development, while optimizing the use of the world’s resources;

(6) to promote respect for worker rights and the rights of children consistent with core labor standards of the International Labor Organization (as defined in section 2113(2)) and an understanding of the relationship between trade and worker rights;

(7) to seek provisions in trade agreements under which parties to those agreements agree to ensure that they do not use, or particular protections afforded in domestic environmental and labor laws as an encouragement for trade; and

(8) to ensure that trade agreements afford small businesses equal access to international markets, equitable trade benefits, expanded export market opportunities, and provide for the reduction or elimination of trade barriers that disproportionately impact small business.

(9) PRINCIPAL TRADE NEGOTIATING OBJECTIVES.

(1) TRADE BARRIERS AND DISTORTIONS.—The principal negotiating objectives of the United States regarding trade barriers and other trade distortions are—

(A) to expand competitive market opportunities for United States exports including motor vehicles and vehicle parts and to obtain fair and more open conditions of trade by reducing or eliminating tariff and nontariff barriers and policies of practices of foreign governments directly related to trade that decrease market opportunities for United States exports or otherwise distort United States trade; and

(B) to obtain reciprocal tariff and nontariff barriers and measures such as price controls and reference pricing which deny full market access for United States producers, service providers, or investors and thereby reduce market access for United States goods, services, and investments are—

(2) TRADE BARRIERS AND DISTORTIONS.—The principal negotiating objective of the United States regarding trade barriers and other trade distortions as—

(A) to promote the highest possible standard of protection for the property rights, including patent rights, copyright rights, trademarks, and other like forms of intellectual property rights, in particular in those countries that afford a lesser level of protection for such rights than United States legal principles and practice, consistent with United States legal principles and practice;

(B) to require that proposed regulations be based on sound science, cost-benefit analysis, and risk assessment, or other objective evidence; provisions for the timely adoption of safety requirements, recall provisions, and for the timely adoption of technology that would advance the public health and safety; provisions that standards of protection and enforcement keep pace with technological developments, and in particular ensuring that rightsholders have the legal and technological means to control the use of their works through the Internet and other global communication media, and to prevent the unauthorized use of their works; and

(C) to ensure that United States persons at a competitive disadvantage by laws, regulations, customs, practices of foreign governments or officials or to secure any improper advantage in a manner affecting trade and investment; and

(D) to ensure that such standards do not place United States persons at a competitive disadvantage in international trade.

(3) IMPROVEMENT OF THE WTO AND MULTILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENTS.—The principal negotiating objectives of the United States regarding the improvement of the World Trade Organization, the Uruguay Round Agreements, and other multilateral and bilateral trade agreements are—

(A) to achieve full implementation and extend the coverage of the World Trade Organization and such agreements to products, sectors, and conditions of trade not adequately covered; and

(B) to ensure that trade agreements provide for the elimination of non-tariff barriers in international trade, including dispute settlement; and

(C) to increase openness at the WTO and other international trade fora by increasing public access to the documents, meetings, and communications, including with regard to dispute settlement and investment; and

(D) to increase and more timely public access to all notifications and supporting documentation submitted by parties to the WTO.

(4) ANTI-CORRUPTION.—The principal negotiating objectives of the United States with respect to the use of money or other things of value to influence acts, decisions, or omissions of foreign governments or officials or to secure any improper advantage in a manner affecting trade are—

(A) increased and more timely public access to information regarding international trade agreements and the activities of international trade institutions;

(B) increased openness at the WTO and other international trade fora by increasing public access to the documents, meetings, and communications, including with regard to dispute settlement and investment; and

(C) increased and more timely public access to all notifications and supporting documentation submitted by parties to the WTO.

(5) TRANSparency.—The principal negotiating objective of the United States with respect to transparency is to obtain higher standards and appropriate domestic enforcement mechanisms applicable to persons from all countries participating in the applicable trade agreement that prohibit such attempts to influence acts, decisions, or omissions of foreign governments; and

(D) to ensure that the rights of children consistent with core labor standards of the International Labor Organization (as defined in section 2113(2)) and an understanding of the relationship between trade and worker rights.

(E) to ensure that all requests for dispute settlement are promptly made public; and

(F) to ensure that the full and prompt implementation of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights referred to in section 101(d)(15) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3511(d)(15)), particularly with respect to meeting enforcement obligations under that agreement; and

(G) to ensure that the provisions of any multilateral or bilateral trade agreement governing intellectual property rights that is entered into by the United States provide for better protection than that found in United States law; and

(H) to ensure that standards of protection and enforcement keep pace with technological developments, and in particular ensuring that rightsholders have the legal and technological means to control the use of their works through the Internet and other global communication media, and to prevent the unauthorized use of their works; and

(I) to ensure that standards of protection and enforcement keep pace with technological developments, and in particular ensuring that rightsholders have the legal and technological means to control the use of their works through the Internet and other global communication media, and to prevent the unauthorized use of their works; and

(J) to ensure that standards of protection and enforcement keep pace with technological developments, and in particular ensuring that rightsholders have the legal and technological means to control the use of their works through the Internet and other global communication media, and to prevent the unauthorized use of their works; and

(K) to ensure that standards of protection and enforcement keep pace with technological developments, and in particular ensuring that rightsholders have the legal and technological means to control the use of their works through the Internet and other global communication media, and to prevent the unauthorized use of their works; and

(L) to ensure that standards of protection and enforcement keep pace with technological developments, and in particular ensuring that rightsholders have the legal and technological means to control the use of their works through the Internet and other global communication media, and to prevent the unauthorized use of their works; and

(M) to ensure that standards of protection and enforcement keep pace with technological developments, and in particular ensuring that rightsholders have the legal and technological means to control the use of their works through the Internet and other global communication media, and to prevent the unauthorized use of their works; and

(N) to ensure that standards of protection and enforcement keep pace with technological developments, and in particular ensuring that rightsholders have the legal and technological means to control the use of their works through the Internet and other global communication media, and to prevent the unauthorized use of their works; and

(O) to ensure that standards of protection and enforcement keep pace with technological developments, and in particular ensuring that rightsholders have the legal and technological means to control the use of their works through the Internet and other global communication media, and to prevent the unauthorized use of their works; and

(P) to ensure that standards of protection and enforcement keep pace with technological developments, and in particular ensuring that rightsholders have the legal and technological means to control the use of their works through the Internet and other global communication media, and to prevent the unauthorized use of their works; and

(Q) to ensure that standards of protection and enforcement keep pace with technological developments, and in particular ensuring that rightsholders have the legal and technological means to control the use of their works through the Internet and other global communication media, and to prevent the unauthorized use of their works; and

(R) to ensure that standards of protection and enforcement keep pace with technological developments, and in particular ensuring that rightsholders have the legal and technological means to control the use of their works through the Internet and other global communication media, and to prevent the unauthorized use of their works; and

(S) to ensure that standards of protection and enforcement keep pace with technological developments, and in particular ensuring that rightsholders have the legal and technological means to control the use of their works through the Internet and other global communication media, and to prevent the unauthorized use of their works; and

(T) to ensure that standards of protection and enforcement keep pace with technological developments, and in particular ensuring that rightsholders have the legal and technological means to control the use of their works through the Internet and other global communication media, and to prevent the unauthorized use of their works; and

(U) to ensure that standards of protection and enforcement keep pace with technological developments, and in particular ensuring that rightsholders have the legal and technological means to control the use of their works through the Internet and other global communication media, and to prevent the unauthorized use of their works; and

(V) to ensure that standards of protection and enforcement keep pace with technological developments, and in particular ensuring that rightsholders have the legal and technological means to control the use of their works through the Internet and other global communication media, and to prevent the unauthorized use of their works; and

(W) to ensure that standards of protection and enforcement keep pace with technological developments, and in particular ensuring that rightsholders have the legal and technological means to control the use of their works through the Internet and other global communication media, and to prevent the unauthorized use of their works; and

(X) to ensure that standards of protection and enforcement keep pace with technological developments, and in particular ensuring that rightsholders have the legal and technological means to control the use of their works through the Internet and other global communication media, and to prevent the unauthorized use of their works; and

(Y) to ensure that standards of protection and enforcement keep pace with technological developments, and in particular ensuring that rightsholders have the legal and technological means to control the use of their works through the Internet and other global communication media, and to prevent the unauthorized use of their works; and

(Z) to ensure that standards of protection and enforcement keep pace with technological developments, and in particular ensuring that rightsholders have the legal and technological means to control the use of their works through the Internet and other global communication media, and to prevent the unauthorized use of their works; and

(A) to ensure that current obligations, rules, disciplines, and commitments under the World Trade Organization apply to electronic commerce; and

(B) to ensure that—

(i) electronically delivered goods and services receive no less favorable treatment under trade rules and commitments than like products delivered in physical form; and

(ii) the classification of such goods and services ensures the most liberal trade treatment possible;

(C) to ensure that governments refrain from implementing trade-related measures that impede electronic commerce;
(D) where legitimate policy objectives require domestic regulations that affect electronic commerce, to obtain commitments that any such regulations are the least restrictive on trade, nondiscriminatory, or promote an open market environment; and
(E) to extend the moratorium of the World Trade Organization on duties on electronic transactions;

(10) RECIPROCAL TRADE IN AGRICULTURE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The principal negotiating objective of the United States with respect to agriculture is to obtain competitive opportunities for United States exports of agricultural commodities in foreign markets substantially equivalent to the opportunities afforded United States exports in United States markets and to achieve fairer and more open conditions of trade in bulk, specialty crop, and value-added commodities that:

(i) reducing or eliminating, by a date certain, tariffs or other charges that decrease market opportunities for United States exports;

(ii) giving priority to those products that are subject to significantly higher tariffs or subsidy regimes of major producing countries; and

(iii) providing reasonable adjustment periods for United States domestic programs in close consultation with the Congress on such products before initiating tariff or reduction negotiations;

(iv) allowing tariffs to levels that are the same as or lower than those in the United States;

(v) seeking to eliminate all export subsidies on agricultural commodities while maintaining bona fide programs preserving United States agricultural market development and export credit programs that allow the United States to compete with other foreign export promotion efforts;

(vi) allowing the preservation of programs that support family farms and rural communities; and

(vii) developing disciplines for domestic support programs, so that production that is in excess of domestic food security needs is sold at world prices;

(viii) eliminating Government policies that create price-depressing surpluses;

(ix) eliminating state trading enterprises whenever possible;

(x) developing, strengthening, and clarifying rules and effective dispute settlement mechanisms to eliminate practices that unreasonably distort market access in agricultural markets or distort agricultural markets to the detriment of the United States, particularly with respect to import-sensitive products, including—

(i) providing for resolution of disputes between state trading enterprises and other administrative mechanisms, with emphasis on requiring price transparency in the operation of state trading enterprises and such other mechanisms in order to end cross subsidization, price discrimination, and price undercutting;

(ii) justifying trade restrictions or commercial regulatory measures, such as labeling, that affect new technologies, including biotechnology;

(iii) unjustified sanitary or phytosanitary restrictions, including those not based on scientific grounds and designed to distort trade; and

(iv) other unjustified technical barriers to trade;

(x) restrictive rules in the administration of tariff rate quotas;

(xi) eliminating practices that adversely affect trade in perishable or cyclical products to the extent they limit the ability of United States producers to compete in international markets; and

(xii) ensuring that United States trading partners to promote respect for labor and the environment are—

(A) taking into account the impact that agreements with respect to labor and the environment have on United States import-sensitive commodities (including those subject to tariff-rate quotas);

(B) CONSULTATION.—

(i) BEFORE COMMENCING NEGOTIATIONS.—Before commencing negotiations with respect to agriculture, the United States Trade Representative, after consultation with the Congress, shall seek to develop a position on the treatment of seasonal and perishable agricultural products to be employed in the negotiations in order to develop an international consensus on the treatment of seasonal or perishable agricultural products including to address dumping and safeguards and in any other relevant area.

(ii) DURING NEGOTIATIONS.—During any negotiations on agricultural subsidies, the United States Trade Representative shall seek to establish the common base year for calculating the Aggregated Measurement of Support (as defined in the Agreement on Agriculture) as the end of the Uruguay Round market access period, as reported in each country’s Uruguay Round market access schedule.

(C) TO STRENGTHEN THE CAPACITY OF THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION TO PROMOTE RESPECT FOR LABOR AND THE ENVIRONMENT.—

(1) LABOR AND THE ENVIRONMENT.—The principal negotiating objective of the United States with respect to labor and the environment is to:

(A) ensure that a party to a trade agreement with the United States does not fail to effectively enforce its environmental or labor laws, through a sustained or recurring course of action or inaction, in a manner affecting trade between the United States and that party; or

(B) recognizing that parties to a trade agreement retain discretion with respect to investigatory, prosecutorial, regulatory, and compliance matters and to make decisions regarding the allocation of resources to enforcement with respect to other labor or environmental matters determined to have higher priorities, and to recognize that a country is effectively enforcing its laws if a course of action or inaction is consistent with the exercise of such discretion, or results from a bona fide decision regarding the allocation of resources and no retaliation may be authorized based on the exercise of that discretion or inaction in order to establish domestic labor standards and levels of environmental protection;
States regarding trade in civil aircraft are those set forth in section 133(c) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3335(c)) and regarding rules of origin are the conclusion of an agreement described in section 132 of that Act (19 U.S.C. 3335).

(15) TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The principal negotiating objectives of the United States with respect to trade in textiles and apparel articles is to obtain competitive opportunities for United States exports of textiles and apparel; (ii) reducing to levels that are the same as, or lower than, those in the United States, or eliminating, to the extent permitted under international law, existing or future barriers to United States textile and apparel exports; and (iv) seeking commitments by trade agreements entered into by the United States to ensure that United States textile and apparel exports are subject to only a non-discriminatory and transparent application of payment of antidumping, countervailing duty, and safeguards and their respective safeguard laws, and avoid agreements that lessen the effectiveness of those laws.

(B) SCOPE OF OBJECTIVE.—The negotiating objectives set forth in subparagraph (A) apply with respect to trade in textile and apparel articles for export in the United States to trade agreements entered into under section 2103 (a) or (b), including any trade agreement entered under section 2103 (a) or (b) that provides for access to a trade agreement to which the United States is already a party.

(17) WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR.—The principal negotiating objectives of the United States with respect to the worst forms of child labor are—

(A) to prevent distortions in the conduct of international trade that lead to the worst forms of child labor, in whole or in part, in the production of goods for export in international commerce; and

(B) to address unfair and illegitimate competition based upon the use of the worst forms of child labor, in whole or in part, in the production of goods for export in international commerce, including through—

(i) promoting universal ratification and full compliance by all trading nations with ILO Convention No. 182 Concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor, particularly with respect to meeting enforcement obligations under that Convention and related international labor standards;

(ii) pursuing action under Article XX of the GATT 1994 to allow WTO members to restrict imports of goods found to be produced with the worst forms of child labor; (iii) seeking commitments by parties to any multilateral or bilateral trade agreement that is entered into under section 2103 (a) or (b), including any trade agreement entered into by the United States to export goods that are labor intensive and that are produced with the worst forms of child labor, in whole or in part, in the production of goods for export in international commerce, including through—

(iv) developing, strengthening, and clarifying trade agreements to ensure that the requirements and obligations of the United States with respect to meeting enforcement obligations under that Convention and related international labor standards are effectively enforced; (v) reducing or eliminating subsidies that depress United States market access opportunities for United States textile and apparel articles; and (vi) taking into account whether a product is subject to market distortions by reason of a failure of a major producing country to adhere to the provisions of already existing trade agreements with the United States or has circumvented obligations under those agreements; (vii) otherwise ensuring that countries that accede to the World Trade Organization have made meaningful market liberalization commitments in textiles and apparel; and (viii) taking into account the impact that agreements covering textiles and apparel trade to which the United States is already a party are having on the United States textile and apparel industry.

(16) TRADE AGREEMENTS.—

SEC. 2109. TRADE AGREEMENTS AUTHORITY.

(a) AGREEMENTS REGARDING TARIFF BARRIERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Whenever the President determines that any country seeking to enter into trade negotiations with the United States, with respect to which the President is negotiating, on a timely basis with all parties to a trade agreement to which this title applies, on the effectiveness of the trade agreement to which this title applies, on the effectiveness of the agreement that includes such provisions and the United States or the United States are unduly burdening and
restricting the foreign trade of the United States and that the purposes, policies, priorities, and objectives of this title will be promoted thereby, the President—

(A) enter into trade agreements with foreign countries before—

(i) June 1, 2005; or

(ii) June 1, 2007, if trade authorities procedures are extended under subsection (c); and

(B) may, subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), proclaim—

(i) such modification or continuance of any existing duty,

(ii) such continuance of existing duty-free or excise treatment, or

(iii) such additional duties as the President determines to be required or appropriate to carry out any such trade agreement.

The President shall notify the Congress of the President's intention to enter into an agreement under this subsection.

(2) LIMITATIONS.—No proclamation may be made under paragraph (1) that—

(A) reduces any rate of duty (other than a rate of duty that does not exceed 5 percent ad valorem on the date of the enactment of this Act) to a rate of duty which is less than 50 percent of the rate of such duty that applies on such date or earlier, or

(B) reduces the rate of duty below that applicable under the Uruguay Round Agreements, on any import sensitive agricultural product; or

(C) reduces the duty above a rate that applied on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(3) AGGREGATE REDUCTION; EXEMPTION FROM STAGING.—

(A) AGGREGATE REDUCTION.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the aggregate reduction in the rate of duty on any article which is in effect as of the date of the enactment of the Uruguay Round Agreements entered into under paragraph (1) shall not exceed the aggregate reduction which would have been in effect on such date if—

(i) a reduction of 3 percent ad valorem or a reduction of one-tenth of the total reduction, whichever is greater, had taken effect on the effective date of the first reduction proclaimed under paragraph (1) to carry out such agreement with respect to such article; and

(ii) a reduction equal to the amount applicable under paragraph (1), had taken effect at the same intervals after the effective date of such first reduction.

(B) EXEMPTION FROM STAGING.—No staging is required under subparagraph (A) with respect to a duty reduction that is proclaimed under paragraph (1) for an article of a kind that is not produced in the United States. The United States International Trade Commission shall advise the President of the identity of articles that may be exempted from staging under this subparagraph.

(4) ROUNDED.—If the President determines that such action will simplify the computation of reductions under paragraph (3), the President may round an annual reduction by an amount equal to the lesser of—

(A) the difference between the reduction without regard to this paragraph and the next lower whole number; or

(B) one-half of 1 percent ad valorem.

(5) ROUNDED EXEMPTION.—A rate of duty reduction that may not be proclaimed by reason of paragraph (2) may take effect only if a provision authorizing such reduction is included within an implementing bill provided for under section 2105 and that bill is enacted into law.

(6) OTHER TARIFF MODIFICATIONS.—Notwithstanding paragraphs (1)(B), (2)(A), (2)(C), and (3)(C), in respect of this subsection and any other requirements of section 115 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, the President may proclaim the modification of any duty or staged rate reduction of any duty set forth in Schedule XX, as defined in section 2102(5) of that Act, if the United States agrees to such modification or staged rate reduction in a negotiation for the reciprocal elimination or harmonization of duties under the auspices of the World Trade Organization.

(A) AUTOMATIC MODIFICATION.—In the event that the Uruguay Round Agreements Act does not affect.—Nothing in this subsection shall limit the authority provided to the President under section 111(b) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3512(b)).

(B) AGREEMENTS REGARDING TARIFF AND NON-TARIFF BARRIERS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—

(ii) DETERMINATION BY PRESIDENT.—Whenever the President determines that—

(i) one or more existing duties or any other import restriction with respect to a foreign country or the United States or any other barrier to, or other distortion of, international trade unduly burdens or restricts the foreign trade of the United States or adversely affects the United States economy or

(ii) the imposition of any such barrier or distortion is likely to result in such a burden, restriction, or effect,

and that the purposes, policies, priorities, and objectives of this title will be promoted thereby, the President may enter into a trade agreement, described in subparagraph (A), with foreign countries for—

(i) the reduction or elimination of a duty, restriction, or other distortion described in paragraph (1) or

(ii) the prohibition of, or limitation on the imposition of, such duty or barrier.

(C) TIME PERIOD.—The President may enter into a trade agreement under this paragraph before—

(i) June 1, 2005; or

(ii) June 1, 2007, if trade authorities procedures are extended under subsection (c).

(2) CONDITIONS.—A trade agreement may be entered into under this subsection only if such agreement makes progress in meeting the applicable objectives described in section 2102(a) and (b) and the President satisfies the conditions set forth in section 2104.

(3) BILLS QUALIFYING FOR TRADE AUTHORITY PROCEDURES.—

(A) APPLICATION OF EXPEDITED PROCEDURES.—The provisions of section 151 of the Trade Act of 1974, as referred to in section 2105(b) (referred to as “trade authorities procedures”) apply to a bill of either House of Congress which contains provisions described in subparagraph (B) to the same extent that such section 151 applies to implementing bills under that section. A bill to which this paragraph applies shall have hereafter in this title be referred to as an “implementing bill”.

(B) PROVISIONS DESCRIBED.—The provisions referred to in subparagraph (A) are—

(i) a provision approving a trade agreement entered into under this subsection and approving the statement of administrative action, if any, proposed to implement such trade agreement; and

(ii) if changes in existing laws or new statutory authority are required to implement such trade agreement or agreements, provisions, necessary or appropriate to implement such trade agreement or agreements, either repealing or amending existing laws or providing new statutory authority.

(4) LIMITATIONS ON TRADE AUTHORITY PROCEDURES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the provisions of section 151 of the Trade Act of 1974 (trade authorities procedures) shall not apply to an implementing bill being considered by the Senate that modifies or amends, or requires a modification of, or an amendment to, any law of the United States that provides safeguards from unfair foreign trade practices to United States businesses or workers, including—

(i) imposition of countervailing and anti-dumping duties (title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; 19 U.S.C. 1671 et seq.); and

(ii) protection from unfair methods of competition and unfair acts in foreign trade (title X of the Tariff Act of 1930; 19 U.S.C. 1337);

(iii) relief from injury caused by import competition (title II of the Trade Act of 1974; 19 U.S.C. 2251 et seq.);

(iv) relief from unfair trade practices (title III of the Trade Act of 1974; 19 U.S.C. 2411 et seq.);

(v) national security import restrictions (section 223 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962; 19 U.S.C. 1862);

(B) POINT OF ORDER IN SENATE.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—When the Senate is considering an implementing bill, upon a point of order made by any Senator against any part of the implementing bill that contains material in violation of subparagraph (A), and the point of order is sustained by the Presiding Officer, the part of the implementing bill against which the point of order is sustained shall be stricken from the bill.

(ii) WAIVERS AND APPEALS.—

(WAIVERS)—Before the Presiding Officer rules on a point of order described in clause (i), any Senator may appeal the ruling of the Presiding Officer on the point of order as it applies to some or all of the provisions on which the Presiding Officer ruled. A ruling of the Presiding Officer on a point of order described in clause (i) is waived only by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn.

(APPEALS)—After the Presiding Officer rules on a point of order under this subparagraph, any Senator may appeal the ruling of the Presiding Officer on the point of order as it applies to one or more provisions on which the Presiding Officer ruled. A ruling of the Presiding Officer on a point of order described in clause (i) is waived only by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, vote not to sustain the ruling.

(III) DEBATE.—Debate on a motion to waive under subclause (I) or on an appeal of the ruling of the Presiding Officer under subclause (II) shall be limited to 1 hour. The time shall be equally divided between, and controlled by, the majority leader and the minority leader, or their designees.

(c) EXTENSION DISAPPROVAL PROCESS FOR CONGRESSIONAL TRADE AUTHORITY PROCEDURES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in section 2105(b)—

(A) the trade authorities procedures apply to implementing bills as provided with respect to trade agreements entered into under subsection (b) before July 1, 2005; and

(B) the trade authorities procedures shall be extended to implementing bills submitted with respect to trade agreements entered into under subsection (b) after June 30, 2005, and before July 1, 2007, if (and only if)—

(i) the President requests such extension under paragraph (2); and

(ii) neither House of the Congress adopts an extension disapproval resolution under paragraph (5) before June 1, 2005.

(2) REPORT TO CONGRESS BY THE PRESIDENT.—

If the President is of the opinion that the trade authorities procedures should be extended to implementing bills described in paragraph (1)(B), the President shall submit to the Congress, not later than March 1, 2005, a written report that contains a request for such extension, together with—

(A) a description of all trade agreements that have been negotiated under subsection (b) and (c); and

(B) a description of the progress that has been made in negotiations to achieve the purposes, policies, priorities, and objectives of this title, and a statement that such progress justifies the continuation of negotiations; and
(C) a statement of the reasons why the extension is needed to complete the negotiations.

(3) OTHER REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—

(A) REPORT BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The President shall promptly inform the Advisory Committee for Trade Policy and Negotiations established under section 135 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2155) of the President’s decision as to any agreement that is subject to the provisions of section 2103(b), and—

(i) its views regarding the progress that has been made in negotiations to achieve the purposes, policies, priorities, and objectives of this title; and

(ii) a statement of its views, and the reasons therefor, regarding whether the extension requested under paragraph (2) should be approved or disapproved.

(B) REPORT BY FTC.—The President shall promptly inform the International Trade Commission of the President’s decision to submit a report to the Congress under paragraph (2). The International Trade Commission shall submit to the Congress as soon as practicable, but no later than May 1, 2005, a written report that contains—

(i) views regarding the progress that has been made in negotiations to achieve the purposes, policies, priorities, and objectives of this title; and

(ii) a statement of its views, and the reasons therefor, regarding whether the extension requested under paragraph (2) should be approved or disapproved.

(4) STATUS OF REPORTS.—The reports submitted under paragraphs (2) and (3), or any portion of such reports, may be classified to the extent the President determines ap-

(5) EXTENSION DISAPPROVAL RESOLUTIONS.—

(A) DEFINITION.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term ‘‘extension disapproval resolution’’ means a resolution of either House of the Con-
gress, the sole matter after the resolving clause of which is as follows: ‘‘That the Congress disapproves the request of the President for the extension, under section 2103(c)(1)(B)(i) of the Bipartis-
ian Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002, of the trade authorizations procedures under that Act to any implementing bill submitted with respect to any trade agreement entered into under section 2103(b) of that Act after June 30, 2005.,’’ with the blank space being filled with the name of the resolting House of the Congress.

(B) PRODUCTION.—Extension disapproval resolutions—

(i) may be introduced in either House of the Congress by any member of such House; and

(ii) in the House of Representatives, to the Committee on Ways and Means and, in addition, to the Committee on Rules.

(C) APPLICATION OF SECTION 152 OF THE TRADE ACT OF 1974.—The provisions of section 152 (d) and (e) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2192 (d) and (e)) (relating to the floor consideration of certain bills in the House of Representatives) apply to extension disapproval resolutions.

(D) LIMITATIONS.—It is not in order for—

(i) the House to consider any extension disapproval resolution not reported by the Committee on Finance;

(ii) the House of Representatives to consider any extension disapproval resolution not reported by the Committee on Ways and Means and, in addition, by the Committee on Rules; or

(iii) the House of Congress to consider an extension disapproval resolution after June 30, 2005.

(4) COMMENCEMENT OF NEGOTIATIONS.—In order to contribute to the continued economic expansion of the United States, the President shall commence negotiations covering tariff and nontariff barriers affecting any industry, product, or service sector, and expand existing sectoral agreements with countries that are party to those agreements, in cases where the President determines that such negotiations are feasible and timely and would benefit the United States. Such sectors include agriculture, commercial services, intellectual property rights, industrial and capital goods, government procurement, transportation services, digital technology, pharmaceuticals, environmental technology and services, medical equipment and services, civil aircraft, and infrastructure products. In so doing, the President shall ensure that the trade negotiations maintain agriculture products, as well as other programs, policies, or practices that distort world trade in such products and the impact of such programs, policies, and practices on United States production and trade.

(I) whether any further tariff reductions on the products identified under clause (i) should be appropriate, taking into account the impact of any such tariff reduction on the United States industry producing the product concerned;

(II) whether the products so identified face unjustified sanitary or phytosanitary restric-

(III) the Congress participating in the negotiations maintains, agrees to, or considers the results of any other programs, policies, or practices that distort world trade in such products and the impact of such programs, policies, and practices on United States production and trade;

(i) whether the International Trade Commission has approved the request of the President for the extension of any trade agreement that is subject to the provisions of section 2103(b), and

(ii) upon complying with clauses (i), (ii), and (iii), notify the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Finance that the United States Trade Representative intends to seek tariff liberal-

(iii) other programs, policies, or practices that distort world trade in such products and the impact of such programs, policies, and practices on United States production and trade;

(iv) the Congress participating in the negotiations maintains, agrees to, or considers the results of any other programs, policies, or practices that distort world trade in such products and the impact of such programs, policies, and practices on United States production and trade;

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(B) each other committee of the House and the Senate, and each joint committee of the Congress, which has jurisdiction over legislation involving subject matters which would be affected by the trade agreement; and

(C) the Congressional Oversight Group convened under section 2107.

(2) SCOPE.—The consultation described in paragraph (1) shall include consultation with respect to—

(A) the nature of the agreement;

(B) the extent to which the agreement will achieve the applicable purposes, policies, priorities, and objectives of this title; and

(C) the implementation of the agreement under this title, the general effect of the agreement on existing laws.

(3) REPORT REGARDING UNITED STATES TRADE REMEDY LAWS.—

(A) with respect to certain trade laws.—The President, at least 90 calendar days before the day on which the President enters into a trade agreement, shall notify the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate in writing of any amendments to title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930 or chapter 1 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974 that the President proposes to include in a bill implementing such trade agreement.

(B) EXPLANATION.—On the date that the President transmits the notification, the President also shall transmit to the Committees a report explaining—

(i) the President’s reasons for believing that amendments to title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930 or to chapter 1 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974 are necessary to implement the trade agreement;

(ii) what inconsistencies, if any, exist between those amendments and existing United States laws;

(iii) whether the proposed amendments will affect the implementation of existing trade remedy laws; and

(iv) the nature of any exceptions that will be granted to existing United States trade remedy laws.

(4) REVIEW OF EMPIRICAL LITERATURE.—In preparing the assessment, the Commission shall review available economic assessments regarding the agreement, including literature regarding any substantially equivalent proposed agreements, the nature of the agreement, a description of the analyses used and conclusions drawn in such literature, and a discussion of areas of consensus and divergence between the available economic analyses and conclusions, including those of the Commission regarding the agreement.

SEC. 2105. IMPLEMENTATION OF TRADE AGREEMENT

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) NOTIFICATION AND SUBMISSION.—Any agreement into which the United States enters under section 2103(b) shall enter into force with respect to the United States if, and only if—

(i) the President, at least 90 calendar days before the day on which the President enters into an agreement, notifies the Senate of his or her intention to enter into the agreement, and promptly thereafter publishes notice of such intention in the Federal Register; and

(ii) the President transmits to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate the notification and report described in section 2104(d)(3)(A) and (B).

(B) REPORT TO HOUSE.—Not later than 60 calendar days after the date on which the President transmits the notification described in subparagraph (A), the Chairman and ranking member of the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives, based on consultations with the members of that Committee, shall issue to the House of Representatives a report stating whether the proposed amendments described in the President’s notification are consistent with the purposes, policies, and objectives described in section 2102(c)(9). In determining that the Chairman and ranking member disagree with respect to one or more conclusions, the report shall contain the separate views of the Chairman and ranking member.

(C) REPORT TO HOUSE.—Not later than 60 calendar days after the date on which the President transmits the notification described in subparagraph (A), the Chairman and ranking member of the Finance Committee of the Senate, based on consultations with the members of that Committee, shall issue to the Senate a report stating whether the proposed amendments described in the President’s report are consistent with the purposes, policies, and objectives described in section 2102(c)(9). In determining that the Chairman and ranking member disagree with respect to one or more conclusions, the report shall contain the separate views of the Chairman and ranking member.

(D) ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS.—The report required under section 135(c)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 regarding any trade agreement entered into under section 2101 of this title shall be provided to the President, the Congress, and the United States Trade Representative not later than 30 days after the date on which the President notifies the Congress under section 2103(a)(1) or 2105(a)(1)(A) of the President’s intention to enter into the agreement.

(E) ITC ASSESSMENT.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The President, at least 90 calendar days before the day on which the President enters into a trade agreement under section 2103(b), shall provide the International Trade Commission (referred to in this subsection as “the Commission”) with the details of the agreement and request that the Commission prepare and submit an assessment of the agreement as described in paragraph (2). Between the time the President makes the request and the time that the Commission submits the assessment, the President shall keep the Commission current with respect to the details of the agreement.

(ii) ITC ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 90 calendar days after the President enters into the agreement, the Commission shall submit to the President and the Congress a report assessing the agreement’s likely impact on the United States economy as a whole and on specific industry sectors, including the impact the agreement will have on the gross domestic product, exports and imports, aggregate employment and employment opportunities, the production, employment, and competitive position of industries likely to be significantly affected by the agreement, and the interests of United States consumers.

(iii) REVIEW OF EMPIRICAL LITERATURE.—In preparing the assessment, the Commission shall review available economic assessments regarding the agreement, including literature regarding any substantially equivalent proposed agreement, the nature of the agreement, a description of the analyses used and conclusions drawn in such literature, and a discussion of areas of consensus and divergence between the available economic analyses and conclusions, including those of the Commission regarding the agreement.

(iv) SEC. 2105. IMPLEMENTATION OF TRADE AGREEMENT

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) NOTIFICATION AND SUBMISSION.—Any agreement into which the United States enters under section 2103(b) shall enter into force with respect to the United States if, and only if—

(i) the President, at least 90 calendar days before the day on which the President enters into an agreement, notifies the Senate of his or her intention to enter into the agreement, and promptly thereafter publishes notice of such intention in the Federal Register; and

(ii) the President transmits to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate the notification and report described in section 2104(d)(3)(A) and (B).

(B) REPORT TO HOUSE.—Not later than 60 calendar days after the date on which the President transmits the notification described in subparagraph (A), the Chairman and ranking member of the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives, based on consultations with the members of that Committee, shall issue to the House of Representatives a report stating whether the proposed amendments described in the President’s notification are consistent with the purposes, policies, and objectives described in section 2102(c)(9). In determining that the Chairman and ranking member disagree with respect to one or more conclusions, the report shall contain the separate views of the Chairman and ranking member.

(D) REPORT TO SENATE.—Not later than 60 calendar days after the date on which the President transmits the notification described in subparagraph (A), the Chairman and ranking member of the Finance Committee of the Senate, based on consultations with the members of that Committee, shall issue to the Senate a report stating whether the proposed amendments described in the President’s report are consistent with the purposes, policies, and objectives described in section 2102(c)(9). In determining that the Chairman and ranking member disagree with respect to one or more conclusions, the report shall contain the separate views of the Chairman and ranking member.

(e) ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS.—The report required under section 135(c)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 regarding any trade agreement entered into under section 2101 of this title shall be provided to the President, the Congress, and the United States Trade Representative not later than 30 days after the date on which the President notifies the Congress under section 2103(a)(1) or 2105(a)(1)(A) of the President’s intention to enter into the agreement.

(F) ITC ASSESSMENT.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The President, at least 90 calendar days before the day on which the President enters into a trade agreement under section 2103(b), shall provide the International Trade Commission (referred to in this subsection as “the Commission”) with the details of the agreement and request that the Commission prepare and submit an assessment of the agreement as described in paragraph (2). Between the time the President makes the request and the time that the Commission submits the assessment, the President shall keep the Commission current with respect to the details of the agreement.

(ii) ITC ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 90 calendar days after the President enters into the agreement, the Commission shall submit to the President and the Congress a report assessing the agreement’s likely impact on the United States economy as a whole and on specific industry sectors, including the impact the agreement will have on the gross domestic product, exports and imports, aggregate employment and employment opportunities, the production, employment, and competitive position of industries likely to be significantly affected by the agreement, and the interests of United States consumers.

(iii) REVIEW OF EMPIRICAL LITERATURE.—In preparing the assessment, the Commission shall review available economic assessments regarding the agreement, including literature regarding any substantially equivalent proposed agreement, the nature of the agreement, a description of the analyses used and conclusions drawn in such literature, and a discussion of areas of consensus and divergence between the available economic analyses and conclusions, including those of the Commission regarding the agreement.

(M) DISCLOSURE OF COMMITMENTS.—Any agreement or other understanding with a foreign country that the President enters into to carry out the provisions of an agreement previously negotiated by the President in accordance with the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002 shall not be treated as a trade agreement if (and only if) the agreement makes progress in achieving the applicable purposes, policies, and objectives referred to in clause (i); constitutes—

(I) how and to what extent the agreement makes progress in achieving the applicable purposes, policies, and objectives referred to in clause (i); and

(II) whether and how the agreement changes provisions of an agreement previously negotiated;

(III) how the agreement serves the interests of United States consumers;

(IV) how the implementing bill meets the standards set forth in section 2103(b)(1); and

(V) how and to what extent the agreement makes progress in achieving the applicable purposes, policies, and objectives referred to in section 2102(c) regarding the promotion of certain purposes and policies.

(VI) the event that the reports described in section 2104(b)(3) (C) and (D) contain any findings that the proposed amendments are inconsistent with the purposes, policies, and objectives described in section 2102(c)(9), an explanation as to why the President believes such findings to be incorrect.

(2) RECIPROCAL BENEFITS.—In order to ensure that a foreign country that is not a party to a trade agreement entered into under section 2103(b) does not receive benefits under the agreement unless the President notifies the Congress of the obligations under the agreement, the implementing bill submitted with respect to the agreement shall provide that the benefits and obligations under the agreement apply only to the parties to the agreement, if such application is consistent with the terms of the agreement. The implementing bill may also provide that the benefits and obligations under the agreement do not apply uniformly to all parties to the agreement, if such application is consistent with the terms of the agreement.
Authority Act of 2002” on negotiations with respect to a trade agreement or trade agreements if—

(i) the President has failed or refused to consult in good faith in accordance with section 2104 or 2105 with respect to the negotiations, agreement, or agreements; or

(ii) guidelines under section 2107(b) have not been developed or met with respect to the negotiations, agreement, or agreements; and

(iii) the President has not met with the Congressional Oversight Group pursuant to a request under subsection (c) with respect to the negotiations, agreement, or agreements; or

(iv) the agreement or agreements fail to make progress in resolving the purposes, policies, priorities, and objectives of the United States.

(b) TREATMENT OF AGREEMENTS.—In the case of any agreement to which subsection (a) applies, the President shall

(1) the applicability of the trade authorizes procedures to implementing bills shall be determined without regard to the requirements of section 2104(a) (relating only to 90 days notice to Congress) or to section 2105. The chair or the majority of the United States Trade Representative, in consultation with the committee on Finance of the Senate, the committee on Finance of the House, and the congressional oversight group, shall determine without regard to the requirements of section 2104(a), the specific United States objectives in the negotiations, and whether the President is seeking a new agreement or changes to an existing agreement; and

(2) the President shall, as soon as feasible after the enactment of this Act—

(A) notify the Congress of the negotiations described in subsection (a), the specific United States objectives in the negotiations, and whether the President is seeking a new agreement or changes to an existing agreement; and

(B) may make such revisions to the guidelines as may be necessary from time to time.

(c) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE.—(1) Prior to December 31, 2002, the Secretary of Commerce shall transmit to Congress a report setting forth the strategy of the United States for correcting instances in which dispute settlement panels and the Appellate Body of the WTO have added to obligations or diminished rights of the United States, as described in section 2101(b)(3). Trade authorities procedures shall not apply to any implementing bill with respect to an agreement negotiated under the auspices of the WTO, unless the Secretary of Commerce has issued such a report in a timely manner.

(2) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE.—Subsection (b) of this section shall not apply to a trade agreement or trade agreements (relating to the floor considerations of certain USTR actions on the WTO report).

(d) GUIDELINES.—The chairman and ranking member, or their designated Members of the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the chairman of the Committee on Finance of the Senate shall develop written guidelines to facilitate the useful and timely exchange of information between the Trade Representative and the Congressional Oversight Group and the United States Trade Representative and the congressional oversight group.

SEC. 2107. CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT GROUP.

(a) MEMBERS AND FUNCTIONS.—(1) IN GENERAL.—By not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and not later than 30 days after the convening of each Congress, the chair or the majority of the United States Trade Representative, in consultation with the committee on Finance of the Senate, the committee on Finance of the House, and the congressional oversight group, shall convene the Congressional Oversight Group.

(2) MEMBERSHIP FROM THE HOUSE.—In each Congress, the Congressional Oversight Group shall be comprised of following Members of the House of Representatives:

(A) The chairman and ranking members of the Committee on Ways and Means, and 3 additional members of such Committee (not more than 2 of whom are members of the same political party).

(B) The chairman and ranking member, or their designated Members of the House of Representatives which would have, under the Rules of the House of Representatives, jurisdiction over provisions of law affected by a trade agreement negotiations are conducted at any time during that Congress and so which title would apply.

(C) MEMBERSHIP FROM THE SENATE.—In each Congress, the Congressional Oversight Group shall also be comprised of the following members of the Senate:

(A) The chairman and ranking Member of the Committee on Finance and 3 additional members of such Committee (not more than 2 of whom are members of the same political party).

(B) The chairman and ranking member, or their designated Members of the Senate which would have, under the Rules of the Senate, jurisdiction over provisions of law affected by a trade agreement negotiations which are conducted at any time during that Congress and to which this title would apply.

(4) ACCREDITATION.—Each member of the Congressional Oversight Group described in paragraph (2)(A) and (3)(A) shall be accredited by the United States Trade Representative on behalf of the President as official advisers to the United States delegation in negotiations for any trade agreements or agreements described in paragraph (2)(B) and (3)(B) shall be accredited by the United States Trade Representative as official advisers to the United States delegation in the negotiations by reason of which the member is in the Congressional Oversight Group. The Congressional Oversight Group shall consult with and provide advice to the Trade Representative regarding the formulation of specific objectives, negotiating strategies and positions, the development of the applicable trade agreement, and compliance and enforcement of the negotiated commitments under the trade agreement.

(c) REQUEST FOR MEETING.—Upon the request of a majority of the Congressional Oversight Group, the President shall meet with the Congressional Oversight Group regarding negotiating with respect to a trade agreement, or at any other time concerning the negotiations.

SEC. 2108. ADDITIONAL IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—At the time the President submits to the Congress the final text of an agreement pursuant to section 2105(a)(1)(C), the President shall also submit a plan for implementation and enforcing the agreement. The implementation and enforcement plan shall include the following:

(1) BORDER PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS.—A description of additional personnel required at border entry points, including a list of additional customs and agricultural inspectors.

(2) AGENCY STAFFING REQUIREMENTS.—A description of additional personnel required by Federal agencies responsible for monitoring and implementing the trade agreement, including personnel required by the Office of the United States Trade Representative, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Agriculture (including additional personnel required to implement sanitary and phytosanitary measures in United States trade agreements), and any other Federal agencies as may be necessary.
(3) CUSTOMS INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS.—A description of the additional equipment and facilities needed by the United States Customs Service.

(4) RELATION TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.—A description of the impact the trade agreement will have on State and local governments as a result of increases in trade.

(5) COST ANALYSES.—A description of the costs associated with each of the items listed in paragraphs (1) through (4).

(b) BUDGET SUBMISSION.—The President shall include in the budget submissions resources necessary to support the plan described in subsection (a) in the first budget that the President submits to the Congress after the submission of the plan.

SEC. 2109. IMPLEMENTATION

The grant of trade promotion authority under this title is likely to increase the activities of the primary committees of jurisdiction in the area of international trade. In addition, the creation of the Congressional Oversight Group shall have adequate staff to accommodate the activities.

SEC. 2110. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) In General.—Title I of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2111 et seq.) is amended as follows:

(1) Implementing Bill.—

(A) Section 151(b)(1) (19 U.S.C. 2191(b)(1)) is amended by striking “section 1103(a)(1)” of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988, or section 282 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, and inserting “section 282 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, or section 2105(a)(1) of the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002.”

(B) Section 151(c)(1) (19 U.S.C. 2191(c)(1)) is amended by striking “or section 282 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act,” and inserting “section 282 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, or section 2105(a)(1) of the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002.”

(2) Advice from International Trade Commissions.—Section 121 (19 U.S.C. 2151) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking “section 113 of Title II, or section 1102 (a) or (c) of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988,” and inserting “section 123 of this Act or section 2105(a) of the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002.”

(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking “section 1102 (b) or (c) of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988,” and inserting “section 2105(a)(1) of the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002.”

(B) in subsection (b), by striking “section 1102(a)(1)(A)” and inserting “section 2105(a)(1)(A) of the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002.”

(C) in subsection (c), by striking “section 1102 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988,” and inserting “section 2103 of the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002.”

(3) Hearings and Advice.—Sections 132, 133(a), and 134(a) (19 U.S.C. 2152, 2153(a), and 2154(a)) are each amended by striking “section 1102 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988,” each place it appears and inserting “section 2103 of the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002.”

(4) Precedents and Procedures for Review.—

(A) Section 134(b) (19 U.S.C. 2154(b)) is amended by striking “section 1102 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988” and inserting “section 2103 of the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002.”

(B) Assistant Trade Representative.—The Assistant United States Trade Representative for Industry and Telecommunications shall be responsible for ensuring that the interests of small businesses are considered in all trade negotiations in accordance with the objective described in section 2302(a)(8). It is the sense of Congress that the small business functions should be reflected in the title of the Assistant United States Trade Representative assigned the responsibility for small business.

(5) Report.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the United States Trade Representative shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives on the steps taken by the United States Trade Representative to pursue the identification of a small business advocate at the World Trade Organization.

SEC. 2111. REPORT ON IMPACT OF TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY.

(a) In General.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the International Trade Commission shall report to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives regarding the economic impact on the United States of the trade agreements described in subsection (b).

(b) Agreement Definitions.—For purposes of applying sections 125, 126, and 127 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2155, 2156(a), and 2157) to agreements entered into under section 1102 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 and inserting “or under section 2102 of the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002.”

(c) Application of Certain Provisions.—

(1) Trade agreements entered into under section 2103 shall be treated as an agreement entered into under section 101 or 102, as appropriate, of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2111 or 2112); and

(2) any proclamation or Executive order issued pursuant to a trade agreement entered into under section 101 or 102, as appropriate, of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2111 or 2112); and

(3) any proclamation or Executive order issued pursuant to a trade agreement entered into under section 101 or 102, as appropriate, of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2111 or 2112); and

(d) Definitions.—

(1) Agreement on Agriculture.—The term “Agreement on Agriculture” means the agreement referred to in section 191(d)(2) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3511(d)(2)).

(2) Core Labor Standards.—The term “core labor standards” means—

(A) the right of association; (B) the right to organize and bargain collectively; (C) the prohibition on the use of any form of forced or compulsory labor; (D) a minimum wage for the employment of children; and (E) acceptable conditions of work with respect to minimum wages, hours of work, and occupational safety and health.

(3) GATT 1994.—The term “GATT 1994” has the meaning given that term in section 2 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3501).

(4) ILO.—The term “ILO” means the International Labor Organization.

(5) Import Sensitive Agricultural Product.—The term “import sensitive agricultural product” means an agricultural product with respect to which, as a result of the Uruguay Round Agreements—

(A) the rate of duty was the subject of tariff reductions by the United States, and pursuant to such agreements, was reduced on January 1, 1995, to a rate which was not less than 97.5 percent of the rate of duty that applied to such article on December 31, 1994; or

(B) became subject to a tariff-rate quota on or after January 1, 1995.

(6) United States Person.—The term “United States person” means—

(A) a United States citizen; (B) a partnership, corporation, or other legal entity organized under the laws of the United States; or

(C) a partnership, corporation, or other legal entity that is organized under the laws of a foreign country and is controlled by entities described in subparagraph (B) or United States citizens, or both.

(7) Uruguay Round Agreements.—The term “Uruguay Round Agreements” has the meaning given that term in section 2(7) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3501(7)).

(8) World Trade Organization.—The terms “World Trade Organization” and “WTO” mean the organization established pursuant to the WTO Agreement.

(9) WTO Agreement.—The term “WTO Agreement” means the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization entered into on April 15, 1994.

DIVISION C—ANDEAN TRADE PREFERENCE ACT

TITLE XXXI—ANDEAN TRADE PREFERENCE ACT

SEC. 3101. SHORT TITLE: FINDINGS

(a) Short Title.—This title may be cited as the “Angean Trade Preference Expansion Act”.

(b) Findings.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Since the Andean Trade Preference Act was enacted in 1991, it has had a positive impact
on United States trade with Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru. Two-way trade has doubled, with the United States serving as the leading source of imports and leading export market for many of the beneficiary countries. This has resulted in increased jobs and expanded export opportunities in both the United States and the Andean region.

(2) The Andean Trade Preference Act has been a key element in the United States counternarcotics strategy in the Andean region, promoting export diversification and broad-based economic growth that provides sustainable economic alternatives to drug-crop production, strengthening the legitimate economies of Andean countries and creating viable alternatives to illicit trade in coca.

(3) Notwithstanding the success of the Andean Trade Preference Act, the Andean region remains threatened by political and economic instability and fragility, vulnerable to the consequences of the drug war and fierce global competition for its legitimate trade.

(4) The continuing instability in the Andean region poses a threat to the security interests of the United States and the world. This problem has been partially addressed through foreign aid to Colombia, the United States, enacted by Congress in 2000. However, foreign aid alone is insufficient. Enhancement of legitimate trade with the United States provides an alternative means for revitalizing and stabilizing the economies in the Andean region.

(5) The Andean Trade Preference Act constitutes a tangible commitment by the United States to the growth of free enterprise and economic opportunity, and democracy in the beneficiary countries.

(6) Renewal and enhancement of the Andean Trade Preference Act will bolster the confidence of domestic private enterprise and foreign investors in the economic prospects of the region, ensuring that legitimate private enterprise can be the engine of economic development and political stability in the region.

(7) Each of the Andean beneficiary countries is committed to conclude negotiation of a Free Trade Agreement with the Americas by the year 2005, as a means of enhancing the economic security of the region.

(8) Temporarily enhancing trade benefits for Andean beneficiaries countries will promote the growth of free enterprise and economic opportunity in these countries and serve the security interests of the United States, the region, and the world.

SEC. 3102. TEMPORARY PROVISIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 204(b) of the Andean Trade Preference Act (19 U.S.C. 2302(b)) is amended to read as follows:

‘‘(aa) An article otherwise eligible for preferential treatment under this paragraph shall not be ineligible for such treatment because the article contains findings or trimmings of foreign origin, if such findings and trimmings do not exceed 25 percent of the cost of the components, fabrics, or other materials of which the article is composed and the assembled articles of findings and trimmings are sewing thread, hooks and eyes, snaps, buttons, ‘‘bow buds,’’ decorative lace, trim, elastic strips, zippers, including tubing and embroidery, and similar products. Elastic strips are considered findings or trimmings only if they are less than 1 inch in width and are used in the production of beneficial end products.

(bb) In the case of the article described in clause (ii) of this subparagraph, sewing thread shall be treated as findings or trimmings under this subclause.

(c) Articles otherwise eligible for preferential treatment under this paragraph shall not be ineligible for such treatment because the article contains certain interlinings of foreign origin, if the value of...’’
such interlinings (and any findings and trimmings) does not exceed 25 percent of the cost of the components of the assembled article.

(bb) Interlinings eligible for the treatment described in subparagraph (A) include only a chest type plate, ‘hymo piece,’ or ‘sleeve header,’ of woven or felt-inserted warp knit construction and of coarse animal hair or man-made filaments.

(cc) The treatment described in this subclause shall terminate if the President makes a determination that United States manufacturers are producing such interlinings in the United States in commercial quantities.

(III) De MINIMIS RULE.—An article that would otherwise be eligible for preferential treatment under this paragraph because the article contains yarns wholly formed in the United States or in 1 or more ATPEA beneficiary countries shall not be eligible for such treatment if the total weight of all such yarns is not more than 7 percent of the total weight of the good. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, an apparel article containing elastomeric yarns shall be eligible for preferential treatment under this paragraph only if such yarns are wholly formed in the United States.

(UU) RULE.—An article otherwise eligible for preferential treatment under clause (i) of this subparagraph shall not be ineligible for such treatment because the article contained yarn (other than elastomeric yarn) that is classifiable under subheading 5042.10.30, 5042.10.60, 5042.11.30, 5042.11.60, 5042.11.90, 5042.12.60, 5042.12.90, 5042.13.10, 5042.13.30, 5042.13.40, or 5042.13.90 of the HTS free-duty from a country that is a party to an agreement with the United States establishing a free trade area, which entered into force before January 1, 1990.

(XX) RULE.—An article otherwise eligible for preferential treatment under clause (i) of this subparagraph shall not be ineligible for such treatment because the article, or a component thereof, contains fabric formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States.

(XXVI) RULE.—Textile luggage—

(i) Clarity of certain knitted apparel articles.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an article otherwise eligible for preferential treatment under clause (i) of this subparagraph, shall not be ineligible for such treatment because the article, or a component thereof, contains fabric formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States.

(ii) Special Rule.—An article otherwise eligible for preferential treatment under clause (i) of this subparagraph, shall not be ineligible for such treatment because the article, or a component thereof, contains fabric formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States.

(XXVIII) TEXTILE LUGGAGE.—Textile luggage—

(i) Clarity of certain knitted apparel articles.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an article otherwise eligible for preferential treatment under clause (i) of this subparagraph, shall not be ineligible for such treatment because the article, or a component thereof, contains fabric formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States.

(ii) Special Rule.—An article otherwise eligible for preferential treatment under clause (i) of this subparagraph, shall not be ineligible for such treatment because the article, or a component thereof, contains fabric formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States.

(XXXI) RULE.—An article otherwise eligible for preferential treatment under clause (i) of this subparagraph shall not be ineligible for such treatment because the article, or a component thereof, contains fabric formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States.

(XXXIV) RULE.—An article otherwise eligible for preferential treatment under clause (i) of this subparagraph shall not be ineligible for such treatment because the article, or a component thereof, contains fabric formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States.

(XXXV) RULE.—An article otherwise eligible for preferential treatment under clause (i) of this subparagraph shall not be ineligible for such treatment because the article, or a component thereof, contains fabric formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States.

(XXXVI) RULE.—An article otherwise eligible for preferential treatment under clause (i) of this subparagraph shall not be ineligible for such treatment because the article, or a component thereof, contains fabric formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States.

(XXXVII) RULE.—An article otherwise eligible for preferential treatment under clause (i) of this subparagraph shall not be ineligible for such treatment because the article, or a component thereof, contains fabric formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States.

(XXXVIII) RULE.—An article otherwise eligible for preferential treatment under clause (i) of this subparagraph shall not be ineligible for such treatment because the article, or a component thereof, contains fabric formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States.

(XXXIX) RULE.—An article otherwise eligible for preferential treatment under clause (i) of this subparagraph shall not be ineligible for such treatment because the article, or a component thereof, contains fabric formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States.

(XXXX) RULE.—An article otherwise eligible for preferential treatment under clause (i) of this subparagraph shall not be ineligible for such treatment because the article, or a component thereof, contains fabric formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States.
(ID) COUNTRY DESCRIBED.—A country is described in this subclause if it is an ATPEA beneficiary country—

(aa) from which the article is exported; or

(bb) from which materials used in the production of the article originate or in which the article or such materials undergo production that contributes to a claim that the article is eligible for preferential treatment under paragraph (2) or (3).

(B) CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN.—The certificate of origin that otherwise would be required pursuant to such provisions of subparagraph (A) shall not be required in the case of an article imported under paragraph (2) or (3) if such certificate of origin would not be required under Article 503 of the NAFTA (as implemented pursuant to United States law), if the article were imported from Mexico.

(C) REPORT BY USTR ON COOPERATION OF OTHER COUNTRIES CONCERNING CIRCUMVENTION.—The United States Commissioner of Customs shall conduct a study analyzing the extent to which each ATPEA beneficiary country—

(i) has cooperated fully with the United States, consistent with its domestic laws and procedures, in instances of circumvention or alleged results of a combination of existent quotas on imports of textile and apparel goods, to establish necessary relevant facts in the places of import, export, and, where applicable, transshipment, including of circumvention practices, exchanges of documents, correspondence, reports, and other relevant information, to the extent such information is available;

(ii) has taken appropriate measures, consistent with its domestic laws and procedures, against exporters and importers involved in instances of false declaration concerning fiber content, origin, description, classification, or origin of textile and apparel goods; and

(iii) has penalized the individuals and entities involved in any such circumvention, consistent with such laws and procedures, and has worked closely to seek the cooperation of any third country to prevent such circumvention from taking place in that third country.

The Trade Representative shall submit to Congress, not later than October 1, 2002, a report on the study conducted under this subparagraph.

(G) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of this subsection—

(A) ANNEX.—The term ‘‘Annex’’ means Annex 300-B of the NAFTA.

(B) BENEFICIARY COUNTRY.—The term ‘‘ATPEA beneficiary country’’ means any ‘‘beneficiary country’’ as defined in section 203(a)(1) of this title, which the President designated the ATPEA beneficiary country by taking into account the criteria contained in subsections (c) and (d) of section 203 and other appropriate criteria, including the following:

(i) Whether the beneficiary country has demonstrated a commitment to—

(A) undertake its obligations under the WTO, including those agreements listed in section 101(d) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, on or before schedule; and

(B) participate in negotiations toward the completion of the FTAAs or another free trade agreement.

(ii) The extent to which the country provides protection of intellectual property rights consistent with or greater than the protection afforded in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights described in section 101(d)(15) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act.

(iii) The extent to which the country provides internationally recognized worker rights, including—

(A) the right of association; and

(B) the right to organize and bargain collectively;

(iv) A prohibition on the use of any form of forced or compulsory labor;

(v) Acceptable conditions of work with respect to minimum wages, hours of work, and occupational safety and health.

(vi) Whether the country has implemented its commitment to eliminate the worst forms of child labor, as defined in section 507(6) of the Trade Act of 1974.

(vii) The extent to which the country has met the counter-narcotics certification criteria set forth in section 490 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2291) for eligibility for United States assistance to combat drug trafficking.

(viii) The extent to which the country has taken steps to become a party to and implements the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption.

(ix) The extent to which the country—

(A) applies consistent, nondiscriminatory, and competitive policies in government procurement consistent with its domestic laws and procedures, in instances of circumvention or alleged results of a combination thereof.

(B) has taken appropriate measures, consistent with its domestic laws and procedures, in instances of circumvention or alleged results of a combination thereof.

(C) has penalized the individuals and entities involved in any such circumvention, consistent with its domestic laws and procedures, against exporters and importers involved in instances of false declaration concerning fiber content, origin, description, classification, or origin of textile and apparel goods; and

(D) has penalized the individuals and entities involved in any such circumvention, consistent with such laws and procedures, and has worked closely to seek the cooperation of any third country to prevent such circumvention from taking place in that third country.

(E) The terms ‘‘FTAAs’’ and ‘‘ATPEA beneficiary country’’ for purposes of this subsection—

(i) no country other than the United States and an ATPEA beneficiary country may be treated as being a party to the NAFTA;

(ii) any reference to trade between the United States and Mexico shall be deemed to refer to trade between the United States and an ATPEA beneficiary country;

(iii) any reference to a party shall be deemed to refer to any combination of ATPEA beneficiary countries or to the United States and one or more ATPEA beneficiary countries (or any combination thereof).

(F) TRANSITION PERIOD.—The term ‘‘transition period’’ means the period that begins on the date of enactment, and ends on the earlier of—

(i) February 28, 2006; or

(ii) the date on which the FTAAs or another free trade agreement that makes substantial progress in achieving the negotiating objectives set forth in section 106(b)(6) of Public Law 101-182 (19 U.S.C. 3317(b)(5)) enters into force with respect to the United States and the ATPEA beneficiary country.

(G) ATPEA.—The term ‘‘ATPEA’’ means the Andean Trade Preference Expansion Act.

(H) FTAAs.—The term ‘‘FTAAs’’ means the Free Trade Area of the Americas.

(I) DETERMINATIONS REGARDING RETENTION OF DESIGNATION.—Section 230(e) of the Andean Trade Preference Act (19 U.S.C. 3202(e)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively;

(B) by inserting ‘‘after ‘‘(1)’’;’’ and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

(‘‘B) The President may, after the requirements of paragraphs (1) and (2) have been met—

(i) withdraw or suspend the designation of any country as an ATPEA beneficiary country; or

(ii) withdraw, suspend, or limit the application of preferential treatment under section 204(b) (2) and (3) to any article of any country, if, after such designation, the President determines that, as a result of changed circumstances, the performance of such country is not satisfactory under the criteria set forth in section 204(b)(5)(C).

(2) by adding after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

‘‘(3) If preferential treatment under section 204(b) (2) or (3) is withdrawn, suspended, or limited with respect to an ATPEA beneficiary country, such country shall not be deemed to have met the purposes of applying section 204(b)(5)(C) to imports of articles for which preferential treatment has been withdrawn, suspended, or limited with respect to such country.

(J) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 203(f) of the Andean Trade Preference Act (19 U.S.C. 3202(f)) is amended to read as follows:

‘‘(1) In GENERAL.—Not later than December 31, 2002, and every 2 years thereafter during the period this title is in effect, the United States Trade Representative shall submit to Congress a report regarding the operation of this title, including—

(A) with respect to subsections (c) and (d), the results of a general review of beneficiary countries based on the considerations described in such subsections; and

(B) the performance of each beneficiary country as an ATPEA beneficiary country, as the case may be, under the criteria set forth in section 204(b)(5)(B).

‘‘(2) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Before submitting the report described in paragraph (1), the United States Trade Representative shall publish a notice in the Federal Register requesting public comments on whether beneficiary countries are meeting the criteria listed in section 204(b)(5)(B).’’.

(J) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) Section 202 of the Andean Trade Preference Act (19 U.S.C. 3201) is amended by inserting ‘‘(or other preferential treatment)’’ after ‘‘treatment’’.

(B) Section 204(a)(1) of the Andean Trade Preference Act (19 U.S.C. 3204(a)(1)) is amended by inserting ‘‘(or otherwise provided for)’’ after ‘‘eligibility’’.

(C) Section 204(a)(1) of the Andean Trade Preference Act (19 U.S.C. 3204(a)(1)) is amended by inserting ‘‘(or preferential treatment)’’ after ‘‘eligibility’’.

(2) DEFINITIONS.—

Section 230(a) of the Andean Trade Preference Act (19 U.S.C. 3202(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

‘‘(4) The term ‘‘NAFTA’’ means the North American Free Trade Agreement entered into between the United States, Mexico, and Canada on December 17, 1992.

‘‘(5) The terms ‘‘WTO’’ and ‘‘WTO member’’ have the same meanings given those terms in section 2 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3901).’’.

(J) PETITIONS FOR REVIEW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall promulgate regulations regarding the review of eligibility of articles and countries under the Andean Trade Preference Act, consistent with section 230(e) of such Act, as amended by this title.

(2) CONTEXT OF REGULATIONS.—The regulations shall be similar to the regulations regarding under the Generalized System of Preferences with respect to the timetable for reviews and content, and shall include procedures for reviewing withdrawal, suspension, or limitations of preferential duty treatment under the Act, conducting reviews of such requests, and implementing the results of the reviews.

SEC. 3103. TERMINATION.

(A) IN GENERAL.—

Section 208(b) of the Andean Trade Preference Act (19 U.S.C. 3208(b)) is amended to read as follows:，“
(b) TERMINATION OF PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT.—No preferential duty treatment extended to beneficiary countries under this Act shall remain in effect after February 28, 2006.

(2) NONIMPORTING MANUFACTURERS.—For each of the calendar years 2001 and 2002, any other manufacturer of worsted wool fabrics of imported wool yarn of the kind described in heading 9002.51.13 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States shall be eligible for a payment equal to an amount determined pursuant to subsection (d)(2).

(3) OTHERS.—All manufacturers described in subsection (a), other than the manufacturers to which subparagraph (A) applies, shall receive an annual payment in an amount equal to one-third of the amount determined by dividing $1,522,000 by the number of all such other manufacturers.

(4) LETTERS OF INTENT.—Except for the nonimporting manufacturers described in subsections (b)(2) and (c)(2) who may make claims under this section by virtue of the enactment of the Wool Manufacturer Payment Clarification and Technical Corrections Act, all nonimporting manufacturers shall retain the records upon which the calculation is based for a period of five years beginning on the date the affidavit is submitted to the Customs Service.

(b) IMPORTING MANUFACTURERS.—Each annual payment to an importing manufacturer described in subsection (c)(1) shall be in an amount equal to one-third of the amount determined by multiplying $2,202,000 by a fraction—

(i) the numerator of which is the amount attributable to the duties paid on eligible wool products imported in calendar year 1999 by the importing manufacturer making the claim, and

(ii) the denominator of which is the total amount attributable to the imports of eligible wool products in calendar year 1999 by all the nonimporting manufacturers described in subsection (c)(1).

(b) ELIGIBLE WOOL PRODUCTS.—For purposes of paragraphs (3)(A), the term ‘eligible wool products’ refers to imported worsted wool products described in subsection (a).

(c) OTHERS.—All manufacturers described in subsection (a), other than the manufacturers to which subparagraph (A) applies, shall receive an annual payment in an amount equal to one-third of the amount determined by dividing $1,522,000 by the number of all such other manufacturers.

(2) MANUFACTURERS OF WORSTED WOOL FABRICS OF IMPORTED WOOL YARN.—

(a) IMPORTING MANUFACTURERS.—Each annual payment to an importing manufacturer described in subsection (b)(1) shall be in an amount equal to one-third of the amount determined by multiplying $2,202,000 by a fraction—

(i) the numerator of which is the amount attributable to the duties paid on eligible wool products imported in calendar year 1999 by the importing manufacturer making the claim, and

(ii) the denominator of which is the total amount attributable to the imports of eligible wool products in calendar year 1999 by all the nonimporting manufacturers described in subsection (b)(1).

(b) ELIGIBLE WOOL PRODUCTS.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term ‘eligible wool products’ refers to imported worsted wool products described in subsection (a).

(c) NONIMPORTING MANUFACTURERS.—Each annual payment to a nonimporting manufacturer described in subsection (b)(2) shall be in an amount equal to one-half of the amount determined by multiplying $1,522,000 by a fraction—

(i) the numerator of which is the amount attributable to the imports of eligible wool products in calendar year 1999 by the nonimporting manufacturer making the claim, and

(ii) the denominator of which is the total amount attributable to the imports of eligible wool products in calendar year 1999 by all the nonimporting manufacturers described in subsection (b)(2).

(2) MANUFACTURERS OF WOOL YARN OR WOOL FABRIC OF IMPORTED WOOL FIBER OR WOOL TOP.—

(5) AMOUNT ATTRIBUTABLE TO DUTIES PAID.—For purposes of paragraphs (1), (2)(A), and (3)(A), the amount attributable to the duties paid by a manufacturer shall be the amount shown on the records of the Customs Service as of September 11, 2001, under this section as then in effect on that date.

(7) SCHEDULE OF AMOUNTS.—
"(A) SCHEDULE.—Of the payments described in paragraphs (1), (2)(A), and (3)(A), the Customs Service shall make the first and second installments on or before the date that is 45 days after the close of the Wool Manufacturer Payment Clarification and Technical Corrections Act, and the third installment on or before April 15, 2003. Of the payments described in paragraph (3)(C), the Customs Service shall make the first installment on or before the date that is 45 days after the date of enactment of the Wool Manufacturer Payment Clarification and Technical Corrections Act, and the second installment on or before April 15, 2003.

"(B) REALLOCATIONS.—In the event that a manufacturer that would have received payment under subparagraph (A) or (C) of paragraph (1), (2), or (3) ceases to qualify for such payment as such a manufacturer, the amounts otherwise payable to the remaining manufacturers under such subparagraph shall be increased on a pro rata basis by the amount of the payment such manufacturer would have received.

"(8) REFERENCE.—For purposes of paragraphs (1)(A) and (6), the ‘records of the Customs Service’ as of September 11, 2001 are the records of the Wool Manufacturer Payment Clarification and Technical Corrections Act, as adjusted by the Customs Service to the extent necessary to carry out this section. The amounts so adjusted are not subject to administrative or judicial review.

"(e) AFFIDAVITS BY MANUFACTURERS.—

"(1) AFFIDAVIT REQUIRED.—A manufacturer may not receive a payment under this section for calendar year 2000, 2001, or 2002, as the case may be, unless that manufacturer has submitted to the Customs Service for that calendar year a signed affidavit that attests that, during that calendar year, the manufacturer met all of the requirements under section 514 of the Tariff Act of 1930 or the Wool Manufacturer Payment Clarification and Technical Corrections Act.

"(2) TIMING.—An affidavit under paragraph (1) shall be valid—

"(c) EXTENSION OF DUTY REFUNDS AND WOOL RESEARCH TRUST FUND.—

"(1) In general.—The United States Customs Service shall pay each manufacturer that receives a payment under section 565 of the Trade and Development Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–200) for calendar year 2002, and that provides an affidavit that it remains a manufacturer in the United States as described in subsection (a), (b), or (c),—

"(B) by striking ‘‘from January 1 to December 31 of each year, inclusive’’; and

"(B) by striking ‘‘, or such other’’ and inserting the following: ‘‘in calendar year 2001, 2,500,000 square meter equivalents in calendar year 2002, and 4,500,000 square meter equivalents in calendar year 2003 and each calendar year thereafter, or such other’’;

"(2) Note 16.—U.S. Note 16 to subchapter II of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is amended—

"(B) by striking ‘‘from January 1 to December 31 of each year, inclusive’’; and

"(B) by striking ‘‘, or such other’’ and inserting the following: ‘‘in calendar year 2001, 2,500,000 square meter equivalents in calendar year 2002, and 4,500,000 square meter equivalents in calendar year 2003 and each calendar year thereafter, or such other’’;

"(c) EXTENSION OF DUTY REFUNDS AND WOOL RESEARCH TRUST FUND.—

"(1) In general.—The United States Customs Service shall pay each manufacturer that receives a payment under section 565 of the Trade and Development Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–200) for calendar year 2002, and that provides an affidavit that it remains a manufacturer in the United States as described in subsection (a), (b), or (c),—

"(c) EXTENSION OF DUTY REFUNDS AND WOOL RESEARCH TRUST FUND.—

"(1) in general.—The United States Customs Service shall pay each manufacturer that receives a payment under section 565 of the Trade and Development Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–200) for calendar year 2002, and that provides an affidavit that it remains a manufacturer in the United States as described in subsection (a), (b), or (c),—

"(c) EXTENSION OF DUTY REFUNDS AND WOOL RESEARCH TRUST FUND.—

"(1) In general.—The United States Customs Service shall pay each manufacturer that receives a payment under section 565 of the Trade and Development Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–200) for calendar year 2002, and that provides an affidavit that it remains a manufacturer in the United States as described in subsection (a), (b), or (c),—

"(c) EXTENSION OF DUTY REFUNDS AND WOOL RESEARCH TRUST FUND.—

"(1) in general.—The United States Customs Service shall pay each manufacturer that receives a payment under section 565 of the Trade and Development Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–200) for calendar year 2002, and that provides an affidavit that it remains a manufacturer in the United States as described in subsection (a), (b), or (c),—

"(c) EXTENSION OF DUTY REFUNDS AND WOOL RESEARCH TRUST FUND.—

"(1) in general.—The United States Customs Service shall pay each manufacturer that receives a payment under section 565 of the Trade and Development Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–200) for calendar year 2002, and that provides an affidavit that it remains a manufacturer in the United States as described in subsection (a), (b), or (c),—

"(c) EXTENSION OF DUTY REFUNDS AND WOOL RESEARCH TRUST FUND.—

"(1) in general.—The United States Customs Service shall pay each manufacturer that receives a payment under section 565 of the Trade and Development Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–200) for calendar year 2002, and that provides an affidavit that it remains a manufacturer in the United States as described in subsection (a), (b), or (c),—
with the Customs Service, within 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, that contains sufficient information to enable the Customs Service:

(A) to locate the entry; or

(B) to reconstruct the entry if it cannot be located.

SEC. 4102. AMENDMENTS TO GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES.—Section 502(b)(2)(F) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2462(b)(2)(F)) is amended by striking the period at the end and inserting “or such country has not taken steps to support the efforts of the United States to combat terrorism.”

(b) DEFINITION OF INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED WORKER RIGHTS.—Section 507(4) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2467(4)) is amended by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (D); and by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (E) and inserting “; and”;

(c) adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(F) a prohibition on discontent discrimination with respect to employment and occupation.”;

(d) CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—Within one year of the date of enactment of this Act, the U.S. Trade Representative shall certify to Congress that the President has fulfilled the requirements set forth in subsection (c).

SEC. 4202. EXPRESSION OF SOLIDARITY WITH ISRAEL IN ITS FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The United States and Israel are now engaged in a common struggle against terrorism and are on the frontlines of a conflict thrust upon them against their will.

(2) President George W. Bush declared on November 21, 2001, “We fight the terrorists and see the fight of all of those who give them aid. America has a message for the nations of the world: If you harbor terrorists, you are terrorists. If you train or arm a terrorist, you are a terrorist. If you feed a terrorist or fund a terrorist, you are a terrorist, and you will be held accountable by the United States and our friends.”;

(3) The United States has committed to provide resources to states on the frontline in the war against terrorism.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—The Congress—

(1) stands in solidarity with Israel, a frontline state in the war against terrorism, as it takes necessary steps to provide security to its people by dismantling the terrorist infrastructure in the Palestinian areas;

(2) remains committed to Israel’s right to self-defense;

(3) will continue to assist Israel in strengthening its homeland defenses;

(4) condemns the acts of suicide bombings;

(5) demands that the Palestinian Authority fulfill its commitment to dismantle the terrorist infrastructure in the Palestinian areas;

(6) urges all Arab states, particularly the United States allies, Egypt and Saudi Arabia, to declare their unequivocal opposition to all forms of terrorism, particularly suicide bombing, and to act in concert with the United States to stop the violence; and

(7) urges all parties in the region to pursue vigorously efforts to establish a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

SEC. 4203. LIMITATION ON USE OF CERTAIN REVENE.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any revenue generated from consumer user fees imposed pursuant to Section 1933(j)(3) of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c(j)(3)) may be used only to fund the operations of the United States Customs Service.


(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds that—

(1) President George W. Bush will visit the Russian Federation May 22-25, 2002, to meet with his Russian counterpart, President Vladimir V. Putin;

(2) the President and President Putin, and the United States and Russian governments, continue to cooperate closely in the fight against international terrorism;

(3) the President and Russian cooperation in containing the war-making capabilities of Iraq, including that country’s ongoing program to develop and deploy weapons of mass destruction;

(4) during his visit, the President expects to sign a treaty to significantly reduce deployed American and Russian nuclear weapons by 2012;

(5) the President and his NATO partners have further institutionalized United States-Russia security cooperation through establishment of the NATO-Russia Council, which meets for the first time on May 28, 2002, in Rome, Italy;

(6) during his visit, the President will continue to address religious freedom and human rights concerns through open and candid discussions with President Putin, with leading Russian activists, and with representatives of Russia’s revitalized and diverse Jewish community; and

(7) recognizing Russia’s progress on religious freedom and a broad range of other mechanisms to address remaining concerns, the President has asked the Congress to terminate application of title IV of the Trade Act of 1974 (commonly known as the “Jackson-Vanik Amendment”) and authorize the extension of normal trade relations to the products of Russia.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—(1) supports the President’s efforts to deepen the friendship between the American and Russian peoples;

(2) further supports the policy objectives of the President mentioned in this section with respect to the Russian Federation;

(3) supports terminating the application of title IV of the Trade Act of 1974 to Russia in an appropriate and timely manner; and

(4) looks forward to learning the results of the President’s discussions with President Putin and other representatives of the Russian government and Russian society.

SEC. 4205. NO APPROPRIATIONS.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no direct appropriation may be made under this Act.

The text of the House amendment to the Senate amendment is as follows: House amendment to Senate amendment: In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by the Senate amendment, insert the following:

SECTION I. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Trade Act of 2002.”

SEC. 2. ORGANIZATION OF ACT INTO DIVISIONS; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) DIVISIONS.—This Act is organized into 4 divisions as follows:

DIVISION A.—Trade Adjustment Assistance.

DIVISION B.—Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority.


DIVISION D.—Extension of Certain Preferential Trade Treatment and Other Provisions.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Organization of act into divisions; table of contents.

DIVISION A—TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE

Sec. 101. Short title.

TITLED I.—TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Sec. 111. Reauthorization of trade adjustment assistance program.

Sec. 112. Filing of petitions and provision of rapid response assistance; expedited review of petitions by Secretary of Labor.

Sec. 113. Group eligibility requirements.

Sec. 114. Qualifying requirements for trade readjustment allowances.

Sec. 115. Waivers of training requirements.

Sec. 116. Amendments to limitations on trade readjustment allowances.

Sec. 117. Annual total amount of payments for training.

Sec. 118. Authority of States with respect to costs of approved training and supplemental assistance.

Sec. 119. Provision of employer-based training.

Sec. 120. Coordination with title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

Sec. 121. Expiration period.

Sec. 122. Declaration of policy; sense of Congress.
CHAPTER 1
Sec. 361. Authorization of appropriations.

Subtitle B
Sec. 353. Implementation of the african growth and opportunity act.
Sec. 345. Authorization of appropriations for customs service.
Sec. 343. Mandatory advanced electronic infrastructure.
Sec. 342. Emergency adjustments to offices, programs, and activities.
Sec. 341. Immunity for United States officials that act in good faith.
Sec. 338. National customs automation program.
Sec. 337. Fees for customs inspections at seaports.
Sec. 336. Study and report relating to the harmonization of customs procedures of the Customs Service.
Sec. 335. Study and report relating to the harmonization of prospective rulings.
Sec. 334. Establishment and implementation of cost accounting system; requirements.
Sec. 333. Study and report relating to time-line and synopsis of rules.
Sec. 332. Authorization of appropriations for program to prevent child pornography/child sexual exploitation.

CHAPTER 3—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS
Sec. 331. Additional Customs Service officers for United States-Canada border.
Sec. 322. Study and report relating to personnel practices of the Customs Service.
Sec. 321. Authorization of appropriations for program to prevent child pornography/child sexual exploitation.
Sec. 320. Establishment and implementation of cost accounting system; requirements.
Sec. 319. Study and report relating to timeliness of prospective rulings.
Sec. 318. Study and report relating to customs user fees.
Sec. 317. Fees for customs inspections at express courier facilities.
Sec. 316. National customs automation program.

CHAPTER 4—ANTITERRORISM PROVISIONS
Sec. 315. Authorization of appropriations for antiterrorism programs.
Sec. 314. Emergency adjustments to offices, ports of entry, or staffing of the customs service.
Sec. 313. Mandatory advanced electronic information for cargo and passengers.
Sec. 312. Search authority for certain contraband in outbound mail.
Sec. 311. Authorization of appropriations for reestablishment of customs operations in New York City.

CHAPTER 5—TEXTILE TRANSshipment Provisions
Sec. 310. Gao audit of textile transshipment monitoring by customs service.
Sec. 309. Authorization of appropriations for textile transshipment enforcement programs.
Sec. 308. Implementation of the african growth and opportunity act.

Subtitle B—Office of the United States Trade Representative
Sec. 315. Authorization of appropriations.
Subtitle C—United States International Trade Commission
Sec. 317. Authorization of appropriations.

Subtitle D—Other trade provisions
Sec. 381. Increase in aggregate value of articles exempt from duty acquired abroad by United States residents.
Sec. 382. Regulatory audit procedures.

DIVISION B—BIPARTISAN TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY
TITLE XXXI—TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY
Sec. 2101. Short title and findings.
Sec. 2102. Trade negotiating objectives.
Sec. 2103. Trade agreements authority.
Sec. 2104. Consultations and assessment.
Sec. 2105. Implementation of trade agreements.
Sec. 2106. Treatment of certain trade agreements for which negotiations have already begun.
Sec. 2107. Congressional oversight group.
Sec. 2108. Additional implementation and enforcement requirements.
Sec. 2109. Committee staff.
Sec. 2110. Conforming amendments.

DIVISION C—ANDEAN TRADE PREFERENCES ACT

TITLE XXXII—ANDEAN TRADE PREFERENCE
Sec. 3101. Short title.
Sec. 3102. Findings.
Sec. 3103. Articles eligible for preferential treatment.
Sec. 3104. Termination of preferential treatment.
Sec. 3105. Trade benefits under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act.
Sec. 3106. Trade benefits under the African Growth and Opportunity Act.

DIVISION D—EXTENSION OF CERTAIN PREFERENTIAL TRADE TREATMENT AND OTHER PROVISIONS
Sec. 4101. Extension of generalized system of preferences.
Sec. 4102. Fund for WTO dispute settlements.
Sec. 4103. Payment of duties and fees.

DIVISION A—TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE

SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.
This division may be cited as the “Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act of 2002”.

TITLE I—TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

SEC. 111. REALLOCATION OF TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

(a) Trade Adjustment Assistance Program.—
(1) In general.—Section 222 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2221(a)) is amended—
(A) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c); and
(B) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

(1) A group of workers (including workers in any agricultural firm or subdivision of an agricultural firm) shall be certified by the Secretary as eligible to apply for adjustment assistance benefits under this subchapter if, subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary determines that—

(A) a significant number or proportion of the workers in the workers’ firm or an appropriate subdivision of the firm have become totally or partially separated, or are threatened to become totally or partially separated;

(B) the workers’ firm (or subdivision) is a supplier to a firm (or subdivision) that employs workers covered by a certification of eligibility under subsection (a), the component parts provided to the firm by the supplier is a direct component of the article that is the basis for the certification of eligibility under subsection (a), and either the component parts have a dedicated usage for the firm and the supplier does not have an otherwise reasonably available outlet for the component parts add at least 25 percent of the value to the article involved; and

(C) a loss of business with the firm (or subdivision) covered by a certification of eligibility under subsection (a) contributed importantly to the workers’ separation or

...
A group of workers shall be eligible for certification by the Secretary under paragraph (1) if the petition for certification is filed with the Secretary not later than 6 months after the date on which the Secretary has notified the group of workers that the firm (or subdivision of the firm) under subsection (a) with respect to which the firm involved is a supplier.

(b) NAPTA Transitional Adjustment Assistance Program.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 230(a) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2293(a)) is amended—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

(2) CRITERIA FOR ADVERSELY AFFECTED SECONDARY WORKERS.—(A) A group of workers (including workers in any agricultural firm or subdivision of an agricultural firm) shall be certified by the Secretary as eligible to apply for adjustment assistance benefits under this subsection if, subject to subparagraph (B), the Secretary determines that—

(i) a significant number or proportion of the workers in the workers’ firm or an appropriate subdivision of the firm have become totally or partially separated, or are threatened to become totally or partially separated;

(ii) the workers’ firm (or subdivision) is a supplier to a firm (or subdivision) that employed workers covered by a certification of eligibility under paragraph (1) and with respect to which the production of such component parts constitutes not less than 50 percent of the total operations or production of the firm;

(3) REGULATIONS.—Section 256(a)(4) of such Act, as redesignated by paragraph (1)(A), is amended by striking “(1)A)” and inserting “this section”;

(4) The term ‘supplier’ means a firm that produces component parts for articles produced by a firm (or subdivision) that employed a group of workers covered by a certification of eligibility under subsection (a) and with respect to which the production of such component parts constitutes not less than 50 percent of the total operations or production of the firm;

SEC. 114. QUALIFYING REQUIREMENTS FOR TRADE READJUSTMENT ALLOWANCE.

(a) CLARIFICATION OF CERTAIN REDUCTIONS.—(1) Section 231(a)(3)(B) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2291(a)(3)(B)) is amended by inserting “and” in the matter preceding paragraph (i), and inserting after paragraph (i) the following:

(ii) the enrollment required under clause (i) occurs no later than the latest of—

(I) the last day of the 13th week after the worker’s most recent total separation from adversely affected employment which meets the requirements of paragraphs (1) and (2);

(II) the last day of the 8th week after the week in which the Secretary issues a certification covering the worker;

(iii) 45 days after the later of the dates specified in clauses (I) and (II), if the Secretary determines that such training requirement is not feasible or appropriate for the worker, as indicated by a waiver under subparagraph (c);

(b) ENROLLMENT IN TRAINING REQUIREMENT.—Section 231(a)(5)(A) of such Act (19 U.S.C. 2291(a)(5)(A)) is amended—

(1) by inserting “(1)” after “(A);”;

(2) by adding “and” after the comma at the end; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

(ii) the enrollment required under clause (i) occurs no later than the latest of—

(I) the last day of the 13th week after the worker’s most recent total separation from adversely affected employment which meets the requirements of paragraphs (1) and (2);

(II) the last day of the 8th week after the week in which the Secretary issues a certification covering the worker;

(c) Waivers of Training Requirements.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 231(c) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2291(c)) is amended to read as follows:

(c)(1) The Secretary may issue a written statement to a worker waiving the enrollment requirement described in subsection (a)(5)(A) if the Secretary determines that such training requirement is not feasible or appropriate for the worker, as indicated by a waiver under subparagraph (c);

(b) ENROLLMENT IN TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 231(a)(5)(A) of such Act (19 U.S.C. 2291(a)(5)(A)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

(3) The Secretary shall periodically review the waiver to determine whether the basis for issuing the waiver remains applicable. If at any time the Secretary determines such basis is no longer applicable to the worker, the Secretary shall revoke the waiver.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 231(a)(5)(C) of such Act (19 U.S.C. 2291(a)(5)(C)) is amended by striking “certification” and inserting “waiver.”

SEC. 116. AMENDMENTS TO LIMITATIONS ON TRADE READJUSTMENT ALLOWANCES.

(a) INCREASE IN MAXIMUM NUMBER OF WEEKS.—Section 233(a)(3) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2293(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by inserting after “104” the following: “104—weekly period’’; and

(2) by striking “104-week period’’ and inserting “(c) in the case of an adversely affected worker who requires a program of remedial education (as described in section 236) in order to complete training approved for the worker under section 236, the 130-week period);” and

(b) SPECIAL RULE RELATING TO BREAK IN TRAINING.—Section 233(f) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2293(f)) is amended by striking “14 days” and inserting “30 days.”

(c) ADDITIONAL WEEKS FOR INDIVIDUALS IN NEED OF REMEDIAL EDUCATION.—Section 233 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2293) is amended by adding after the last sentence of subsection (a) the following:

(3) for purposes of carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall author
any cooperating State or State agency to establish, pursuant to guidelines issued by the Secretary, a uniform limit on the cost of training to be paid from funds provided under this Act, as may be agreed to by such State for an adversely affected worker under this section.

(b) SUPPLEMENTAL ASSISTANCE.—Section 229(b) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2296(b)) is amended by inserting the following sentence after the first sentence: “The Secretary shall authorize any cooperating State or State agency to take into account the cost of the training approved for an adversely affected worker under subsection (a) in determining the appropriate amount of supplemental assistance to be provided to such worker under this subsection.”

SEC. 119. PROVISION OF EMPLOYER-BASED TRAINING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 236(a)(5)(A) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2364(d)(5)(A)) is amended to read as follows:

‘‘(A) employer-based training, including—

(i) on-the-job training; and

(ii) customized training.”

(b) REIMBURSEMENT.—Section 236(c)(8) of such Act (19 U.S.C. 2364(c)(8)) is amended to read as follows:

“(8) the employer is provided reimbursement of not more than 50 percent of the wage rate of the worker, for the costs of providing the training and additional supervision related to the training.”

(c) DEFINITION.—Section 236 of such Act (19 U.S.C. 2364) is amended by adding the following new subsection:

“(t) For purposes of this section, the term ‘customized training’ means training that is—

(1) designed to meet the special requirements of an employer or group of employers;

(2) provided on the commitment of the employer or group of employers to employ an individual upon successful completion of the training; and

(3) for which the employer pays for a significant portion (but in no case less than 50 percent) of the cost of such training, as determined by the Secretary.”

SEC. 120. COORDINATION WITH TITLE I OF THE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT OF 1998.

(a) COORDINATION WITH ONE-STOP DELIVERY SYSTEMS AND THE FUNDING OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES.—Section 235 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2395) is amended by inserting before the period at the end of the first sentence of such section the following provisions:

“(1) including the services provided through one-stop delivery systems described in section 134(c) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2864(c)) for the appropriate local workforce investment areas, and shall carry out the requirements relating to such partners,

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 236(a)(1) of such Act (19 U.S.C. 2364(a)(1)) is amended—

(C) LIMITATION AMOUNT.—With respect to the term ‘modified adjusted gross income’, means adjusted gross income determined without regard to sections 911, 931, and 953.

(c) ELIGIBLE COVERAGE MONTH.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—(A) ‘eligible individual’, means any individual, for which the taxpayer, and

(B) ‘modified adjusted gross income’, means adjusted gross income determined without regard to sections 911, 931, and 953.

(b) LIMITATION AMOUNT.—With respect to amounts described in subparagraph (A)(1), paragraph (1) shall be applied by substituting "$20,000" for "$20,000" after the word ‘amount’ in such subparagraph.

(c) ELIGIBLE COVERAGE MONTH.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—(A) ‘eligible individual’, means any individual, for which the taxpayer, and

(B) ‘modified adjusted gross income’, means adjusted gross income determined without regard to sections 911, 931, and 953.

(c) ELIGIBLE COVERAGE MONTH.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—(A) ‘eligible individual’, means any individual, for which the taxpayer, and

(B) ‘modified adjusted gross income’, means adjusted gross income determined without regard to sections 911, 931, and 953.

(c) ELIGIBLE COVERAGE MONTH.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—(A) ‘eligible individual’, means any individual, for which the taxpayer, and

(B) ‘modified adjusted gross income’, means adjusted gross income determined without regard to sections 911, 931, and 953.

(c) ELIGIBLE COVERAGE MONTH.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—(A) ‘eligible individual’, means any individual, for which the taxpayer, and

(B) ‘modified adjusted gross income’, means adjusted gross income determined without regard to sections 911, 931, and 953.

(c) ELIGIBLE COVERAGE MONTH.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—(A) ‘eligible individual’, means any individual, for which the taxpayer, and

(B) ‘modified adjusted gross income’, means adjusted gross income determined without regard to sections 911, 931, and 953.

(c) ELIGIBLE COVERAGE MONTH.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—(A) ‘eligible individual’, means any individual, for which the taxpayer, and

(B) ‘modified adjusted gross income’, means adjusted gross income determined without regard to sections 911, 931, and 953.

(c) ELIGIBLE COVERAGE MONTH.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—(A) ‘eligible individual’, means any individual, for which the taxpayer, and

(B) ‘modified adjusted gross income’, means adjusted gross income determined without regard to sections 911, 931, and 953.

(c) ELIGIBLE COVERAGE MONTH.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—(A) ‘eligible individual’, means any individual, for which the taxpayer, and

(B) ‘modified adjusted gross income’, means adjusted gross income determined without regard to sections 911, 931, and 953.

(c) ELIGIBLE COVERAGE MONTH.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—(A) ‘eligible individual’, means any individual, for which the taxpayer, and

(B) ‘modified adjusted gross income’, means adjusted gross income determined without regard to sections 911, 931, and 953.

(c) ELIGIBLE COVERAGE MONTH.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—(A) ‘eligible individual’, means any individual, for which the taxpayer, and

(B) ‘modified adjusted gross income’, means adjusted gross income determined without regard to sections 911, 931, and 953.

(c) ELIGIBLE COVERAGE MONTH.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—(A) ‘eligible individual’, means any individual, for which the taxpayer, and

(B) ‘modified adjusted gross income’, means adjusted gross income determined without regard to sections 911, 931, and 953.

(c) ELIGIBLE COVERAGE MONTH.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—(A) ‘eligible individual’, means any individual, for which the taxpayer, and

(B) ‘modified adjusted gross income’, means adjusted gross income determined without regard to sections 911, 931, and 953.
shall be treated as met with respect to any month if at least 1 spouse satisfies such requirements.

(2) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—For purposes of this subsection—

(A) an eligible TAA recipient, or

(B) an eligible PBGC pension recipient.

(3) TAA RECIPIENT.—The term ‘eligible TAA recipient’ means, with respect to any month, any individual—

(A) who is receiving for any day of such month a trade adjustment allowance under part I of subchapter B, or subchapter D, of chapter 2 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 1221 et seq.) or who would be eligible to receive such allowance if section 231 of such Act (19 U.S.C. 2291) were applied without regard to subsection (a)(3)(B) of such section, and

(B) who, with respect to such allowance, is covered under a certification issued—

(i) under subchapter A or D of chapter 2 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2271 et seq. or 2291 et seq.), and

(ii) after the date which is 90 days after the date of the enactment of the Trade Act of 2002.

An individual shall continue to be treated as an eligible TAA recipient during the first month that such individual would otherwise cease to be an eligible TAA recipient.

(4) PENSION RECIPIENT.—The term ‘eligible PBGC pension recipient’ means, with respect to any month, any individual who—

(A) has attained age 55 as of the first day of such month, and

(B) is receiving a benefit for such month any portion of which is paid by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation under title IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

(5) QUALIFYING FAMILY MEMBER.—For purposes of this section, and

(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualifying family member’ means—

(A) the taxpayer’s spouse, and

(B) any dependent of the taxpayer with respect to whom the taxpayer is entitled to a deduction under part A of title XVIII of the Social Security Act or is enrolled under part B of such title, or

(ii) is enrolled in a health benefits plan under chapter 99 of title 5, United States Code, or

(iii) is entitled to receive benefits under chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code.

(2) SPECIAL RULES RELATED TO SUBSIDIZED COVERAGE.

(A) EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS TO CAFETERIA PLANS, FLEXIBLE SPENDING ARRANGEMENTS, AND MEDICAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS.—Employer contributions to a cafeteria plan (as defined in section 125(d)), a flexible spending arrangement (as defined in section 125(b)(1)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986), a health savings account which are excluded from gross income under section 106 shall be treated for purposes of paragraph (1)(A) as paid by the employer.

(B) AGGREGATION OF PLANS OF EMPLOYER.—A health plan which is not otherwise described in paragraph (1)(A) shall be treated as a single employer plan if such plan would be so described if all health plans of persons treated as a single employer under subsection (b), (c), (m), or (o) of section 7527 were treated as the health plan.

(3) IMMUNIZATIONS NOT TREATED AS MEDICAL COVERAGE.—For purposes of paragraph (4) of section 152(e), any amount paid on behalf of such taxpayer under section 7527 of the Social Security Act solely on the basis of receiving a benefit under section 1928 of such Act shall be treated as insurance which would otherwise be described in paragraph (1)(A) of section 152(e).

(4) SPECIAL RULES.—

(A) COORDINATION WITH ADVANCE PAYMENTS OF CREDIT.—With respect to any taxable year, the amount which would (but for this subsection) be allowed as a credit to the taxpayer under subsection (a) shall be reduced (but not below zero) by the aggregate amount paid on behalf of such taxpayer under section 7527 for months beginning in such taxable year.

(B) COORDINATION WITH OTHER DEDUCTIONS.—Amounts taken into account under subsection (a) shall not be taken into account in determining any deduction allowed under section 152(e)(1) or section 213.

(C) MSA DISTRIBUTIONS.—Amounts distributed from a Archer MSA (as defined in section 223(d)) shall not be taken into account under subsection (a).

(D) DENIAL OF CREDIT TO DEPENDENTS.—No credit shall be allowed under this section to any individual with respect to whom a deduction under section 152(e)(1) is allowable only in the case of the individual’s taxable year if the individual seeks to obtain health insurance coverage for such taxable year before the date of the enactment of this section.

(5) MARRIED COUPLES MUST FILE JOINT RETURN.—If the taxpayer is married at the close of the taxable year, the credit shall be allowed under subsection (a) only if the taxpayer and his spouse file a joint return for the taxable year.

(6) MARRITAL STATUS; CERTAIN MARRIED INDIVIDUALS LIVING APART.—Rules similar to the rules of sections 213(d) and 21(e) shall apply for purposes of this section.

(7) INSURANCE WHICH COVERS OTHER INDIVIDUALS.—For purposes of this section, rules similar to the rules of section 213(d) and 21(e) shall apply with respect to any contract for qualified health insurance under which amounts are payable for coverage of an individual other than the taxpayer and qualifying family members.

(8) TREATMENT OF PAYMENTS.—For purposes of this section—

(A) PAYMENTS BY SECRETARY.—Payments made by the Secretary on behalf of any individual under section 7527 (relating to ad-

vance payment of credit for health insurance costs of eligible TAA recipients) shall be treated as having been made by the taxpayer on the first day of the month for which such payment was made.

(B) PAYMENTS BY TAXPAYER.—Payments made by the taxpayer for eligible coverage months shall be treated as having been made by the taxpayer on the 31st day of the month for which such payment was made.

(9) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may prescribe such regulations and other guidance as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out this section and section 7527.

7605. MULTIPURPOSE FUNDING FOR STATE HIGH RISK INSURANCE POOLS.

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in applying section 2741 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg-41) and any other provision of law, in applying section 2741 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg-41), in determining who is an eligible individual (as defined in section 2741(b)(4)) in the case of any individual who may be covered by insurance for which credit is allowable under section 35 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 for any taxable month, if the individual seeks to obtain health insurance coverage under such section during an eligible coverage month under subsection (a), paragraphs (1) and (2) of such section 2741(b) shall not apply.

(2) PROMOTION OF STATE HIGH RISK POOLS.—The amounts appropriated under section 2745 of the Public Health Service Act is amended by inserting after section 2744 the following new section:

SEC. 2745. PROMOTION OF QUALIFIED HIGH RISK POOLS.

(a) SEED GRANTS TO STATES.—The Secretary shall provide from the funds appropriated under subsection (c)(1) a grant of up to $1,000,000 to each State that has not created a qualified high risk pool as of the date of the enactment of this section for the costs of creation of such a pool.

(b) MATCHING FUNDS FOR OPERATION OF POOLS.—In the case of a State that has established a qualified high risk pool that—

(1) in the case of a State that has established a qualified high risk pool that—

(A) provides that premiums charged under the pool to no more than 150 percent of the premium for applicable standard risk rates;

(B) that offers a choice of two or more coverage options through the pool; and

(C) has in effect a mechanism reasonably designed to ensure continued funding of losses incurred by the State after the end of fiscal year 2004 in connection with operation of the pool;

the Secretary shall provide, from the funds appropriated under subsection (c)(2) and allotted to the State under paragraph (2), a grant of up to 50 percent of the losses incurred by the State in connection with the operation of the pool.

(2) ALLOTMENT.—The amounts appropriated under subsection (c)(2) for fiscal year shall be made available to the States in accordance with a formula that is based upon the number of uninsured individuals in the States.
“(c) FUNDING.—Out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are appropriated—

(1) $20,000,000 for fiscal year 2003 to carry out subsections (a) and (b) of this section;

(2) $40,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2003 and 2004.

Funds appropriated under this subsection for a fiscal year shall remain available for obligation through the end of the following fiscal year. Nothing in this section shall be construed as providing a State with an entitlement to apply the guaranteed availability provisions of section 274(a) of such Act.

(d) QUALIFIED HIGH RISK POOL AND STATE DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘qualified high risk pool’ has the meaning given such term in section 274(c)(2) and the term ‘State’ means any of the 50 States and the District of Columbia.

(3) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as affecting the definition in a fiscal year.

The Secretary may disclose to providers of health insurance for any certified individual (as defined in section 7527(c)) return information concerning transactions with other persons is amended by adding at the end of the following new subparagraph:

"(vii) the number of the information contact for such individual;"

(b) DISCLOSURE OF RETURN INFORMATION FOR PURPOSES OF CARRYING OUT A PROGRAM FOR ADVANCE PAYMENT OF CREDIT FOR HEALTH INSURANCE COSTS OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (l)(18) or (n) of section 6103 (relating to returns and information for purposes other than tax administration) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(B) the Secretary may disclose to providers of health insurance costs of eligible individuals,

The Secretary may prescribe the amount for such year.

(a) AMOUNT FOR AN INDIVIDUAL.—The amount for an individual for any taxable year does not exceed such individual’s modified adjusted gross income for such taxable year.

(b) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 77 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking the following new item:

"(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Paragraph (2) of section 1324(b) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting before the period ‘‘, or from section 35 of such Code’’.

(2) The table of sections for subpart C of chapter 61 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting after the end of the following new section:

"Sec. 35. Health insurance costs of eligible individuals.

"Sec. 36. Overpayments of tax.

"(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2001.

SEC. 202. ADVANCE PAYMENT OF CREDIT FOR HEALTH INSURANCE COSTS OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 77 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 relating to the guaranteed availability provisions of section 274(a) of such Act.

"(1) by striking ‘‘, or’’ and inserting ‘‘, and’’;

"(2) in subparagraph (B) of section 7213A(a)(1)(B) of such Code by striking ‘‘(as defined in section 7527(c))’’ and inserting ‘‘(as defined in section 7527(d)’’;

"(3) in subparagraph (A) of section 7650S the following new item:

"(4) by striking ‘‘, or’’ and inserting ‘‘, and’’;

"(5) in subparagraph (A) of section 7650S the following new item:

"(6) by striking ‘‘, or’’ and inserting ‘‘, and’’.

"(e) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) ADVANCE PAYMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 77 of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

"(f) IMPOSSIBLE AMOUNT.—

"(g) CONSTRUCTION.—

"(h) STATEMENTS TO BE FURNISHED TO INDIVIDUALS WITH RESPECT TO WHOM INFORMATION IS REQUIRED.—Every person required to make a return under subsection (a) shall furnish to each individual whose name is required to be set forth in such return a written statement showing:

"(i) the name and address of the person required to make a return under such subsection;

"(ii) any phone number of the information contact for such person;

"(ii) the information required to be shown on the return with respect to such individual.

The written statement required under the preceding sentence shall be furnished on or before January 31 of the year following the calendar year for which the return under subsection (a) is required to be made.

(2) ASSESSABLE PENALTIES.—(A) Section 7650T of such Code is amended by striking ‘‘or’’ at the end of subparagraph (Z), by striking the period ‘‘, or’’ and inserting ‘‘, and’’, and by adding after subparagraph (AA) the following new subparagraph:

"(BB) section 6695T (relating to returns relating to credit for health insurance costs of eligible individuals)."

"(B) Paragraph (2) of section 7671(d) of such Code is amended by striking ‘‘or’’ at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting ‘‘, and’’ and adds after subparagraph (AA) the following new subparagraph:

"(CC) section 6662T (relating to returns relating to credit for health insurance costs of eligible individuals)."

SEC. 6050T. RETURNS RELATING TO CREDIT FOR HEALTH INSURANCE COSTS OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.

(a) REQUIREMENT OF REPORTING.—Every employer who is required to receive payments, for any month of any calendar year under section 7527 (relating to advance payment of credit for health insurance costs of eligible individuals), or any individual, directly or indirectly, with respect to such individual, shall, at such time as the Secretary may prescribe, make the return described in subsection (b) with respect to such individual.

(b) FORM AND MANNER OF RETURNS.—A return is described in this subsection if such return—

"(1) is in such form as the Secretary may prescribe, and

"(2) contains—

"(A) the name, address, and TIN of each individual described in paragraph (1);

"(B) the number of months for which amounts were entitled to be received with respect to such individual under section 7527 (relating to advance payment of credit for health insurance costs of eligible individuals);

"(C) the amount entitled to be received for each such month; and

"(D) such other information as the Secretary may prescribe.

(c) STATEMENTS TO BE FURNISHED TO INDIVIDUALS WITH RESPECT TO WHOM INFORMATION IS REQUIRED.—Every person required to make a return under subsection (a) shall furnish to each individual whose name is required to be set forth in such return a written statement showing:

"(1) the name and address of the person required to make a return under such subsection; and

"(2) any phone number of the information contact for such person.

"(D) the Secretary may prescribe.

Extensive amendments to the Customs and Border Protection Act of 1990, the Customs and Border Protection Act of 1994, the Customs and Border Protection Act of 1995, the Customs and Border Protection Act of 1996, the Customs and Border Protection Act of 1997, the Customs and Border Protection Act of 1998, the Customs and Border Protection Act of 1999, the Customs and Border Protection Act of 2000, the Customs and Border Protection Act of 2001, and the Customs and Border Protection Act of 2002, are made by adding the following sections to chapter 4 of title 19, United States Code (relating to definitions):
(3) by adding at the end the following: “(C) $1,399,592,400 for fiscal year 2004.”.

(b) Commercial Operations.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 301(b)(2)(A) of the Customs Procedural Reform and Simplification Act of 1978 (19 U.S.C. 2075(b)(2)(A)) is amended—

(A) in clause (i) to read as follows:

“(i) $1,696,608,000 for fiscal year 2002.”;

(B) in clause (ii) to read as follows:

“(ii) $1,642,602,000 for fiscal year 2003.”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) by adding at the end the following: “(i) $1,300,000,000 for fiscal year 2004.”.

(2) AUTOMATED COMMERCIAL ENVIRONMENT COMPUTER SYSTEM.—Of the amount made available under this Act for fiscal years 2002 through 2004 under section 301(b)(2)(A) of the Customs Procedural Reform and Simplification Act of 1978 (19 U.S.C. 2075(b)(2)(A), as amended by paragraph (1)), $308,000,000 shall be available until expended for the development, establishment, and implementation of the Automated Commercial Environment computer system.

(3) REPORTS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall review and submit to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a report that describes the development and establishment of the Automated Commercial Environment computer system and its effectiveness in carrying out a cost-effective manner and implementing the requirements of title VI of the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act.

(c) AERIAL AND MARITIME INTERDICTION.—Section 301(b)(3) of the Customs Procedural Reform and Simplification Act of 1978 (19 U.S.C. 2075(b)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A) to read as follows:

“(A) $1,860,000,000 for fiscal year 2002.”;

(2) in subparagraph (B) to read as follows:

“(B) $170,829,000 for fiscal year 2003.”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(E) $175,099,725 for fiscal year 2004.”.

(d) SUBMISSION OF OUT-YEAR BUDGET PROJECTIONS.—Section 301(a) of the Customs Procedural Reform and Simplification Act of 1978 (19 U.S.C. 2075(a)) is amended—

(1) in clause (i) to read as follows:

“(i) $1,606,068,000 for fiscal year 2002.”;

(2) in subparagraph (B) to read as follows:

“(B) $11,200,000 for 5 mobile truck x-rays for inspection activities by persons outside the boundaries of ports where such surveillance activities are occurring.

(L) $1,254,000 for 57 weigh-in-motion sensors to be distributed among the ports with the greatest volume of outbound traffic.

(M) $180,000 for 36 AM traffic information radio stations, with rotation to be located at each border crossing.

(N) $1,040,000 for 260 inbound vehicle counters to be installed at every inbound vehicle lane.

(O) $950,000 for 38 spotter camera systems to counter the surveillance of customs inspection activities by persons outside the boundaries of ports where such surveillance activities are occurring.

(P) $390,000 for 60 inbound commercial truck transponders to be distributed to all ports of entry.

(Q) $1,600,000 for 40 narcotics vapor and particle detectors to be distributed to each border crossing.

(R) $400,000 for license plate reader automatic targeting software to be installed at each port to target inbound vehicles.

(2) UNITED STATES-CANADA BORDER.—For the United States-Canada border, the following:

(A) $3,000,000 for 4 Vehicle and Container Inspection Systems (VACIS).

(B) $8,966,000 for mobile truck x-rays with transmission and backscatter imaging.

(C) $3,600,000 for 4 1-MeV x-ray systems.

(D) $250,000 for 50 portable contraband detectors (busters) to be distributed among ports where the current allocations are inadequate.

(E) $300,000 for 25 contraband detection kits to be distributed among ports based on traffic volume.

(F) $240,000 for 10 portable Treasury Enforcement Communications Systems (TECS) terminals to be moved among ports as needed.

(G) $400,000 for 10 narcotics vapor and particle detectors to be distributed to each border crossing based on traffic volume.

(3) FLORIDA AND GULF COAST SEAPORTS.—For the Florida and Gulf coast seaports, the following:

(A) $4,500,000 for 6 Vehicle and Container Inspection Systems (VACIS).

(B) $11,800,000 for 5 mobile truck x-rays with transmission and backscatter imaging.

(C) $7,200,000 for 8 1-MeV x-ray pallet x-rays.

(D) $250,000 for 50 portable contraband detectors (busters) to be distributed among ports where the current allocations are inadequate.

(E) $300,000 for 25 contraband detection kits to be distributed among ports based on traffic volume.

(b) FISCAL YEAR 2003.—Of the amounts made available for fiscal year 2003 under section 301(b)(1)(B) of the Customs Procedural Reform and Simplification Act of 1978 (19 U.S.C. 2075(b)(1)(B)), as amended by section 311(a) of this Act, $9,000,000 shall be available until expended for the maintenance and support of the equipment and training of personnel to maintain the equipment described in subsection (a).

(c) ACQUISITION OF TECHNOLOGICALLY SUPERIOR EQUIPMENT; TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—The President may use amounts made available for fiscal year 2002 under section 301(b)(1)(A) of the Customs Procedural Reform and Simplification Act of 1978 (19 U.S.C. 2075(b)(1)(A), as amended by section 311(a) of this Act, for the acquisition of equipment other than the equipment described in subsection (a) if such acquisition—

(A) is technologically superior to the equipment described in subsection (a); and

(B) will achieve at least the same results at a lower cost than the equipment described in subsection (a); or

(C) can be obtained at a lower cost than the equipment described in subsection (a). Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Commissioner of Customs may reallocate an amount not to exceed 10 percent of—

(i) the amount specified in any subparagraph (A) through (R) of subsection (a); and

(ii) the amount specified in any subparagraph (A) through (G) of subsection (a) for equipment specified in any other of such subparagraphs (A) through (R);

the amount specified in any subparagraph (A) through (G) of subsection (a) for equipment specified in any other of such subparagraphs (A) through (G) and

the amount specified in any subparagraph (A) through (E) of subsection (a) for equipment specified in any other of such subparagraphs (A) through (E).

SEC. 313. COMPLIANCE WITH PERFORMANCE PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—

As part of the annual performance plan for each of the fiscal years 2002 and 2003 covering each program activity set forth in the budget of the United States Customs Service, as required under section 301(b) of the United States Code, the Commissioner of Customs shall establish performance goals, performance indicators, and comply with all other requirements contained in paragraphs (1) through (6) of subsection (a) of such section with respect to each of the activities to be carried out pursuant to section 312.

CHAPTER 2—CHILD CYBER-SMUGGLING CENTER OF THE CUSTOMS SERVICE

SEC. 321. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR PROGRAM TO PREVENT CHILD PORNOGRAPHY/CHILD SEXUAL EXPOSURE CYBER TiPLINE.—

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Customs Service $10,000,000 for fiscal year 2002 to carry out the program to prevent child pornography/child sexual exposure cyber tipline contamination established by the Child Cyber-Smuggling Center of the Customs Service.

(b) USE OF AMOUNTS FOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CYBER TIPLINE.—Of the amount appropriated under subsection (a), the Customs Service shall provide 3.75 percent of such amount to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children for the operation of the Child Cyber-Smuggling Center.
CHAPTER 3—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 331. ADDITIONAL CUSTOMS SERVICE OFFICERS FOR UNITED STATES-Canada BORDER.

Of the amount made available for fiscal year 2002 under paragraphs (1) and (2)(A) of section 207(a)(5) of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (Pub. L. 99-276, 19 U.S.C. 2075(b)), as amended by section 311 of this Act, $28,300,000 shall be available until expended for the Customs Service to hire approximately 265 additional Customs Service officers to address the needs of the offices and ports along the United States-Canada border.

SEC. 332. STUDY AND REPORT RELATING TO PERSONNEL PRACTICES OF THE CUSTOMS SERVICE.

(a) Study.—The Commissioner of Customs shall conduct a study of current personnel practices of the Customs Service, including an overview of performance standards and the effect and impact of the collective bargaining process on drug interdiction efforts of the Customs Service and a comparison of duty-related policies of the Customs Service and agencies that employ similarly-situated personnel.

(b) Report.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner shall submit to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a report containing the results of the study conducted under subsection (a).

SEC. 333. STUDY AND REPORT RELATING TO ACQUISITION AND AUDITING PRACTICES OF THE CUSTOMS SERVICE.

(a) Study.—(1) The Commissioner of Customs shall conduct a study of actions by the Customs Service relating to the identification of expenses based on any other type of operation, the amount of each customs user fee imposed, and the amount of the customs user fees if such revenue shall be deposited to the Treasury account established by subsection (a) of section 552(b)(9) of title 5, United States Code, and section 1905 of title 20, United States Code; and

(b) Report.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of Customs shall submit to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a report containing the results of the study conducted under subsection (a).

SEC. 334. ESTABLISHMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF COST ACCOUNTING SYSTEM; REPORTS.

(a) Establishment and Implementation.—(1) In the case of the Commissioner of Customs, the term "building block of reform", referred to in September 30, 2003, the Commissioner of Customs shall, in accordance with the audit of the Customs Service’s fiscal years 2000 and 1999 financial statements (as contained in the report of the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of the Treasury issued on February 23, 2001), establish and implement a cost accounting system for expenses incurred in both commercial and noncommercial operations of the Customs Service.

(b) Additional Requirement.—The cost accounting system established under paragraph (a) shall provide for an identification of expenses based on the type of operation, the port at which the operation took place, the amount of such expenses, and an identification of expenses based on any other appropriate classification necessary to provide an accurate and complete accounting of the expenses.

(b) Reports.—Beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on the date on which the cost accounting system described in subsection (a) is fully implemented, the Commissioner shall report to the Committee on Finance of the Senate a quarterly basis a report on the progress of implementing the cost accounting system pursuant to subsection (a).

SEC. 335. STUDY AND REPORT RELATING TO TIMELINESS OF PROSPECTIVE RULINGS.

(a) Study.—The Comptroller General shall conduct a study on the extent to which the Office of Regulations and Rulings of the Customs Service provides for the ruling is received by the Customs Service.

(b) Report.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a report containing the results of the study conducted under subsection (a).

SEC. 336. STUDY AND REPORT RELATING TO CUSTOMS USER FEES.

(a) Study.—The Comptroller General shall conduct a study on the extent to which the amount of each customs user fee imposed and the amount of the customs user fees if such revenue shall be deposited to the Treasury account established by subsection (a) of section 552(b)(9) of title 5, United States Code, and section 1905 of title 20, United States Code; and

(b) Report.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a report containing the results of the study conducted under subsection (a); and

(2) recommendations for the appropriate amount of the customs user fees if such revenue shall be deposited to the Treasury account established by subsection (a) of section 552(b)(9) of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 337. FEES FOR CUSTOMS INSPECTIONS AT EXPRESS COURIER FACILITIES.

(a) In General.—Section 13031(b)(9) of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c(b)(9)) is amended as follows:

(1) In the matter preceding clause (i), by striking "under this Act" and inserting "(A)(ii) to not less than $.35 but not more than $0.45 per individual airway bill or bill of lading."

(b) Effective Date.—The amendments made by subsection (a) take effect on October 1, 2002.

SEC. 338. NATIONAL CUSTOMS AUTOMATION PROGRAM.

Section 411(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1411(b)) is amended by striking the second sentence and inserting the following:

"The Secretary, by regulation, may impose fees for the provision of customs services to express consignment carrier facilities or centralized hub facilities. Amounts deposited in accordance with the preceding sentence shall be available until expended for the provision of customs services to express consignment carrier facilities or centralized hub facilities.

SEC. 339. AMENDMENTS TO PARTIALLY BURIED VESSELS.

(a) Duty.—Section 58c(b)(9) of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c(b)(9)) is amended as follows:

(1) In the matter preceding clause (i), by striking "under this Act" and inserting "(A)(ii) to not less than $.35 but not more than $0.45 per individual airway bill or bill of lading."

(b) Effective Date.—The amendments made by subsection (a) take effect on October 1, 2002.

CHAPTER 4—ANTITERRORISM PROVISIONS

SEC. 341. IMMUNITY FOR UNITED STATES OFFICIALS THAT ACT IN GOOD FAITH.

(a) Immunity.—Section 3061 of the Revised Statutes (19 U.S.C. 462) is amended—

(1) by striking "Any of the officers and" and inserting "(a) Any of the officers; and"

(b) by adding at the end the following:

"(b) Any officer or employee of the United States conducting a search or other official act pursuant to subsection (a) shall not be held liable for any civil damages as a result of such search if the officer or employee performed the search in good faith.

(b) Requirement To Post Policy And Procedures For Searches Of Passengers.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of the Customs Service shall ensure that at each Customs border facility appropriate notice is posted that provides a summary of the policy and procedures of the Customs Service for searching passengers, including a statement of the policy relating to the prohibition on the collection of profile data based on gender, race, color, religion, or ethnic background.

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SEC. 342. EMERGENCY ADJUSTMENTS TO OFFICES, PORTS OF ENTRY, OR STAFFING OF THE CUSTOMS SERVICE.

Section 313 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1318) is amended—

(1) by striking "Whenever the President" and inserting "(a) Whenever the President;"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:—

"(b)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Treasury, when necessary to respond to a national emergency declared under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) or to a specific threat to human life or national interests, is authorized to take the following actions on a temporary basis:

(A) Eliminate, consolidate, or relocate any office or port of entry of the Customs Service.

(B) Modify hours of service, alter services rendered at any location, or reduce the number of employees at any location.

(C) Take any other action that may be necessary to directly respond to the national emergency or specific threat.

(2) under this section and any other provision of law, the Commissioner of Customs, when necessary to respond to a specific threat to human life or national interests, is authorized to temporarily close any Customs office or port of entry or take any other lesser action that may be necessary to respond to the specific threat.

(3) The Secretary of the Treasury or the Commissioner of Customs, as the case may be, shall notify the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate not later than 72 hours after taking any action under paragraph (1) or (2).

SEC. 343. MANDATORY ADVANCED ELECTRONIC INFORMATION FOR CARGO AND PASSENGERS.

(a) CARGO INFORMATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 431(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1431(b)) is amended—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking "Any manifests" and inserting "(1) Any manifest"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) In addition to any other requirement under this section for each land, air, or vessel carrier required to make entry under the customs laws of the United States, the pilot, the master, operator, or owner of such carrier (or the authorized agent of such operator or owner) shall provide by electronic transmission cargo manifest information in an advance and such entry in such manner, time, and form as prescribed under regulations by the Secretary. The Secretary may exclude any class of land, air, or vessel carrier for which the Secretary concludes the requirements of this subparagraph are not necessary.

(B) The Secretary shall cooperate with other appropriate Federal departments and agencies for the purpose of providing to such departments and agencies as soon as practicable cargo manifest information obtained pursuant to subparagraph (A). In carrying out the preceding sentence, the Secretary, to the maximum extent practicable, shall protect the privacy rights of the person with respect to which the information relates.

(c) DEFINITION.—Section 401 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1401) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(t) The term "land, air, or vessel carrier" means a land, air, or vessel carrier, as the case may be, that is, a person or a company that provides services by land, air, or water, respectively, to which the information relates."

SEC. 344. BORDER SEARCH AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN CONTRABAND IN OUTBOUND MAIL.

The Tariff Act of 1930 is amended by inserting after section 583 the following:

"SEC. 583. EXAMINATION OF OUTBOUND MAIL.

(a) EXAMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of ensuring compliance with the customs laws of the United States and enforcing the provisions of this title, the Secretary, in the exercise of such authority as is given him by the Customs Service, including the provisions of law described in paragraph (2), a Customs officer may, subject to the provisions of this section, stop and search at the border, without a search warrant, mail of domestic origin transmitted for export by the United States Postal Service and foreign mail and other goods or passengers for payment or other consideration, including money or services rendered.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect beginning 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 345. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR REESTABLISHMENT OF CUSTOMS OPERATIONS IN NEW YORK CITY.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated for the reestablishment of operations of the Custom Service in New York, New York, such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2002.

(2) OPERATIONS DISCHARGED.—The operations referred to in paragraph (1) include, but are not limited to, the following:

(A) Operations relating to the Port Director of New York City, the New York Customs Management Center (including the Director of Field Operations), and the Special Agent-In-Charge for New York.

(B) Commercial operations, including textile and tobacco operations and all regulations of the United States.

(C) The term "trade specialist" means a person who may effectuate regulations relating to the entry data into the United States of textiles and textile products; and
textile production verification team results to coordinate and ensure implementation of bilateral trade agreements.

(4) SPECIAL AGENTS.—$300,000 for 2 special agents to be assigned to Customs headquarters to be available to provide technical assistance to sub-Saharan African countries for developing and implementing effective visa and anti-transshipment systems.

(5) DATA RECONCILIATION ANALYSTS.—$151,000 for 2 data reconciliation analysts to review apparel shipments.

(6) VARIOUS PERMANENT TRADE POSITIONS.—$3,500,000 for the following:

(A) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Central America to address trade enforcement issues for that region.

(B) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in South Africa to address trade enforcement issues pursuant to the African Growth and Opportunity Act (title I of Pub. L. 107-210) and related issues under the North American Free Trade Agreement Act.

(C) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Mexico to address the threat of illegal textile transshipment through Mexico and other related enforcement issues.

(D) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Seoul, South Korea, to address the trade issues in the geographic region.

(E) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Rome, Italy, to address trade enforcement issues in the geographic region, including issues under free trade agreements with Jordan and Israel.

(F) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in New Delhi, India, to address the threat of illegal textile transshipment and other trade enforcement issues.

(G) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Mexico to address the threat of illegal textile transshipment through Mexico and other related enforcement issues.

(H) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Manila, the Philippines, to address threats and investigate matters relating to trade enforcement.

(I) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Tokyo, Japan, to address trade enforcement issues under the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP).

(J) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Beijing, China, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Chinese Trade Agreement.

(K) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Hong Kong, China, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Chinese Trade Agreement.

(L) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Hanoi, Vietnam, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Vietnamese Trade Agreement.

(M) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to address trade enforcement issues under the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP).

(N) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Jakarta, Indonesia, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Indonesian Trade Agreement.

(O) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in New Delhi, India, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Indian Trade Agreement.

(P) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Mexico City, Mexico, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Mexican Trade Agreement.

(Q) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Bogota, Colombia, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Colombian Trade Agreement.

(R) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Lima, Peru, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Peruvian Trade Agreement.

(S) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Santiago, Chile, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Chilean Trade Agreement.

(T) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Buenos Aires, Argentina, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Argentinean Trade Agreement.

(U) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Brasilia, Brazil, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Brazilian Trade Agreement.

(V) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Cape Town, South Africa, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-South African Trade Agreement.

(W) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Nairobi, Kenya, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Kenyan Trade Agreement.

(X) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Lagos, Nigeria, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Nigerian Trade Agreement.

(Y) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Tunis, Tunisia, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Tunisian Trade Agreement.

(Z) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Algiers, Algeria, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Algerian Trade Agreement.

(AAA) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Rabat, Morocco, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Moroccan Trade Agreement.

(BBB) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Damascus, Syria, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Syrian Trade Agreement.

(CCC) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Amman, Jordan, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Jordanian Trade Agreement.

(DDD) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Seoul, South Korea, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-South Korean Trade Agreement.

(EEE) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Tokyo, Japan, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Japanese Trade Agreement.

(FFF) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Beijing, China, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Chinese Trade Agreement.

(GGG) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Hong Kong, China, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Chinese Trade Agreement.

(HHH) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Seoul, South Korea, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-South Korean Trade Agreement.

(IJJ) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Tokyo, Japan, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Japanese Trade Agreement.

(KKK) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Beijing, China, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Chinese Trade Agreement.

(LLL) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Hong Kong, China, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Chinese Trade Agreement.

(MMM) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Seoul, South Korea, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-South Korean Trade Agreement.

(NNN) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Tokyo, Japan, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Japanese Trade Agreement.

(OOO) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Beijing, China, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Chinese Trade Agreement.

(PPP) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Hong Kong, China, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Chinese Trade Agreement.

(QQQ) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Seoul, South Korea, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-South Korean Trade Agreement.

(PPP) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Tokyo, Japan, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Japanese Trade Agreement.

(PPP) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Beijing, China, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Chinese Trade Agreement.

(PPP) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Hong Kong, China, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Chinese Trade Agreement.

(PPP) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Seoul, South Korea, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-South Korean Trade Agreement.

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(PPP) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Seoul, South Korea, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-South Korean Trade Agreement.

(PPP) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Tokyo, Japan, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Japanese Trade Agreement.

(PPP) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Beijing, China, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Chinese Trade Agreement.

(PPP) 2 permanent positions to be assigned to the Customs attached office in Hong Kong, China, to address trade enforcement issues under the United States-Chinese Trade Agreement.
United States is amended in the article description column by striking "§3800" and inserting "§3801".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE. —The amendment made by this subsection (a) shall take effect 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 382. REGULATORY AUDIT PROCEDURES.

Section 509(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1509(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(6)(A) If, during the course of any audit conducted under this subsection, the Customs Service identifies overpayments of duties or fees or over-declarations of quantities or values that are within the time period and scope of audit that the Customs Service has defined, then in calculating the loss of revenue or monetary penalties under section 592, the Customs Service shall treat the overpayments or over-declarations on finally liquidated entries as an offset to any underpayments or underdeclarations also identified on final liquidation.

(B) No overpayments or over-declarations were not made by the person being audited for the purpose of violating any provision of law.

"(B) Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to authorize a refund not otherwise authorized under section 5302."
broader application of the principle of transparency through—
(A) increased and more timely public access to information regarding trade issues and activities of international trade institutions;
(B) increased openness at the WTO and other international trade fora by increasing public access to relevant meetings, proceedings, and submissions, including with regard to dispute settlement and investment;
(C) increased and more timely public access to all notifications and supporting documentation submitted by parties to the WTO.
(6) ANTI-CORRUPTION. The principal negotiating objectives of the United States regarding the improvement of the World Trade Organization and such other international trade fora by increasing transparency in developing and other international trade regimes—
(A) to achieve increased transparency and opportunity for the participation of affected parties in the development of regulations;
(B) to require that proposed regulations be based on sound science, cost-benefit analysis, risk assessment, or other objective evidence;
(C) to establish consultative mechanisms among parties to trade agreements to promote increased transparency in developing guidelines, rules, regulations, and laws for government procurement and other regulatory regimes; and
(D) to ensure the elimination of government measures such as price controls and reference pricing which deny full market access for United States goods, services, and investments are—
(1) to ensure that current obligations, rules, and other commitments under the World Trade Organization apply to electronic commerce;
(2) to ensure that—
(i) electronically delivered goods and services receive no less favorable treatment under trade rules and commitments than like products delivered in physical form; and
(ii) services the United States exports or unfairly distort agriculture markets to the detriment of the United States.
(10) RECIPROCAL TRADE IN AGRICULTURE. The principal negotiating objective of the United States regarding the importance of the World Trade Organization, the Uruguay Round, and other international trade fora is—
(A) to ensure that parties to a trade agreement retain the right to exercise discretion with respect to labor and the environment.

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(2) seek to establish consultative mechanisms among parties to trade agreements to strengthen the capacity of United States trading partners to promote respect for core labor standards (as defined in section 2111(2)), and report to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate on the content and operation of such mechanisms;

(3) seek to establish consultative mechanisms among parties to trade agreements to ensure that United States trading partners to develop and implement standards for the protection of the environment and human health, and sound science, and report to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate on the content and operation of such mechanisms;

(4) conduct environmental reviews of future trade and investment agreements, consistent with Executive Order 13141 of November 16, 1999, and its relevant guidelines, and report to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate on such reviews;

(5) review the impact of future trade agreements on United States employment, modified immediately before initialing an agreement and report to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate on the such review; (6) take into account United States environmental and health policies and practices of the United States trading partners to protect the environment through the promotion of sustainable development; and

(7) have the Secretary of Labor consult with any country seeking a trade agreement regarding the consistency of any such agreement with, and keep fully apprised of the negotiations, the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate, and the Congressional Oversight Group convened under section 2107; and

(8) with respect to any trade agreement which the President seeks to implement under trade authorities procedures, submit to the Congress a report describing the extent to which the country, or countries that are parties to the agreement have in effect laws governing exploitative child labor; and

(9) to the Congress a report describing the extent to which the country, or countries that are parties to the agreement have in effect laws governing exploitative child labor; and

(10) to the Congress a report describing the extent to which the country, or countries that are parties to the agreement have in effect laws governing exploitative child labor; and

(11) the availability of equivalent remedial measures; and

(12) the ability of United States trading partners in multilateral environmental agreements and consult with parties to such agreements regarding the consistency of any such agreement that includes trade measures with existing environmental exceptions under Article XX of the GATT 1994; and

(13) WTO extended negotiations.—The principal negotiating objectives of the United States in trade in civil aircraft are those set forth in section 135(c) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3315(c)) and regarding rules of origin are those set forth in an agreement described in section 132 of that Act (19 U.S.C. 3352).

(c) Promotion of Certain Priorities.—In order to address and maintain United States competitiveness in the global economy, the President shall—

(1) seek greater cooperation between the WTO and the ILO;
(A) reduces any rate of duty (other than a rate of duty that does not exceed 5 percent ad valorem on the date of the enactment of this Act) to a rate of duty which is less than 50 percent of the rate of duty that such duty applies on such date of enactment;

(B) notwithstanding paragraph (6), reduces the rate of duty below that applicable under the Uruguay Round Agreements, on agricultural product which was the subject of tariff reductions by the United States as a result of the Uruguay Round Agreements, for which duty, pursuant to such Agreements, was reduced on January 1, 1995, to a rate which was not less than 97.5 percent of the rate of duty that applied to such article on December 31, 1994; or

(C) increases any rate of duty above the rate that applied on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(3) AGGREGATE REDUCTION; EXEMPTION FROM STAGING.

(A) AGGREGATE REDUCTION.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the aggregate reduction in the rate of duty on any article which is in effect on any day pursuant to a trade agreement entered into under paragraph (2) shall not exceed the aggregate reduction which would have been in effect on such day if—

(i) a reduction of 5 percent ad valorem or a reduction of one-tenth of the total reduction, whichever is greater, had taken effect on the effective date of the first reduction proclaimed, was reduced on January 1, 1995, to a rate which was not less than 97.5 percent of the rate of duty which, pursuant to such subparagraph, was in effect on any day pursuant to a trade agreement described in subparagraph (B) during the period described in subparagraph (C).

(B) The President may enter into a trade agreement under subparagraph (A) with foreign countries providing for—

(i) the reduction or elimination of a duty, restriction, barrier, or other distortion described in subparagraph (A), or

(ii) the prohibition of, or limitation on the imposition of, such barrier or other distortion.

(C) The President may enter into a trade agreement under this paragraph before—

(1) June 1, 2001;

(2) June 1, 2007, if trade authorities procedures are extended under subsection (c).

(2) CONDITIONS.—Negotiations may be entered into under this subsection only if such agreement makes progress in meeting the applicable objectives described in section 2102(a) and the President satisfies the conditions set forth in section 2104.

(3) BILLS QUALIFYING FOR TRADE AUTHORITY PROCEDURES.—(A) The provisions of section 151 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2471) (relating to trade authorities procedures) apply to a bill of either House of Congress which contains provisions described in subparagraph (a) and the President satisfies the conditions set forth in section 2104.

(B) Extension disapproval resolutions under that Act that Act to any implementing bill contained in an extension bill which has been introduced during the current Congress, shall be considered as if such bill were introduced during the current Congress.

(C) The President may enter into a trade agreement in the absence of such a request if the President determines that—

(i) the reduction or elimination of a duty, restriction, barrier, or other distortion described in subparagraph (A), or

(ii) the prohibition of, or limitation on the imposition of, such barrier or other distortion.

The aggregate reduction in the rate of duty that applied to such article on the date of enactment of this Act shall be referred to as an “implementing bill”.

The provisions referred to in subparagraph (A) are—

(A) a provision approving a trade agreement entered into under paragraph (2); and

(B) a provision approving a trade agreement entered into under paragraph (2) before June 1, 2001.

(6) OTHER MODIFICATIONS.—Notwithstanding paragraphs (1)(B), (2)(A), (2)(C), and (3) through (5), and subject to the consultation and layover requirements of section 115 of the Trade Act of 1974, and the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002, the President may—

(A) enter into an agreement with respect to a trade agreement, or extension of such trade agreement, entered into under this subsection and approved by the Congress, to the extent that the President determines that such action will simplify the computation of the rate of duty that applied to such article on the date of enactment of this Act and the date of the extension.

(B) enter into an agreement to provide for any other modification to the trade agreement, or extension of such trade agreement, entered into under this subsection and approved by the Congress.

(C) extend the date of enactment of this Act to any extension of such trade agreement, entered into under this subsection and approved by the Congress.

(7) AUTHORITY UNDER URUGUAY ROUND AGREEMENTS NOT AFFECTED.—Nothing in this subsection shall limit the authority provided to the President under section 111(b) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 2473).

(b) AGREEMENTS REGARDING TARIFF AND NONTARIFF BARRIERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—(A) Whenever the President determines that—

(i) one or more existing duties or any other import restriction of any foreign country or any existing or future barrier to, or distortion of, international trade unduly burdens or restricts the foreign trade of the United States or adversely affects the United States economy; or

(ii) the imposition of any such barrier or distortion is likely to result in such a burden, restriction, or effect;

and that the purposes, policies, priorities, and objectives of this title, and a statement that such purpose, policy, priority, or objective justifies the continuation of negotiations; and

(C) a statement of the reasons why the extension is needed to complete the negotiations.

(3) REPORT TO CONGRESS BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The President shall promptly transmit to the Advisory Committee on Trade Policy and Negotiations established under section 133 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2155) of the President’s decision to submit a report to the Congress under paragraph (2).

(4) STATUS OF REPORTS.—The reports submitted to the Congress under paragraphs (2) and (3), or any portion of such reports, may be classified to the extent the President determines appropriate.

(5) EXTENSION DISAPPROVAL RESOLUTIONS.—(A) Pursuant to paragraph (1), the term “extension disapproval resolution” means a resolution of either House of Congress, the sole matter after the resolving clause of which is as follows: “That the disapproves the request of the President for the extension, under section 2103(c)(1)(B)(i) of the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002, of the trade authorities procedures under that Act to any implementing bill submitted with respect to any trade agreement entered into under section 2103(b) after July 1, 2005, with the blank space being filled with the name of the resolving House of the Congress.

(B) Extension disapproval resolutions—

(i) may be introduced by any member of the Congress; and

(ii) shall be referred, in the House of Representatives, to the Committee on Ways and Means and, in addition, to the Committee on Rules.

(C) The provisions of section 132(d) and (e) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2192(d) and (e)) (relating to the floor consideration of certain resolutions in the House and Senate) apply to extension disapproval resolutions.

(D) is not in order in the House of Representatives to consider any extension disapproval resolution not reported by the Committee on Finance.

(e) REPORT TO CONGRESS BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—If the President is of the opinion that the trade authorities procedures under (b) the anticipated schedule for submitting such agreements to the Congress for approval;

(A) a description of all trade agreements that have been negotiated under this Act; and

(B) the anticipated schedule for submitting such agreements to the Congress for approval;

(f) COMMENCEMENT OF NEGOTIATIONS.—In order to contribute to the continued economic expansion of the United States, the President shall commence negotiations covering tariff and nontariff barriers affecting any industry, product, or service sector, and

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expand existing sectoral agreements to countries that are not parties to those agreements, in cases where the President determines that such negotiations are feasible and consistent with and would benefit the United States. Such sectors include agriculture, commercial services, intellectual property rights, industrial and capital goods, government procurement, information technology products, environmental technology and services, medical equipment and services, civil aircraft, and infrastructure products. In so doing, the President shall take into account all of the principal negotiating objectives set forth in section 2102(b).

SEC. 2104. CONSULTATIONS AND ASSESSMENTS.

(a) NOTICE AND CONSULTATION BEFORE NEGOTIATION. The President, with respect to any agreement that is subject to the provisions of section 2103(b), shall—

(1) provide, at least 90 calendar days before initiating negotiations, written notice to the Congress of the President’s intention to enter into the negotiations and set forth therein the date the President intends to initiate such negotiations, the specific United States objectives for the negotiations, and whether the President intends to seek an agreement, or changes to an existing agreement;

(2) before and after submission of the notice, consult regarding the negotiations with the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives, such other committees of the House and Senate as the President deems appropriate, and the Congressional Oversight group convened under section 2107; and

(3) upon the request of a majority of the members of the Congressional Oversight Group under section 2107(c), meet with the Congressional Oversight Group before initiating the negotiations or at any other time concerning the negotiations.

(b) NEGOTIATIONS REGARDING AGRICULTURE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Before initiating or continuing negotiations the subject matter of which is directly related to the subject matter under section 2102(b)(10)(A)(i) with any country, the President shall assess whether United States agriculture, products and products that were bound under the Uruguay Round Agreements are lower than the tariffs bound by that country. In addition, the President shall consider the opportunity provided in subparagraph (A)(ii) for any additional agricultural product described in subparagraph (A)(i) for tariff reductions which were not the subject of a notification to the Congress under subparagraph (A)(iv) or which were bound under the Uruguay Round Agreements. The President shall consult with the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate concerning the results of the assessment, and the reasons for seeking such tariff liberalization.

(c) NOTIFICATION OF AGREEMENTS.—Before entering into or continuing negotiations for an agreement, the President shall notify the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Finance of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate concerning the negotiations. The President shall consult with the Congress, which has jurisdiction over legislation, including those not based on scientific principles in contravention of the Uruguay Round Agreements.

(d) C ONSULTATION WITH CONGRESS BEFORE AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO.—

(1) CONSULTATION.—Before entering into any trade agreement under section 2103(b), the President shall consult with—

(A) the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate;

(B) each other committee of the House and the Senate, and each joint committee of the Congress, concerning any legislation involving subject matters which would be affected by the trade agreement; and

(C) the Congressional Oversight Group convened under section 2107.

(2) SCOPE.—The consultation described in paragraph (1) shall include consultation with respect to—

(A) the nature of the agreement;

(B) how and to what extent the agreement will achieve the applicable purposes, policies, priorities, and objectives of this title; and

(C) the implementation of the agreement under section 2105, including the general effect of the agreement on the United States economy as a whole; and

(d) ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS.—The report required under section 2105(a)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 regarding any trade agreement entered into under section 2103(a) or (b) of this Act shall be provided to the President, the Congress, and the United States Trade Representative not later than 30 days after the date on which the President notifies the Congress under section 2103(a)(1) or 2105(a)(1)(A) of the President’s intention to enter into the agreement.

(1) I T C AS S ESSMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President, at least 90 calendar days before the day on which the President enters into a trade agreement under section 2103, shall request an assessment from the International Trade Commission (referred to in this subsection as “the Commission”) with the details of the agreement as it exists at that time and request to the President to prepare and submit an assessment of the agreement as described in paragraph (2). Between the time the President makes the request under this paragraph and the time the Commission submits the assessment, the President shall keep the Commission current with respect to the details of the agreement.

(2) PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 90 calendar days after the President enters into the agreement, the Commission shall submit to the President and the Congress a report on the likely impact of the agreement on the United States economy as a whole and on specific industry sectors, including the impact the agreement will have on the gross domestic product, exports and imports, aggregate employment and employment opportunities, the production, employment, and competitive position of industries likely to be significantly affected by the agreement, and the interests of United States consumers.

(3) REVIEW OF EMPirical LITERATURE.—In preparing the assessment, the Commission shall review available economic assessments regarding the agreement, including literature regarding any substantially equivalent regional agreements. The Commission shall include in its assessment a description of the analyses, used and conclusions drawn in such literature, and a discussion of areas of consensus and divergence between the various analyses and conclusions, including those of the Commission regarding the agreement.

SEC. 2105. IMPLEMENTATION OF TRADE AGREEMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) NOTIFICATION AND SUBMISSION.—Any agreement entered into under section 2103(b) shall enter into force with respect to the United States if (and only if)—

(A) the President, at least 90 calendar days before the day on which the President enters into the trade agreement, notifies the House of Representatives and the Senate of the President’s intention to enter into the agreement, and promptly thereafter publishes no notice of such intention in the Federal Register;

(B) within 60 days after entering into the agreement, the President submits to the Congress a description of the existing laws that the President considers would be required in order to bring the
United States into compliance with the agreement;
(C) after entering into the agreement, the President submits to the Congress, on a day on which a meeting of Congress is in session, a copy of the final legal text of the agreement, together with—
(i) a draft of an implementing bill described in subsection (b)(1);
(ii) a statement of any administrative action proposed to implement the trade agreement; and
(iii) a supporting information described in paragraph (2); and
(D) the implementing bill is enacted into law.

(2) SUPPORTING INFORMATION.—The supporting information required under paragraph (1)(C)(iii) consists of—
(A) an explanation of how the implementing bill and proposed administrative action will change or affect existing law; and
(B) a statement—
(i) asserting that the agreement makes progress in achieving the applicable purposes, policies, priorities, and objectives of this title; and
(ii) considering the reasons of the President regarding—
(I) how and to what extent the agreement makes progress in achieving the applicable purposes, policies, priorities, and objectives of this title; and
(II) whether and how the agreement changes provisions of an agreement previously negotiated; and
(III) how the agreement serves the interests of United States commerce; 
(IV) how the implementing bill meets the standards set forth in section 2103(b)(3); and
(V) how and to what extent the agreement makes progress in achieving the applicable purposes, policies, priorities, and objectives referred to in section 2102(c) regarding the promotion of certain priorities.

(3) RECIPROCAL BENEFITS.—In order to ensure that a foreign country that is not a party to a trade agreement entered into under section 2103(b) does not receive benefits under the agreement unless the country is also subject to the obligations under the agreement, the implementing bill submitted with respect to the agreement shall provide that the benefits and obligations under the agreement are not extended to the parties to the agreement, if such application is consistent with the terms of the agreement. The implementing bill may also provide that the benefits and obligations under the agreement are not uniformly extended to all parties to the agreement, if such application is consistent with the terms of the agreement.

(b) LIMITATIONS ON TRADE AUTHORITY PROCEDURES.—
(1) FOR LACK OF NOTICE OR CONSULTATIONS.
(A) IN GENERAL.—The trade authorities procedures shall not apply to any implementing bill submitted with respect to a trade agreement, or trade agreements entered into under section 2103(b) if during the 60-day period beginning on the date that one House of Congress agrees to a procedural disapproval resolution for lack of notice or consultations with respect to such trade agreement or agreements, the other House separately agrees to a procedural disapproval resolution with respect to such trade agreement or agreements.

(B) PROCEDURAL DISAPPROVAL RESOLUTION.—(i) For purposes of this paragraph, the term "procedural disapproval resolution" means a resolution of either House of Congress, the sole matter after the resolving clause of which is as follows: "That the President should be and hereby is (or is refused to be) consulted in accordance with the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002 on negotiations with respect to...and, therefore, the trade authorities procedures under that Act shall not apply to any implementing bill submitted with respect to such trade agreements;" and the blank space filled with a description of the trade agreement or agreements with respect to which the President is considered to have failed or refused to consult.

(ii) For purposes of clause (I), the President has "failed or refused to notify or consult in accordance with the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002" on negotiations with respect to a trade agreement or trade agreements if—
(I) the President has failed or refused to consult (as the case may be) in accordance with section 2104 or 2105 with respect to the negotiations, agreement, or agreements;
(II) guidelines under section 2107(b)(1) have not been developed or met with respect to the negotiations, agreement, or agreements; or
(III) the agreement or agreements fail to make progress in achieving the purposes, policies, priorities, and objectives of this title.

(2) PROCEDURES FOR CONSIDERING RESOLUTIONS.—(A) Procedural disapproval resolutions—
(i) in the House of Representatives—
(I) may be introduced by any Member of the House;
(II) shall be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and, in addition, to the Committee on Rules; and
(III) may not be amended by either Committee; and
(ii) in the Senate may be introduced by any Member of the Senate.

(B) The provisions of sections 152(d) and (e) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2192(d) and (e)) (relating to the floor consideration of certain resolutions in the House and Senate) apply to a procedural disapproval resolution introduced with respect to a trade agreement if no other procedural disapproval resolution with respect to that trade agreement has previously been considered under such provisions of section 152 of the Trade Act of 1974 in that House of Congress during that Congress and to which this title would apply.

(C) It is not in order for the House of Representatives to consider any procedural disapproval resolution not reported by the Committee on Ways and Means and, in addition, by the Committee on Rules.

(d) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE.—Subsection (b) of this section and section 2103(c) are enacted by the Congress—
(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the House of Representatives and the Senate, respectively, and as such are deemed a part of the rules of each House, respectively, and such procedures supersede other rules only to the extent that they are inconsistent with such other rules; and
(2) with the full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change the rules of the House (or procedure of that House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as any other rule of that House.

SEC. 2106. TREATMENT OF CERTAIN TRADE AGREEMENTS FOR WHICH NEGOTIATIONS HAVE ALREADY BEGUN.
(a) CHILE.—Notwithstanding section 2103(b)(2), if an agreement to which section 2103(b) applies—
(1) is entered into under the auspices of the World Trade Organization;
(2) is entered into with Chile; or
(3) is entered into with Singapore, or
(4) establishes a Free Trade Area for the Americas, and results from negotiations that were commenced before the date of the enactment of this title and to which subsection (b) applies.

(b) TREATMENT OF AGREEMENTS.—In the case of any agreement to which subsection (a) applies—
(1) the applicability of the trade authorities procedures to implementing bills shall be determined without regard to the requirements of section 2104(a) (relating only to 90-day notice prior to negotiating negotiations), and any procedural disapproval resolution under section 2105(b)(1)(B) shall not be in order on the basis of a failure or refusal to comply with the provisions of section 2104(a); and
(2) the President shall, as soon as feasible after the enactment of this title—
(A) notify the Congress of the negotiations described in subsection (a), the specific United States objectives in the negotiations, and whether the President is seeking a new agreement or changes to an existing agreement; and
(B) before and after submission of the notification described with the committees referred to in section 2104(a)(2) and the Congressional Oversight Group.

SEC. 2107. CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT GROUP.
(a) MEMBERS AND FUNCTIONS.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—By not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and not later than 30 days after the convening of each Congress, the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the chairman of the Committee on Finance in the Senate shall convene the Congressional Oversight Group.

(2) MEMBERSHIP FROM THE HOUSE.—In each Congress, the Congressional Oversight Group shall be comprised of the following Members of the House of Representatives:

(A) The chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Ways and Means, and 3 additional members of such Committee (not more than 2 of whom are members of the same political party).

(B) The chairman and ranking member, or their designees, of the committees of the House of Representatives which would have, under the Rules of the House of Representatives, jurisdiction over provisions of law affected by a trade agreement negotiations for which are conducted at any time during that Congress and to which this title would apply.

(C) The chairman and ranking member, or their designees, of the committees of the Senate which would have, under the Rules of the Senate, jurisdiction over provisions of law affected by a trade agreement negotiations for which are conducted at any time during that Congress and to which this title would apply.

(d) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE.—Subsection (b) of this section and section 2103(c) are enacted by the Congress—
(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the House of Representatives and the Senate, respectively, and as such are deemed a part of the rules of each House, respectively, and such procedures supersede other rules only to the extent that they are inconsistent with such other rules; and
(2) with the full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change the rules of the House (or procedure of that House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as any other rule of that House.
negotiations by reason of which the member is in the Congressional Oversight Group. The Congressional Oversight Group shall consult with and provide advice to the Trade Representative regarding the formulation of specific objectives, negotiating strategies and positions, the development of the applicable trade agreement, and compliance and enforcement of the negotiated commitments under the trade agreement.

(5) CHAIR.—The Congressional Oversight Group shall be chaired by the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Chairman of the Committee on Finance of the Senate.

(b) GUIDELINES. (1) PURPOSE AND REVISION.—The United States Trade Representative, in consultation with the chairman and ranking minority members of the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate—

(A) shall provide to the chairmen and ranking minority members of the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate—

(a) within 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, develop written guidelines to facilitate the useful and timely exchange of information between the Trade Representative and the Congressional Oversight Group established under this section; and

(B) may make such revisions to the guidelines as may be necessary from time to time.

(2) GENERAL GUIDELINES.—The guidelines developed under paragraph (1) shall provide for, among other things—

(A) regular, detailed briefings of the Congressional Oversight Group regarding negotiating objectives, including the promotion of certain priorities referred to in section 2102(c), and positions and the status of the application of negotiating strategies, beginning as soon as practicable after the Congressional Oversight Group is convened, with more frequent briefings as trade negotiations enter the final stage;

(B) access by members of the Congressional Oversight Group, and staff with proper security clearances, to pertinent documents relating to the negotiations, including classified materials;

(C) the closest practicable coordination between the Trade Representative and the Congressional Oversight Group before initiating negotiations with respect to a trade agreement, or at any other time concerning the negotiations.

SEC. 2108. ADDITIONAL IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—At the President’s request, the United States Trade Representative, the Department of the Treasury, and such other agencies as may be necessary.

(b) CUSTOMS INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS.—The head of each federal department, agency, or independent establishment under the control of the United States Trade Representative, the Department of the Treasury, and such other agencies as may be necessary.

(c) IMPACT ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.—The President shall meet with the chairmen and ranking minority members of the Senate and the House of Representatives and the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Chairman of the Committee on Finance of the Senate.

(d) COST ANALYSIS.—An analysis of the costs associated with each of the items listed in paragraphs (1) through (4).

(e) BUDGET SUBMISSION.—The President shall include in the budget submission of the fiscal year in which it is submitted to the Congress the final text of an agreement pursuant to section 2105(a)(1)(C), the resources necessary to support the plan described in subsection (a) in the first budget that the President submits to the Congress after the submission of the plan.

SEC. 2109. COMMITTEE STAFF.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The grant of trade promotion authority under this title is likely to increase the activities of the primary committees of jurisdiction in the area of international trade. In addition, the creation of the Congressional Oversight Group under section 2107 will increase the participation of a broader number of Members of Congress in the formulation of United States trade policy and oversight of the international trade agenda for the United States. The committee on jurisdiction shall have adequate staff to accommodate these increases in activities.

SEC. 2110. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title I of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2111 et seq.) is amended as follows:


(b) A PPLICATION OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS.—For purposes of applying sections 123, 126, and 127 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2135, 2136(a), and 2137) to any trade agreement entered into under section 2103 shall be treated as an agreement entered into under section 101 or 102, as appropriate, of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2122).

SEC. 2111. DEFINITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) AGREEMENT ON AGRICULTURE.—The term “agreement on agriculture” means the agreement referred to in section 101(d)(2) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 2151).

(b) AGREEMENTS OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS.—The term “agreements of certain provisions” means—

(A) agreements to which the United States is a party to the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 2151).

(c) AGREEMENTS NOT INCLUDED.—The term “agreements of certain provisions” does not include—

(1) any agreement entered into under section 2103 that is not a trade agreement; or

(2) any agreement entered into under section 2103 that is not a trade agreement and that is not a trade agreement entered into under section 2103.

SEC. 2112. PENALTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Any person who—

(1) intentionally violates any provision of this section, or

(2) fails to comply with any requirement or condition of this section

shall be liable to the United States for a civil penalty of $10,000.

(b) PENALTY.—The term “penalty” means the amount of the civil penalty imposed under paragraph (a).

(c) ENFORCEMENT.—The President shall—

(1) issue an order, on the recommendation of the United States Trade Representative, to enforce this section and to assess the civil penalty imposed under paragraph (a); and

(2) publish a notice of such enforcement in the Federal Register and in at least one major newspaper in each of the 50 States.

(d) RIGHT TO INJUNCTIVE RELIEF.—The United States may bring an action in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, or in any district court of the United States, to enjoin violation of this section and to assess the civil penalty imposed under paragraph (a).

SEC. 2113. TEMPORARY PROVISIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The term “United States person” means—

(1) a United States citizen;

(2) a partnership, corporation, or other legal entity organized under the laws of the United States; and

(3) a partnership, corporation, or other legal entity that is organized under the laws of any foreign country and that is controlled by entities described in subparagraph (B) or United States citizens, or both.
(6) URUGUAY ROUND AGREEMENTS.—The term "Uruguay Round Agreements" has the meaning given that term in section 273 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3501(10)).

(7) WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION; WTO.—The terms "World Trade Organization" and "WTO" mean the organization established pursuant to the WTO Agreement.

(8) WTO AGREEMENT.—The term "WTO Agreement" means the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization entered into on April 15, 1994.

(9) WTO MEMBER.—The term "WTO member" has the meaning given that term in section 273 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3501(14)).

(10) OTHER DEFINITIONS.—

(A) AGREEMENT ON SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING MEASURES.—The term "Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures" means the agreement referred to in section 101(d)(12) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3501(16)).

(B) ANTI-DUMPING AGREEMENT.—The term "Anti-Dumping Agreement" means the Agreement on Implementation of Article VI of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade referred to in section 101(d)(7) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3511(d)(7)).

DIVISION C—ANDEAN TRADE PREFERENCE ACT

TITLE XXXI—ANDEAN TRADE PREFERENCE

SEC. 3101. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Andean Trade Promotion and Drug Eradication Act".

SEC. 3102. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(A) Since the Andean Trade Preference Act was enacted in 1991, it has had a positive impact on United States trade with Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru. Two-way trade has doubled, with the United States serving as the leading source of imports and leading export market for each of the Andean beneficiary countries. This has resulted in increased job and expanded export opportunities in both the United States and the Andean region.

(B) The Andean Trade Preference Act has been instrumental in furthering the counternarcotics strategy in the Andean region, promoting export diversification and broad-based economic development that provides legitimate economic alternatives to drug-crop production, strengthening the legitimate economies of Andean countries and creating viable alternatives to illicit trade in cocaine.

(C) Notwithstanding the success of the Andean Trade Preference Act, the Andean region remains threatened by political and economic instability and fragility, vulnerable to the consequences of the drug war and fierce global competition for its legitimate trade.

(D) The continuing instability in the Andean region poses a threat to the security interests of the United States and the world. This problem has been partially addressed through foreign aid, such as Plan Colombia, enacted by Congress in 2000. However, foreign aid alone is not sufficient. Enhancement of legitimate trade with the United States is a key component in sustaining and stabilizing the economies in the Andean region.

(E) The Andean Trade Preference Act constitutes a key component in the United States' efforts to promote prosperity, stability, and democracy in the beneficiary countries.

(F) Economic benefit enhancement of the Andean Trade Preference Act will bolster the confidence of domestic private enterprise and foreign investors in the economic prospects of the region, ensuring that legitimate private enterprise can be the engine of economic development and political stability in the region.

(G) Each of the Andean beneficiary countries is committed to conclude negotiation of a Free Trade Area of the Americas by the year 2005, including commitments to enhancing the economic security of the region.

(H) Temporarily enhancing trade benefits for Andean beneficiary countries will promote freedom of trade and economic opportunity in these countries and serve the security interests of the United States, the region, and the world.

SEC. 3103. ARTICLES ELIGIBLE FOR PREFERENCE TREATMENT.

(A) ELIGIBILITY OF CERTAIN ARTICLES.—Section 304 of the Andean Trade Preference Act (19 U.S.C. 2320) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (c) and redesignating subsections (d) through (g) as subsections (c) through (g), respectively; and

(2) by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

"(b) EXCEPTIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—

"(1) CERTAIN ARTICLES THAT ARE NOT IMPORT-SENSITIVE.—The President may proclaim duty-free treatment under this title for any article described in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), or (D) that is the growth, product, or manufacture of an ATPDEA beneficiary country and that meets the requirements of this section. If the President determines that such article is not import-sensitive in the context of imports from ATPDEA beneficiary countries:

"(A) Footwear not designated at the time of the effective date of this Act as eligible for the purpose of the generalized system of preferences under title of the Trade Act of 1974.

"(B) Petroleum, or any product derived from petroleum, provided for in headings 2709 and 2710 of the HTS.

"(C) Watches and watch parts (including cases, bracelets and straps), of whatever type including, but not limited to, mechanical, quartz, or electronic, if such watches or watch parts contain any material which is the product of any country with respect to which HTS column 2 rates of duty apply.

"(D) Handbags, luggage, flat goods, work gloves, and leather wearing apparel that were not designated on August 5, 1983, as eligible for purposes of the generalized system of preferences under title V of the Trade Act of 1974.

"(2) EXCLUSIONS.—Subject to paragraph (3), duty-free treatment under this title may not be extended to—

"(A) textiles and apparel articles which were not eligible articles for purposes of this title on January 1, 1994, as this title was in effect on that date; and

"(B) rum and coffee classified in subheading 2239.40 of the HTS; or

"(C) sugarcane and sugar-containing products subject to over-quota duty rates under applicable rate-quota quotas.

"(3) APPAREL ARTICLES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Apparel articles that are imported directly into the customs territory of the United States from an ATPDEA beneficiary country shall enter the United States free of duty and free of any quantitative restrictions, limitations, or consultation levels, but only if such articles are described in subparagraph (B).

(B) COTTON OR COTTON BLEND APPAREL ARTICLES.—The apparel articles referred to in subparagraph (A) are the following:

"(i) APPAREL ARTICLES ASSEMBLED FROM FABRICS FROM ATPDEA BENEFICIARY COUNTRIES OR PRODUCTS NOT AVAILABLE IN COMMERCIAL QUANTITIES.—Apparel articles sewn or otherwise assembled in 1 or more ATPDEA beneficiary countries, or the United States, or both, exclusively from any one or any combination of the following: fabrics from countries, or components knit-to-shape, in the United States, from yarns formed in the United States or 1 more ATPDEA beneficiary countries (including fabrics from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable under heading 5602 or 5603 of the HTS and are formed in the United States). Apparel articles shall qualify under this subclause only if all dyeing, printing, and finishing of the fabrics from which the articles are assembled, if the fabrics are woven fabrics, is carried out in the United States.

"(ii) Fabrics or fabric components formed or components knit-to-shape, in 1 or more ATPDEA beneficiary countries, from yarns formed in 1 or more ATPDEA beneficiary countries, if such fabrics (including fabrics from ATPDEA beneficiary countries, or components are classifiable under heading 5602 or 5603 of the HTS and are formed in 1 or more ATPDEA beneficiary countries) or components are in chain of import weight of limes and lemons from the United States to the United States, or from the United States to any other country or territories.

"(III) Fabrics or yarn that is not formed in the United States or in one or more ATPDEA beneficiary countries, to the extent that apparel articles or supplies would be eligible for preferential treatment, without regard to the source of the fabrics or yarn, under Annex 491 of the NAFTA.

"(ii) ADDITIONAL FABRICS.—At the request of any interested party, the President is authorized to proclaim additional fabrics and yarns eligible for preferential treatment under clause (i)(III) if—

"(I) the President determines that such fabrics or yarns cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner;

"(II) the President has obtained advice regarding the proposed action from the appropriate advisory committee established under section 139 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2155) and the United States International Trade Commission.

"(III) within 60 days after the request, the President has submitted a report to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate that sets forth the action proposed to be proclaimed and the reasons for such action, and the advice obtained under subclause (II).

"(IV) a period of 60 calendar days, beginning with the first day on which the President has met the requirements of subclause (II) has expired; and

"(V) the President has consulted with such committees regarding the proposed action during the period referred to in subclause (II).

"(iii) APPAREL ARTICLES ASSEMBLED IN 1 OR MORE ATPDEA BENEFICIARY COUNTRIES FROM REGIONAL FABRICS OR REGIONAL COMPONENTS.—(I) Subject to the limitation set forth in subclause (II), apparel articles sewn or otherwise assembled in 1 or more ATPDEA beneficiary countries from fabrics or fabric components formed or components knit-to-shape, in 1 or more ATPDEA beneficiary countries, from yarns formed in the United States or 1 or more ATPDEA beneficiary countries, from yarns formed in the United States or from fabric components formed or components knit-to-shape, in the United States, for ATPDEA beneficiary countries, or the United States, or both, exclusively from any one or any combination of the following: fabrics from countries, or components knit-to-shape, in the United States, from yarns formed in the United States or 1 more ATPDEA beneficiary countries (including fabrics from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable under heading 5602 or 5603 of the HTS and are formed in the United States). Apparel articles shall qualify under this subclause only if all dyeing, printing, and finishing of the fabrics from which the articles are assembled, if the fabrics are woven fabrics, is carried out in the United States.
formed, or components knit-to-shape described in clause (I).

(II) The preferential treatment referred to in subclause (I) shall be extended in the 1-year period beginning December 1, 2001, and in each of the 5 succeeding 1-year periods, to imports of apparel articles in an amount not to exceed the applicable percentage of the aggregate imports of all apparel articles imported into the United States in the preceding 12-month period for which data are available.

(III) Transshipment described in subclause (II), the term ‘applicable percentage’ means 3 percent for the 1-year period beginning December 1, 2001, and for the 5 succeeding 1-year periods by equal increments, so that for the period beginning December 1, 2005, the applicable percentage does not exceed 6 percent.

(IV) Handloomed, handmade, and folklore articles.—A handloomed, handmade, or folklore article of an ATPDEA beneficiary country described in subparagraph (C) that is certified as such by the competent authority of such beneficiary country.

(V) Special rules.—

(I) 2006(a) of the Annex on Findings and Trimnings.—An article otherwise eligible for preferential treatment under this paragraph shall not be ineligible for such treatment because it contains findings and trimnings of foreign origin, if such findings and trimnings do not exceed 25 percent of the cost of components of the assembled product. Examples of findings and trimnings are sewing thread, hooks and eyes, snaps, buttons, ‘bow bubs’, decorative lace, trim, elastic, strips, zippers, including zipper tape and labels, and other similar products.

(II) Certain interlining.—(aa) An article otherwise eligible for preferential treatment under paragraph (I) shall not be ineligible for such treatment because the article contains certain interlinings of foreign origin, if the value of such interlinings (and any findings and trimnings) does not exceed 25 percent of the cost of the components of the assembled article.

(bb) Interlinings eligible for the treatment described in division (aa) include only a chest type plate, ‘hymo piece’, or ‘sleeve header’, of woven or well-inserted warp knit construction and of coarse animal hair or man-made filaments.

(cc) The treatment described in this subclause shall terminate if the President makes a finding that United States manufacturers are producing such interlinings in the United States in commercial quantities.

(III) De minimis rule.—An article that would otherwise be ineligible for preferential treatment under this subparagraph because the article contains fibers or yarns not wholly or in part in the United States or in one or more ATPDEA beneficiary countries shall not be ineligible for such treatment if the total weight of all such fibers or yarns is not more than 7 percent of the total weight of the good.

(C) Handloomed, handmade, and folklore articles.—For purposes of subparagraph (B)(iv), the President shall consult with representatives of the ATPDEA beneficiary countries concerned for the purpose of identifying particular textile and apparel goods that are mutually agreed upon as being handloomed, handmade, or folklore goods of a kind described in section 2.3(a), (b), or (c) of the Annex or Appendix 3.1.B.11 of the Annex.

(II) Penalties for transshipment.—

(I) Penalties for exporters.—If the President determines, based on sufficient evidence, that there has been transshipment with respect to apparel articles from an ATPDEA beneficiary country, then the President shall deny all benefits under this title to such exporter, and any successor of such exporter, for a period of 2 years.

(II) Penalties for countries.—Whenever the President finds, based on sufficient evidence, that transshipment has occurred, the President shall request that the ATPDEA beneficiary country take steps through the appropriate authorities of the country whose territory the transshipment has occurred to take all necessary and appropriate actions to prevent such transshipment. If the President determines that a country is not taking such actions, the President shall reduce the quantities of apparel articles that may be imported free of such country by the quantity of the transshipped articles multiplied by 3, to the extent consistent with the obligations of the United States under the WTO.

(III) Transshipment described.—Transshipment within the meaning of this subparagraph has occurred when preferential treatment under subparagraph (A) has been claimed for an apparel article on the basis of material false information concerning the country of origin, manufacture, processing, or assembly of any of its components. For purposes of this clause, false information is material if disclosure of the true information would mean or would have been misleading as to the country of origin for preferential treatment under subparagraph (A).

(III) Bilateral emergency actions.—

(I) In general.—The President may take bilateral emergency tariff actions of a kind described in section 4 of the Annex with respect to any apparel article imported from an ATPDEA beneficiary country if the application of tariff treatment under subparagraph (A) to such article results in conditions the President determines will not be preventable through the course of action and such actions under such section 4 with respect to a like article described in the same 8-digit subheading of the HTS that is imported from Mexico.

(II) Rules relating to bilateral emergency action.—For purposes of applying bilateral emergency action under this subparagraph—

(a) the requirements of paragraph (5) of section 4 of the Annex (relating to providing compensation) shall not apply;

(b) the term ‘applicable period’ in section 4 of the Annex shall mean the period ending December 31, 2006; and

(c) the requirements to consult specified in section 4 of the Annex shall be treated as satisfied if the President requests consultation with the ATPDEA beneficiary country in question and the country does not agree to consult within the time period specified under section 4.

(IV) Customs procedures.—

(A) Entry.

(I) Regulations.—Any importer that claims preferential treatment under paragraph (1) or (3) shall comply with customs procedures and requirements respecting the requirements of Article 502(1) of the NAFTA as implemented pursuant to United States law, in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Secretary of the Treasury.

(II) Determination.

(I) In general.—In order to qualify for the preferential treatment under paragraph (1) or (3) and for a Certificate of Origin to be valid with respect to any article for which such treatment is claimed there shall be evidence to the effect a determination by the President that each country described in subclause (II)—

(aa) has implemented and follows; or

(bb) is making progress toward implementing and following, procedures and requirements similar in all material respects to the relevant procedures and requirements under chapter 5 of the NAFTA.

(II) Country described.—A country is described in this subparagraph if it is an ATPDEA beneficiary country.

(aa) from which the article is exported; or

(bb) in which materials used in the production of the article originate or in which the materials undergo production that contributes to a claim that the article is eligible for preferential treatment under paragraph (1) or (3).

(V) Certificate of Origin.—The Certificate of Origin that otherwise would be required pursuant to the provisions of subparagraph (II) shall not be required if such article is an article imported under paragraph (1) or (3) if such Certificate of Origin would not be required under Article 505 of the NAFTA (as implemented pursuant to United States law) if the article were imported from Mexico.

(5) Definitions.—In this subsection—

(A) Annex.—The term ‘the Annex’ means Annex 300-B of the NAFTA.

(B) ATPDEA beneficiary country.—The term ‘ATPDEA beneficiary country’ means any ‘beneficiary country’, as defined in section 4 of the Annex.

(II) Undertakes its obligations under the WTO, including those agreements listed in section 101(d) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, on or ahead of schedule;

(II) participates in negotiations toward the completion of the FTAA or another free trade agreement;

(III) the extent to which the country provides protection of intellectual property rights consistent with or greater than the protection afforded under the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights described in section 101(d)(15) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act.

(III) The extent to which the country provides internationally-recognized worker rights, including—

(I) the right of association;

(II) the right to organize and bargain collectively;

(III) a prohibition on the use of any form of forced or compulsory labor;

(IV) the minimum age for the employment of children; and

(V) acceptable conditions of work with respect to minimum wages, hours of work, and occupational safety and health.

(IV) Whether the country has implemented its commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor, as defined in sections 702(b) of the Trade Act of 1974.

(V) The extent to which the country has met the counternarcotics certification criteria set forth in section 490 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2291) for eligibility for United States assistance.

(VI) The extent to which the country has taken steps to become a party to and implements the International Convention Against Corruption.

(VII) The extent to which the country—

(I) applies transparent, nondiscriminatory, and competitive procedures in government procurement equivalent to those contained in the Agreement on Government Procurement described in section 101(d)(17) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act; and

(II) contributes to efforts in international fora to develop and implement international rules in transparency in government procurement.

(C) NAFTA.—The term ‘NAFTA’ means the North American Free Trade Agreement
entered into between the United States, Mexico, and Canada on December 17, 1992.

"(D) WTO.—The term ‘WTO’ has the meaning given that term in section 2 of the Uruguay Round Agreement Act (19 U.S.C. 5001).

"(E) ATPDEA.—The term ‘ATPDEA’ means the Andean Trade Promotion and Drug Eradication Act.

(b) In section 201(b) of the Andean Trade Preference Act (19 U.S.C. 3201(b))—

(1) paragraph (a) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking the first sentence of such subparagraph and inserting in lieu thereof—

‘‘(i) withdraw or suspend the designation of any country as an ATPDEA beneficiary country, or

(ii) withdraw, suspend, or limit the application of preferential treatment under section 201(b)(1) or (3) to any article of any country.

(2) a paragraph—

(B) in subparagraph (A)(i), by inserting ‘‘apparel articles wholly formed and cut in the United States, or from components wholly formed and cut in the United States and cut in one or more or both, in one or more lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries, or from components wholly formed in the United States and cut in one or more lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries, or from components wholly formed and cut in the United States, or from components wholly formed and cut in the United States, or from components’’ after ‘‘United States, or both (including fabrics not formed in the United States).’’

(3) paragraph (2)(A), by inserting ‘‘apparel articles wholly formed and cut in the United States, or from components wholly formed and cut, or from components knit-to-shape in the United States, or from components otherwise assembled in one or more lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries from yarns wholly formed in the United States, or from components otherwise assembled in one or more lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries from yarns wholly formed in the United States, or wholly formed and cut in the United States, that are—or—’’.

(2) Paragraph (2) is amended to read as follows:

‘‘(2) OTHER APPAREL ARTICLES ASSEMBLED IN ONE OR MORE BENEFICIARY SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN COUNTRIES.—Apparel articles sewn or otherwise assembled in one or more CBTPA beneficiary countries from yarns wholly formed in the United States from fabrics wholly formed in the United States and cut in one or more or both, in one or more lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries, or from components wholly formed in the United States, or from components wholly formed in the United States and cut in one or more lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries, or from components wholly formed in the United States, or from components’’.

(3) Paragraph (3) is amended to read as follows:

‘‘(3) Paragraph (3) is amended to read as follows:

‘‘(AA) 4,872,000 dozen during the 1-year period beginning on October 1, 2001.

‘‘(BB) 500,000,000 square meter equivalents during the 1-year period beginning on October 1, 2002.

‘‘(CC) 850,000,000 square meter equivalents during the 1-year period beginning on October 1, 2003.

‘‘(DD) 970,000,000 square meter equivalents in each succeeding 1-year period through September 30, 2008.’’

(4) Clause (iii)(IV) is amended to read as follows:

‘‘(IV) The amount referred to in subclause (III) is as follows:

1. 290,000,000 square meter equivalents during the 1-year period beginning on October 1, 2001.

2. 500,000,000 square meter equivalents during the 1-year period beginning on October 1, 2002.

3. 850,000,000 square meter equivalents during the 1-year period beginning on October 1, 2003.

4. 970,000,000 square meter equivalents in each succeeding 1-year period through September 30, 2008.’’

(5) Section 213(b)(2)(A) of such Act is further amended by adding at the end the following new subclause:

‘‘(IX) APPAREL ARTICLES ASSEMBLED IN ONE OR MORE CBTPA BENEFICIARY COUNTRIES FROM UNITED STATES-CLASSIFIED BENEFICIARY COUNTRY COMPONENTS.—Apparel articles sewn or otherwise assembled in one or more CBTPA beneficiary countries from fabric wholly formed in the United States from components cut in the United States and in one or more CBTPA beneficiary countries from fabric wholly formed in the United States and in one or more CBTPA beneficiary countries from components that are—’’.

(6) Section 213(b)(2)(A) of such Act is further amended by adding at the end the following new subclause:

‘‘(AA) 4,872,000 dozen during the 1-year period beginning on October 1, 2001.

‘‘(BB) 9,000,000 dozen during the 1-year period beginning on October 1, 2002.

‘‘(CC) 10,000,000 dozen during the 1-year period beginning on October 1, 2003.

‘‘(DD) 12,000,000 dozen in each succeeding 1-year period through September 30, 2008.’’

(7) Paragraph (2) is amended to read as follows:

‘‘(2) OTHER APPAREL ARTICLES ASSEMBLED IN ONE OR MORE BENEFICIARY SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN COUNTRIES.—Apparel articles sewn or otherwise assembled in one or more or both, in one or more lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries from yarns wholly formed in the United States, or wholly formed and cut in the United States, that are—or—’’.

(8) Paragraph (2) is amended to read as follows:

‘‘(2) OTHER APPAREL ARTICLES ASSEMBLED IN ONE OR MORE BENEFICIARY SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN COUNTRIES.—Apparel articles sewn or otherwise assembled in one or more or both, in one or more lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries from yarns wholly formed in the United States, or wholly formed and cut in the United States, that are—or—’’.

(9) Paragraph (2) is amended to read as follows:

‘‘(2) OTHER APPAREL ARTICLES ASSEMBLED IN ONE OR MORE BENEFICIARY SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN COUNTRIES.—Apparel articles sewn or otherwise assembled in one or more or both, in one or more lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries from yarns wholly formed in the United States, or wholly formed and cut in the United States, that are—or—’’.
countries from United States and beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries. - Apparel articles sewn or otherwise assembled in one or more beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries which are formed in the United States from components cut in the United States and one or more beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries are formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States, or from components knit-to-shape in the United States and one or more beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries from yarns wholly formed in the United States, or both (including fabrics not formed from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable under headings 5602 or 5603 of the HTS).

DIVISION D—EXTENSION OF CERTAIN PREFERENTIAL TRADE TREATMENT AND OTHER PROVISIONS

SEC. 4101. EXTENSION OF GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES.


(b) Retroactive Application for Certain Liquidations.—(1) In general.—Notwithstanding section 516 of the Tariff Act of 1930 or any other provision of law, and subject to paragraph (2), the entry—

(A) of any article to which duty-free treatment under title V of the Trade Act of 1974 would have applied if the entry had been made on September 30, 2001,

(B) that was made after September 30, 2001, and

(C) to which duty-free treatment under title V of that Act did not apply,

shall be liquidated or reliquidated as free of duty, and the Secretary of the Treasury shall refund any duty paid with respect to such entry. As used in this subsection, the term “entry” includes a withdrawal from warehouse for consumption.

(2) Requests.—Liquidation or reliquidation may be made under paragraph (1) with respect to an entry only if a request therefor is filed with the Customs Service, within 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, that contains sufficient information to enable the Customs Service—

(A) to locate the entry; or

(B) to reconstruct the entry if it cannot be located.

SEC. 4102. FUND FOR WTO DISPUTE SETTLEMENTS.

(a) Establishment of Fund.—There is established in the Treasury a fund for the payment of settlements under this section.

(b) Authority of USTR to Pay Settlements.—(1) Amounts in the fund established under subsection (a) shall be available, as provided in appropriations Acts, only for the payment by the United States Trade Representative of the amount of the total or partial settlement of any dispute pursuant to proceedings under the auspices of the World Trade Organization, if—

(I) in the case of a total or partial settlement in an amount of not more than $10,000,000, the Trade Representative certifies to the Secretary of the Treasury that the settlement is in the best interests of the United States; and

(II) in the case of a total or partial settlement in an amount of more than $10,000,000, the Trade Representative certifies to the Congress that the settlement is in the best interests of the United States.

(2) Appropriations.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the fund established under subsection (a)—

(I) $50,000,000; and

(II) amounts equivalent to amounts recovered by the United States pursuant to the settlement of disputes pursuant to proceedings under the auspices of the World Trade Organization.

(c) Amounts appropriated to the fund are authorized to remain available until expended.

SEC. 4103. PAYMENT OF DUTIES AND FEES

(a) In General.—Any duties and fees for entries of merchandise—

(1) made on or before September 30, 2001, under the provisions of title V of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2465(a)), is amended by striking ““unless the merchandise” and inserting ““Unless the merchandise”;

(2) made after September 30, 2001, under the provisions of title V of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2465(a)), is amended by striking ““unless the merchandise” and inserting ““Unless the merchandise”;

(3) made under paragraph (1) with respect to the importation of merchandise—

(A) to which the provisions of title V of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2465(a)) are applicable, does not exceed the amount of duties and fees for entries of merchandise that were made on or after September 30, 2001, and

(B) that was made after September 30, 2001,

and

(c) Management of Fund.—Sections 901 and 903 of title V of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2465(c) and 2464(c)) are amended by striking “‘(first)” and inserting “‘(first)”.

(b) RETROACTIVE APPLICATION FOR CERTAIN LIQUIDATIONS.

(1) In general.—If an importation of merchandise and any related instrument is filed with the Customs Service, within 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, that contains sufficient information to enable the Customs Service—

(A) to locate the entry; or

(B) to reconstruct the entry if it cannot be located.

(2) Requests.—(A) to locate the entry; or

(II) to which duty-free treatment under title V of the Trade Act of 1974 did not apply,

shall be liquidated or reliquidated as free of duty, and the Secretary of the Treasury shall refund any duty paid with respect to such entry. As used in this subsection, the term “entry” includes a withdrawal from warehouse for consumption.

(2) Requests.—Liquidation or reliquidation may be made under paragraph (1) with respect to an entry only if a request therefor is filed with the Customs Service, within 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, that contains sufficient information to enable the Customs Service—

(A) to locate the entry; or

(B) to reconstruct the entry if it cannot be located.

SEC. 4104. APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees:

From the Committee on Ways and Means, for consideration of the House amendment and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference:

Messrs. THOMAS, CRANE and RANGLER.

From the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for consideration of section 603 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference:

Messrs. BOEHNER, SAM JOHNSON of Texas and GEORGE MILLER of California.

From the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for consideration of section 603 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference:

Messrs. TAUNZIN, BILIRAKIS and DINGEL.

From the Committee on Government Reform, for consideration of section 344 of the House amendment and section 1143 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference:

Messrs. BURTON of Indiana, BARR of Georgia and WAXMAN.

From the Committee on the Judiciary, for consideration of sections 111, 601, and 701 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference:

Messrs. SENSENBRENNER, COBLE and CONYERS.

Announcement by the Speaker pro Tempore

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now resume proceedings on postponed questions in the following order: H.R. 3764, by the yeas and nays; and H.R. 3180, by the yeas and nays.

Without objection, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for each electronic vote in this series.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The votes on H. Con. Res. 424 and H.R. 3034 will be postponed until tomorrow.

SECREITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2002

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 3764, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Oxley) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3764, as amended, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 422, nays 4, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 263] YEAES—422

Abercrombie Brown (FL)
Ackerman Brown (OH)
Aderholt Brown (SC)
Akin Bryant DeFazio
Allen Burr DeBelle
Andrews Buyer Delauro
Armey Callahan DeLauro
Baca Calvert DelRay
Bachus Camp DeMint
Baizn Carper DeSaulnier
Balanced Carrington Diak-Balart
Baldrick Carter Dicks
Baldwin Capito Dingell
Ballegger Capuano Dingell
Barcia Cardin Doolittle
Barr Carson (IN) Doyle
Barrett Carson (OK) Doyle
Bartlett Castle Dunn
Barton Castle Dunn
Bass Chabot Dunn
Becerra Chambliss Edwards
Benten Clay Ehlers
Berater Clayton Ehrlich
Berkeley Clement Emerson
Berman Clyburn Engel
Berry Coble English
Biggert Collins Ehrenburg
Bilirakis Combest Ellis
Bishop Condit Ensign
Bilgerich Cooksey Evers
Bilgeriester Costello Everett
Bijek Conard Fair
Bint Cox Fatحا
Boehlert Coyne Ferguson
Bonamiller Crane Fletcher
Bonilla Crane Foelie
Bono Crenshaw Foley
Bonner Crowley Forbes
Bosman Cubin Ford
Borski Culverhouse Fossella
Boucher Cunningham Franks
Boucher Cunningham Franks
Brady (PA) Davis (FL)
Brady (TX) Davis (IL)
Ganske

Messrs. Dreier, Linder and Hastings of Florida.

There was no objection.
The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOUDE). The unfinished business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 3180. The Clerk read the title of the bill. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3180, which the yays and nays are ordered.

This is a 5-minute vote. The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yays 425, nays 0, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 266]

NAYS—4

Conyers
Conyers
Conyers
Conyers

Henry
Henry
Henry
Henry

Yates
Yates
Yates
Yates

SPEAR PRO TEMPO

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yays 425, nays 0, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 266]

NAYS—4

Conyers
Conyers
Conyers
Conyers

Henry
Henry
Henry
Henry

Yates
Yates
Yates
Yates

SPEAR PRO TEMPO

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yays 425, nays 0, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 266]

NAYS—4

Conyers
Conyers
Conyers
Conyers

Henry
Henry
Henry
Henry

Yates
Yates
Yates
Yates

SPEAR PRO TEMPO

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yays 425, nays 0, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 266]
ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION TO OFFER MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 3295, HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT OF 2001

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 7(c) of rule XXII, I hereby announce my intention to offer a motion to instruct conferences on H.R. 3295 tomorrow.

The form of the motion is as follows:

I move that the managers on the part of the Senate to conferences on the House bill be instructed to yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HOYER) the Committee on the Judiciary and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) the Committee on House Administration and about the Capitol Police Force.

The motion to instruct conferences is made subject to the provisions contained in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 101(a)(3) of the Senate amendment to the House bill (relating to the accessibility of voting systems for individuals with disabilities).

CAPITOL POLICE RETENTION, RECRUITMENT, AND AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2002

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 5018) to direct the Capitol Police Board to take steps to promote the retention of current officers and members of the Capitol Police and the recruitment of new officers and members of the Capitol Police, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The temporary Chairman (Mr. LAHOOD). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, and I do not intend to object, but under my reservation I yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY), the distinguished chairman of the Committee on House Administration.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important resolution, and I want to make sure that everybody understands and hears every word of this.

It is an honor for me to be here today to introduce with the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) the Capitol Police Retention, Recruitment, and Authorization Act of 2002. The men and women of the United States Capitol Police Force have responded in a most professional and exceptional manner since the attacks our country last September. Let me point out that they did not have to make that decision themselves—both the attacks in September obviously put tremendous constraints and really tested the system; so I just want to point out that they did their jobs before, but since September they have had, I think, an unusual situation here in the Nation’s Capitol.

We have all been forced to look at the security and life safety issue with new eyes. And when the Capitol Police are the frontline of that effort, they are doing an outstanding job of ensuring the safety of every person at the Capitol.

It is for this reason that we must act today to pass legislation which will give the Capitol Police the resources they need to remain fully equipped to handle the security and life safety challenges they may encounter.

Our Capitol Police officers have responded in a tremendous way, in an unbelievable fashion to the demand placed upon them as a result of our heightened security posture. But this recognition mandates that we respond by authorizing an increase in their annual rate of basic compensation, as well as continuing an increase in the number of full-time positions for the force. This legislation achieves that end.

Further, we need to recognize not only the hard workers and hundreds of hours of overtime that officers have already been called to work, but also the sacrifices they and their families are making as a result of this increased demand upon them. Therefore, we are authorizing changes to the Capitol Police force to allow for the eligibility of and payment for more premium pay retroactive to September 11, 2001, the day in which their lives and their workforce and their work situation changed forever.

Additionally, we recognize that since September 11 of last year, there are many new attractive opportunities for individuals who have law enforcement experience or who are interested in law enforcement careers. Because we believe that a Mantle with the United States Capitol Police Force provides an individual with an opportunity to be a part of the very best an organization can offer, this legislation contains certain incentives to both recruit new officers to the force and also help retain veteran officers who may be looking for additional opportunities. These incentives are not only financial in nature, but are also designed to promote the quality of life for officers, both on the job and at home with their families.

I call tonight upon every Member of this House to enthusiastically support this legislation today and to send a message to the hard-working officers of our Capitol Police Force and additionally, to those reading who may be considering a career with the Capitol Police Force that we are behind you all the way. More than that, we are deeply appreciative of the service and sacrifice made by all persons who make up the United States Capitol Police Force.

We all know of our two officers who, unfortunately, just within the last couple of years, were killed in the line of duty. We all know the trauma and the tragedy of that situation. So we know at any point in time lives can be lost. We know across this Nation with law enforcement and firefighters, people involved in safety services, of the sacrifices they make or when they make a call and they are not sure whether they will return home. So we are here to ensure that the Capitol Hill Police Force has the resources they need to continue to be the very best in enforcement.

I also want to close by saying something about our Committee on House Administration and about the Capitol Police Force. I want to thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the ranking member, and all of the members of that committee. Since 9-11, a lot of difficult decisions have had to be made, and I can tell my colleagues that the members of the committee on both sides of the aisle cooperated at 150 percent capability to allow us to continue to do what we want to do. That never happened. We had a perfect cooperative relationship to do what was best for the safety and security of Members and visitors and, I may add, the thousands of visitors that come here to Washington to visit the people’s House. I want to thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) publicly for an absolutely tremendous job since 9-11, and the countless hours of the minority and majority staff who have poured in hours to make sure this happened.

I also want to thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) and members of this committee for cooperating on this resolution and for bringing the idea to me, as the gentleman from Maryland did, and for making this work for what is best, and that is the people’s House.

In closing, let me just also say that we all are concerned about future generations in this country. That is why we are here. We may disagree on this floor over certain issues in how we get down that path, but we are all concerned about what happens to the future generations in this country. I think that every single Capitol Hill police officer, every morning when they get up, they look in the mirror, whether it is to hopefully brush their hair or comb their hair, or brush their teeth, I should say; when they look in that mirror, what they see is a face of the human being that is morally responsible, that has something to be safe, prosperous, and peaceful for future generations. They see themselves. They have accepted that challenge to
be morally responsible, to make this a better place. They have accepted that challenge to protect this House and this Capitol to make sure that we can engage in the energetic give-and-take of public debate that makes this the greatest country and, hopefully, makes the world see the way that makes us like. As I say, it is an honor and a privilege to serve with the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) for his remarks. I want to thank him for his leadership on this bill and so many others. Before I reference the specific provisions of this bill which are very, very important, I hope all of our colleagues are pleased with the work of our Committee on House Administration, which is charged with the responsibility of working on matters that deal with Members, visitors, and staff and which deal with other issues of how this institution and our offices are maintained and operate. I hope they are pleased, because the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) and I have found a committee working together without political considerations, without partisanship. It is an honor and a privilege to serve with the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) on this committee. As the ranking Democratic member of the committee, sometimes one does not feel included. That has never been for one second the case on this committee, where we work as colleagues and, more than that, as partners, in most cases, in lockstep in trying to accomplish objectives that we think are good for this House and good for this country. As I say, it is an honor and a privilege to serve with the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY).

Mr. Speaker, since last year's attacks, Capitol Police officers have faced extraordinary challenges. For months after the attacks, most worked 12-hour shifts, 6 days a week so Congress, the people's House, the United States Senate, and the Capitol could continue to operate. The 12-hour shifts may have eased, but Capitol Police still confront extraordinary challenges. Unfortunately for Congress, its staff and visitors, Capitol Police officers also confront extraordinary opportunities.

Now, I say that is bad news for us, because we do not want to lose them, but it is a testament to them. As trained law enforcement professionals, Capitol Police officers are always in demand by other agencies. In these times of heightened security, demand for trained personnel has probably never been higher. As a result, the Capitol Police is losing trained officers at an alarming rate.

In just the first 8 months, Mr. Speaker, of this year, 2002, the Capitol Police have already lost 78 officers to other law enforcement agencies and have three more departures pending. This is more than double the number lost on average to other law enforcement agencies during the last 3 years. If this rate continues, the Capitol Police will, by fiscal year's end, have lost 122 officers to other agencies; 242 percent over the 3-year average. This does not even factor for other reasons. This attrition comes as the police strive to raise manpower to recommended levels, to respond to heightened security concerns, and demands for their services.

On Post 9/11 Security in particular, Mr. Speaker, the new Transportation Security Agency, is attracting trained officers from the Capitol Police and elsewhere to serve as sky marshals and airport security officers. TSA offers compensation that can exceed the average Capitol Police officer's pay, and I want my colleagues to hear this and digest it: TSA is offering salaries that can exceed the average Capitol Police salary by 80 percent or more.

An 80 percent pay increase is tough for anybody to turn down. There is no doubt that TSA's work is vital, but the security of this Capitol as well. Congress has a duty to ensure the Capitol Police can attract and retain the people needed to make the Capitol safe.

This is why the chairman and I introduced H.R. 5018. The bill authorizes a 5 percent pay raise for fiscal year 2003 for officers through the rank of captain. Raises for higher-ranking officers will be discretionary with the Police Board. This gives officers who may be thinking of leaving a reason to stay.

We want them to stay. We are proud of the service they give. We are respectful of their training and of their abilities. We want to send a strong message that we value their service.

Mr. Speaker, the bill also increases from 6 to 8 hours the amount of annual leave earned per pay period by officers with at least 3 year service. As a matter of fairness, the bill authorizes the Board to make whole those officers adversely affected during the recent months of heavy overtime by limits on premium pay. This will restore to officers roughly $350,000 that they earned but did not receive due to these limits.

The bill also authorizes extra pay for officers in specialty assignments, as determined by the Board. It lets the Board hire experienced officers and employees at salaries above the minimum for a particular position when needed and justified.

It authorizes, as well, a tuition reimbursement program for officers taking courses on their own time leading towards a law enforcement-related degree and authorizes bonuses upon completion of such degrees. This will give officers opportunities for professional improvement, which should lead in turn, it is our hope, to a more rapid advancement.

For Congress, this will create a more educated and better Capitol Police force. The bill authorizes bonuses for officers and employees who recruit others to join the force, potentially turning the entire agency into active recruiters.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, as important as these tangible benefits are, we recognize that there are intangible assets as well. We found a measure, Mr. Speaker, of this committee, not a “me” or an “I” committee, and it is that because of the leadership of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY). I thank him for bringing this bill to the floor, and I urge the House to support the chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KERN). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act may be cited as the “Capitol Police Retention, Recruitment, and Authorization Act of 2002.”
SEC. 2. INCREASE IN ANNUAL RATE OF BASIC COMPENSATION.

For fiscal year 2003, the Capitol Police Board shall increase the annual rate of basic compensation for new appointees and newly-appointed officers of the United States Capitol Police for pay periods occurring during the year by 5 percent, except that in the case of officers above the rank of captain the increase shall be made at a rate determined by the Board at its discretion (but not to exceed 5 percent).

SEC. 3. INCREASE IN RATES APPLICABLE TO NEWLY-APPOINTED MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES.

The Capitol Police Board may compensate newly-appointed members, members of the United States Capitol Police who are enrolled in or accepted for enrollment in a degree, certificate, or other program leading to a recognized educational credential at an institution of higher education with respect to hours of duty occurring during the year by 5 percent, except that in the case of officers above the rank of captain the increase shall be made at a rate determined by the Board at its discretion (but not to exceed 5 percent).

SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION FOR SPECIALTY ASSIGNMENTS.

Section 909(e) of the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2002 (40 U.S.C. 207b–2(e)), is amended—

(1) in the heading, by inserting “and Officers Holding Other Specialty Assignments” after “Officers”; and

(2) in paragraph (1), by striking “or who is assigned to another specialty assignment” and inserting “or who is assigned to another specialty assignment designated by the Chief of the Capitol Police after ‘field training officer’; and”.

SEC. 5. APPLICATION OF PREMIUM PAY LIMITS IN NONANNUAL BASIS.

(a) In general.—Any limits on the amount of premium pay which may be earned by officers and members of the United States Capitol Police during emergencies (as determined by the Capitol Police) shall be applied by the Capitol Police Board on an annual basis and not on a pay period basis.

(b) Effective date.—Subsection (a) shall apply with respect to hours of duty occurring on or after September 11, 2001.

SEC. 6. THRESHOLD FOR ELIGIBILITY FOR ADDITIONAL LEAVE.

The Capitol Police Board shall provide that an officer or member of the United States Capitol Police who completes 3 years of employment with that force (taking into account any period occurring before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act) shall receive 8 hours of annual leave per pay period.

SEC. 7. FINANCIAL INSTITUTION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION COSTS.

(a) Tuition Reimbursement.—

(1) In general.—The Capitol Police Board shall establish a tuition reimbursement program for officers and members of the United States Capitol Police who are enrolled in or accepted for enrollment in a degree, certificate, or other program leading to a recognized educational credential at an institution of higher education in a course of study relating to law enforcement.

(2) Annual cap on amount reimbursed.—The amount paid as a reimbursement under the program established under this subsection with respect to any individual may not exceed $3,000 during any year.

(3) Approval of regulations.—The program established under this subsection shall take effect upon the approval of the regulations promulgated by the Capitol Police Board to carry out the program by the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate.

(b) Bonus Payments for Completion of Degree.—The Capitol Police Board may make a one-time bonus payment in an amount not to exceed $500 to any officer or member who participates in the program established under subsection (a) upon the officer or member’s completion of the course of study involved.

SEC. 8. BONUS PAYMENTS FOR OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WHO RECRUIT NEW OFFICERS OR MEMBERS.

(a) In general.—The Capitol Police Board may make a one-time bonus payment in an amount not to exceed $500 to any officer, member, or civilian employee of the Capitol Police who recruits another individual to serve as an officer or member of the Capitol Police.

(b) Exemption of Recruitment Officers.—No payment may be made under subsection (a) to any officer, member, or civilian employee who carries out recruiting activities for the Capitol Police as part of the individual’s official responsibilities.

(c) Timing.—No payment may be made under subsection (a) with respect to an individual recruited to serve as an officer or member of the Capitol Police until the individual completes the training required for new officers or members and is sworn in as an officer or member.

SEC. 9. DEPOSIT OF CERTAIN FUNDS RELATING TO THE CAPITOL POLICE.

(a) In general.—

(1) Disposal of property.—Any funds from the proceeds of the disposal of property of the United States Treasury for credit to the appropriation under “GENERAL EXPENSES” under the heading “CAPITOL POLICE BOARD” or “SECURITY ENHANCEMENTS” under the heading “CAPITOL POLICE BOARD”.

(2) Compensation.—Any funds for compensation for damage to, or loss of, property of the United States Treasury for credit to the appropriation under “GENERAL EXPENSES” under the heading “CAPITOL POLICE BOARD”.

(3) Reimbursement for services provided to governments.—Any funds from reimbursement made by another entity of the United States Government for services provided to the United States Treasury for credit to the appropriation under “GENERAL EXPENSES” under the heading “CAPITOL POLICE BOARD”.

(b) Expenditures.—Funds deposited under subsection (a) shall be retained by the Capitol Police Board for such compensation, shall be deposited in the United States Treasury for credit to the appropriation for “GENERAL EXPENSES” under the heading “CAPITOL POLICE BOARD”.

(c) Effective date.—This section shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2003 and each succeeding fiscal year.

SEC. 10. INCREASE IN NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED POSITIONS.

Effective with respect to fiscal year 2003 and each fiscal year thereafter, the total number of full-time equivalent positions of the United States Capitol Police (including authorized positions of the Capitol Police and civilian employees) may not exceed 1,981 positions.

SEC. 11. DISPOSAL OF FIREARMS.

The disposal of firearms by officers and members of the United States Capitol Police shall be carried out in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Capitol Police Board and approved by the Committee on Rules and Administration, the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate and the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 12. USE OF VEHICLES TO TRANSPORT POLICE DOGS.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an officer of the United States Capitol Police who works with a police dog and who is responsible for the care of the dog during non-working hours may use an official Capitol Police vehicle when the officer is accompanied by the dog to travel between the officer’s residence and duty station and otherwise carry out official duties.

SEC. 13. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON MANAGEMENT OF CAPITOL POLICE.

It is the sense of Congress that, to the greatest extent possible consistent with the mission of the Capitol Police, the chief of the Capitol Police should seek to deploy the human and other resources of the Police in a manner maximizing opportunities for individual officers to be trained for, and to acquire and maintain proficiency in, all aspects of the Police’s responsibilities, and to rotate regularly among different posts and duties, in order to utilize fully the skills and talents of officers, enhance the appeal of their work, and ensure the highest state of readiness.

SEC. 14. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years 2003 and 2004 such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act and the amendments made by this Act.

SEC. 15. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Except as otherwise provided, this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall apply with respect to pay periods occurring during fiscal year 2003 and each succeeding fiscal year.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NOTIFYING MEMBERS TO CONTACT COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY TO COSPONSOR RESOLUTION REGARDING PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

(Mr. SENSENBRENNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit held that the Pledge of Allegiance is an unconstitutional endorsement of religion. This ruling treats any public religious reference as inherently evil and is an attempt to remove religious speech from the public arena from those who disagree.

This ruling is ridiculous, and I have introduced a resolution today with the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. PICKERING) that specifically states that the phrase “one Nation, under God” should remain in the Pledge of Allegiance, and that the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals should agree to rehear this ruling en banc to reverse this constitutionally infirm and historically inaccurate ruling.

Members who wish to cosponsor this resolution should contact the Committee on the Judiciary at 5–3190. It is my hope that the House of Representatives will bring it up promptly.
ON THE WORLDCOM DISASTER

(Mr. SHOWS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, I represent Clinton, Mississippi, the hometown of WorldCom, the latest culprit in a continuing series of corporate scandals that have victimized average Americans. The revelation that WorldCom hid almost $4 billion in expenses from its employees and shareholders has turned upside down the lives of thousands of my constituents and many thousands across the country.

Just think about the thousands of Mississippi families that had pride in their homegrown business and who placed their hard-earned money into this company's stock. Now they are losing everything. Corporate greed is not a Mississippi value.

Already, 17,000 employees are about to lose their jobs. Undoubtedly, many more layoffs will happen. The stock market is taking a terrible hit, and senior citizens and pension funds rely on WorldCom stock will now need help. Baby boomers who are getting close to retirement and families with investments to pay for their kids' college educations will be hurt, too.

Mr. Speaker, there are thousands of people being hurt across the country because of what WorldCom has done, some of the leaders, not WorldCom personally.

I was talking to a man from Newton, Mississippi, the other day. His father, most of his portfolio contains WorldCom stock. Now he is devastated. I call on Washington to treat this as the disaster that it is and help people through this crisis.

And I call on the barons of Wall Street, past and present, who control the ledgers, to unfurl their golden parachutes and give back to their employees and investors the grotesque salaries they earned while they cooked the corporate books.

And, Mr. Speaker, as we learn more about this financial disaster, I cannot help but imagine what it means to millions of families if we were to privatize Social Security and let the stock market determine their futures.

We must stand with our families today. We must stand with the folks who work hard, pay their bills and deserve better than the greed that is taking their savings and investments.

EXpressing sense of house of representatives with regard to united states national soccer team and its historic performance in the 2002 FIFA World Cup tournament, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the gentleman from Oklahoma?

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. I yield to the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to speak on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, the United States National Soccer Team is a perfect example of the American dream. Rising above long odds and defying the dire predictions of sportswriters and pundits, our soccer team shot and scored their way to the quarterfinals of the 2002 World Cup.

Like so many other underdogs, the U.S. team proved that, with hard work and determination, odds can be achieved and odds can be overcome.

The irony in the American victory is the fact that our team defeated Portugal and Mexico, countries where soccer is extremely popular. President Bush praised the U.S. team for their achievement, thanking our players, saying, "The country is really proud of the team. A lot of people that don't know anything about soccer, like me, are all excited and pulling for you."

The performance by the American soccer team this year has been our most successful ever since competing for the World Cup. It is the first time the United States team has made it all the way to the quarterfinals since 1990. Most great performances come under the direction of great leaders, and this is no exception. The resolution before the House today recognizes Bruce Arena, the head coach of the U.S. team, and all of the players for their dedication to excellence. Coach Arena has been successful on many levels: collegiate, professional, and now international. Before coaching the U.S. team, he led the soccer team right here in Washington, D.C., to two professional league titles. Now he has achieved worldwide notoriety with a well-deserving group of soccer players.

Mr. Speaker, sports brings out the best in so many people. The values of determination and willpower manifest themselves in the thrill of competition and goal; this is a rebirth of physical fitness. Soccer is no exception. Americans learned what it means to "strike" and to "head" while once again unifying in a patriotic display, which is immensely important to our Nation right now.

Lastly, I commend the United States Soccer Federation, children playing soccer across the country, and the soccer moms and dads who make it all possible; and I can relate to that because I am one.

It is my hope that soccer players in cities, towns, and communities all over this great land of ours will continue to be an inspiration to all children playing soccer games around the world. The 1 to 0 loss to Germany last Friday was a very close game. Coach Arena went into the day with a positive attitude, saying, "We know we represent the greatest country in all the world. We are going to give our all."

I ask all Americans that we be proud of our U.S. soccer players.

Mr. Speaker, America is indeed proud. The House today congratulates our team on their performance and the spectacular accomplishment of making the quarterfinals. The United States National Soccer Team represents yet another good thing about America; and for that, we as Americans are grateful.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Continuing my reservation of objection, Mr. Speaker, I agree with the gentleman from Oklahoma that the play of the U.S. Soccer Team is an example that challenges us to think about the American dream.

As a matter of fact, he makes the point that, traditionally, the United States has not been thought of as a world competitor in the soccer arena, but I think we have reached another level of excellence here in the U.S. Now all of the world recognizes and understands that we have come to the point as a Nation where our athletes can compete in practically any sport and endeavor.

Such is true in the case of soccer, so I certainly would want to add my commendation to the team. I commend the gentleman from Oklahoma for his resolution and agree with him.

Continuing to reserve my right to objection, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. BOEHLERT).

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of today's resolution honoring the tremendous achievement of the United States Men's Soccer Team in the 2002 FIFA World Cup games. As this team of players, their coaches, and staff gathered together and set out for the games in Korea and Japan, they faced many challenges. They were flying thousands of miles to play the world's best teams at unfamiliar stadiums and to endure the harsh glare of skeptical sportswriters. It is fair to say that those skeptics have changed their minds.

In the opening match against Portugal, our American team dominated the game and walked off with a three to two win under their belt. Critics thought it was a fluke. Coach Bruce Arena and his team were about to prove them wrong.

"We went on to a draw with Korea and then a qualification for round two, despite an outcome that placed them behind Poland. No one was ignoring Team USA anymore.
June 17 the U.S. team defeated the Mexicans in an outstanding showing in a final showing of 2-0. Our neighbors to the south were headed back to North America, and the U.S. soccer team was moving onward.

I join over 200 people here on Capitol Hill to watch the U.S. play Germany on June 21 in the early morning hours. I know I was not the only one on the edge of my seat throughout that heated match. What a game!

Soccer fans across this great country have been rewarded for their dedication to this sport. In a Nation filled with wonderful sports teams and opportunities, it was fantastic to see our citizens come together to support a national team that has sometimes been overlooked.

I have always considered myself to be one of the luckiest Members of Congress, the Hall of Fame representative, because we have represented the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, the Boxing Hall of Fame in Canastota, the Long Distance Hall of Fame in Utica and the magnificent new Soccer Hall of Fame in Oneonta, all in the heartland of New York. The fans in Oneonta sparked my interest in soccer and got me so enthused that I helped found the Congressional Soccer Caucus.

As a representative for the Hall of Fame and the co-chair of the Caucus, I would like to encourage continued support for soccer everywhere. Youth soccer programs across the Nation offer opportunities to millions of children from all backgrounds of every ability level to come together and learn the value of teamwork and sportsmanship. We need to take full advantage of increased public awareness for soccer that this World Cup has offered. Let us continue to promote youth programs so that the young soccer stars work their way to the top in future World Cups.

How can anyone who claims to be a sports fan ever forget the thrilling U.S. women’s World Cup championship team of 1999? It seems possible that a decade has passed since that dramatic moment in U.S. sports history. That was then. This is here and now.

I would again like to extend congratulations to the men’s U.S. World Cup team and their supporters. I look forward to seeing several of these talented young men as future inductees in the Soccer Hall of Fame in Oneonta, New York, and I look forward to our continued support in men’s and women’s USA soccer.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, further reserving my right to object, I yield to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. SULLIVAN).

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 445 introduced by the distinguished gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. WATTS) expresses the sense of the United States with regard to the United States national soccer team and its outstanding performance in the 2002 World Cup tournament.

Mr. Speaker, the U.S. soccer team’s performance in the 2002 World Cup was the most successful in the history of our Nation’s participation in the tournament. The American team surprised the world by reaching the quarterfinal round, indicating that it has become a leading competitor in international soccer.

I wish to recognize Bruce Arena, the head coach of the United States soccer team, and every player on that team for their dedication to excellence and for representing our country with such integrity on and off the soccer field. I congratulate the US soccer team for its historic performance in the 2002 World Cup.

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for H. Res. 445, a resolution that praises the United States National Soccer Team for their outstanding performance in the 2002 World Cup tournament. I want to commend U.S. Coach Bruce Arena and assistant Coach Dave Sarachen for their superb leadership and tactical brilliance in guiding the US to the quarterfinals of the World Cup. This was the result of tireless work by players and coaches alike and this World Cup will go down in history as the year U.S. soccer arrived on the world stage.

The incredible performance of the U.S. soccer team has generated enthusiasm and pride in this country and our players’ can hold their heads high as they proved to the world that they can compete at the highest levels with the best soccer teams in the world.

The U.S. team played brilliant, inspired soccer throughout the World Cup and were able to defeat two of the top ten teams (Portugal and Mexico) in the world—a feat that no one would have predicted before the tournament started. U.S. sports fans also passionately responded to the great performance of our soccer team as sports bars were jam-packed with soccer enthusiasts and with ESPN receiving record viewership ratings in its television broadcasts of the U.S. World Cup matches.

So let me once again congratulate the U.S. Soccer team for their phenomenal performance as the entire country is proud of what our players accomplished. The future of soccer is bright in this country and we can expect great things to come from U.S. soccer in the years to come.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, over the last several weeks, the US Men’s National soccer team has exceeded worldwide expectations by earning a semifinal match-up with Germany resulting from a first-round win over Portugal, a tie against host team South Korea, and a second-round win over Mexico.

With a game victory over Mexico on June 17th, the 2002 Team led the men’s national team marks for the most wins at a World Cup and most goals scored in a World Cup. The only other US team to equal this level of success was the 1930 team that reached the semifinals at the inaugural FIFA (“FEEFA”) World Cup in Uruguay.

This year’s win also marked the first time the US won a single-elimination game in World Cup History, and was the US’s first World Cup shutout since its historic 1-0 upset of England at the 1950 World Cup in Brazil.

Mr. Speaker, US soccer’s success can be credited to head coach Bruce Arena, a resident of the 11th Congressional District of Virginia. Throughout his distinguished career, Arena has led teams to numerous championships at the collegiate and professional levels, and now should be commended for his success on the international stage.

With 18 seasons as the head coach at the University of Virginia and three more in Major League Soccer, Bruce Arena also spent 21 seasons at the highest level of club soccer in the United States. During his 18-year career as head coach of the University of Virginia Men’s Soccer Team, Arena led his team to 5 NCAA Division One championships, and went on to lead the Under-23 National Team for 44 games through the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta.

To commend their success and wish them good luck, President Bush called Coach Arena and the Team in Korea at 11 am last Monday, June 17, informing the Team of the American public’s excitement over their success. Coach Arena, in response, informed the President that the Team would give a performance that all Americans would be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, our men’s soccer team did just that. Enthusiasm over the team’s strong finish has been evident in communities across America, with standing room only crowds at early morning games packing restaurants and other venues on game days.

This rise mirrors the sports’ growth over the past several decades, and I’m proud that the leader of this pack resides in my congressional district. They’ve made us very proud.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 445

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—
(1) congratulates the United States National Soccer Team for its historic performance in the 2002 World Cup;
(2) recognizes Bruce Arena, the head coach of the United States Team, and every player on the Team for their dedication to excellence; and
(3) commends the United States Soccer Federation and coaches and parents of young soccer players around the country for their role in the success of soccer in the United States.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. SULLIVAN
Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, I offer an amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. SULLIVAN:
Page 3, beginning line 1, strike "United States Soccer Federation" and insert "United States Soccer Federation, the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. SULLIVAN).

The amendment was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Government Reform be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 455) honoring the life of John Francis "Jack" Buck, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to recommit the resolution to the Committee on Government Reform.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 455 introduced by the distinguished gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) honors the life of John Francis "Jack" Buck, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN FRANCIS "JACK" BUCK
Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Government Reform be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 455) honoring the life of John Francis "Jack" Buck, one of the true giants of sports broadcasting. Jack Buck, the voice of the St. Louis Cardinals for nearly 50 years, sadly passed away last week at the age of 77 after a long battle with lung cancer and Parkinson's disease. He was one of the most respected and admired baseball broadcasters to have ever sat behind a mike, and his passing signals the passing of the golden age of baseball.

Jack Buck came to prominence in the 1950's, a time when baseball and radio were not simply intertwined, they were inseparable. In the 1950's and early 1960's, radio was the primary source for baseball for most Americans. And on any given night, Jack Buck on KMOX radio in St. Louis could be heard throughout middle America, from the upper regions of Wisconsin, all the way down to the Deep South. Like many St. Louisians, I grew up listening to Jack Buck broadcast St. Louis Cardinals games. It was through his broadcasts that I and millions of other baseball fans first learned the intricacies and the beauty of the game of baseball.

His friendly voice, his baseball knowledge, and his sense of humor enabled us to mentally picture the action on the field and were instrumental in fostering our love for the game of baseball. In the words of Bernie Miklasz of the St. Louis Post Dispatch, Jack Buck provided "the soundtrack for St. Louis summers" for 48 years. He was there in our backyards as we gathered around our transistor radios, and he was there on our porches, under an evening sky. He was there in our cars, always the friendly travel companion along for the ride; and he was there under our pillows late at night as countless kids smuggled their radios into bed to stay up and listen to a distant game from the west coast. He was part of the family.

He introduced us to all the Cardinal stars, Stan Musial to Bob Gibson to Albert Pujols. His words were the link that connected them all. He was there at Busch Stadium. Jack Buck was a beloved figure in baseball and an institution to fans of the St. Louis Cardinals. His passing has brought great sorrow to Red Bird fans across the country and we all mourn our loss and the Buck family's loss.

I also want to extend my personal condolences to the Buck family. Jack Buck is rightfully considered to be one of the greatest baseball announcers of all time joining "Voice of the Scullies", Red Barber, Mel Allen, Ernie Harwell, and Harry Caray. I urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the record an untitled poem that Jack Buck wrote and read September 17, 2001, at the resumption of baseball following the September 11 attacks.

JACK BUCK'S POEM

Since this nation was founded under God, more than 200 years ago,
We've been the bastion of freedom... The light which keeps the free world aglow,
We do not covet the possessions of others, we are blessed with the rare share,
We have rushed to help other nations... anything... anytime... anywhere.

We're challenged by a cowardly foe who strikes and then hides from our view.
With one voice, we say there is no choice today, there is only one Thing to do.
Everyone is saying the same thing and praying that we can have these senseless moments we are living.
As our fathers did before, we shall win this unwanted war.
And our children will enjoy the future, we'll be giving.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Further restoring the right to object, Mr. Speaker, let me just agree with the gentleman from St. Louis, Missouri (Mr. CLAY). Of course, St. Louis has always been a tremendous town for athletics. I spent 2 years as a young person living in St. Louis, and I learned all of these penalties that he mentioned. I must confess I was a great Red Schoendienst and Harry Caray fan and Ray Jablonski. I think they used to call him Jabbo. It is a great place to be and certainly Jack Buck added tremendously to the aura of St. Louis. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:
Whereas for nearly 50 years, John Francis "Jack" Buck was known as the "Voice of the St. Louis Cardinals" to generations of baseball fans, one of the most respected sports broadcasters in the industry, and a beloved institution to all St. Louis Cardinals fans; 

Whereas Jack Buck's distinctive voice and his signature exclamation "That's a winner!" followed each Cardinals victory were familiar to baseball fans across the United States; 

Whereas Jack Buck was born in Holyoke, Massachusetts, in 1924 and was a decorated veteran of World War II; 

Whereas Jack Buck began his broadcasting career in 1948 while attending Ohio State University, where he was the play-by-play announcer for football, basketball, and baseball; 

Whereas in 1954, Jack Buck was hired by the St. Louis Cardinals, joined Harry Caray in the booth at Sportsman's Park, and began his 48 years of broadcasting Cardinals baseball on KMOX radio; 

Whereas in 1970, Jack Buck was the lead play-by-play announcer for the St. Louis Cardinals and he brought baseball to life for millions of fans throughout the Midwest; 

Whereas Jack Buck covered some of the greatest moments in baseball history, including Lou Brock's record-setting 118th stolen base, Bob Gibson's incredible 1968 season, and Mark McGwire's record-breaking 70th home run in 1998; 

Whereas in 1968, Jack Buck was the play-by-play announcer for the first televised American Football League game and worked AFL broadcasts for three years; 

Whereas Jack Buck was the announcer for one of professional football's most famous games, the 1967 NFL Championship game, dubbed the "Ice Bowl", between the Green Bay Packers and the Dallas Cowboys; 

Whereas Jack Buck was the radio voice of Monday Night Football from 1976 to 1996; 

Whereas Jack Buck was the lead announcer for 8 World Series, 17 Super Bowls, numerous baseball All-Star and National League playoff games, and other major sporting events, including professional bowling; 

Whereas Jack Buck has been inducted into 11 different Halls of Fame, including the Baseball Hall of Fame (1987), the Pro Football Hall of Fame (1986), the American Sportscasters Hall of Fame (1996), the Radio Hall of Fame (1995), and the St. Louis Walk of Fame (1991), and has been the recipient of numerous lifetime achievement broadcasting awards; 

Whereas for more than 30 years Jack Buck was the campaign chairman for the St. Louis chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, for which he helped raise more than $30,000,000 for research to find a cure for the disease; and 

Whereas on June 18, 2002, Jack Buck passed away, leaving a distinguished career in broadcasting in which he touched the lives of millions of sports fans across the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives honors the life of John Francis "Jack" Buck.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and marklines and include extraneous material on H. Res. 445, just adopted, and on H.R. 5018, passed earlier today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

CONCERNS OVER POSSIBLE SHUTDOWN OF AMTRAK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong concerns over the possible shutdown of Amtrak. Amtrak's new president has said that Amtrak may be forced to eliminate $200 million loan guarantee by June 30 or the company will have to begin a shutdown of all services. This would have a serious impact on commuters and travelers across this country, and I speak for those who would be strongly affected in California. For that reason, Congress and the administration must avert a shutdown.

We cannot allow Amtrak to go bankrupt. Amtrak is a critical component of our national transportation network, providing safe, efficient and affordable transportation for millions of Americans each year. Amtrak serves over 500 cities and communities across this country, many of which rely on trains as a crucial transportation option.

Since 1996, ridership on Amtrak trains has increased by 19 percent. Last year, Amtrak had 23 million riders including commuter services, Amtrak's total ridership exceeds 60 million passengers a year.

Amtrak also plays a significant role in my State. California hosts three of the top six most heavily traveled services in the country. The Pacific Surfliner, which serves my congressional district in southern and central California, carries more than 1½ million passengers annually. The Surfliner is California's most highly developed service, and it is second only to Amtrak's northeast corridor in ridership. It connects two of the most congested regions in the country, Los Angeles and San Diego. Maintaining mobility in this busy economic corridor is essential.

In addition, if funds are not provided to Amtrak, if it were to eliminate, for example, commuter rail systems or rail services, such as the San Diego regional contract, millions of workers throughout the nation would lose their jobs, and millions of passengers would face the loss of vital train service in communities nationwide.

Mr. Speaker, I am hopeful that we can make a commitment to provide stable and adequate funding for the national Amtrak passenger rail network.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.
The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Brown) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, the prescription drug bill we are introducing today is straightforward. It is easily distinguishable from the Republican bill introduced last week. There is no fine print in our bill. There are no holes in our prescription drug coverage. There are no question marks where the premium and cost-sharing requirements should be. The availability of coverage does not hinge on the Federal Government, unlike the Republican plan, showering the insurance companies and tax dollars so they will offer stand-alone drug plans.

One of the strongest points of the Democratic plan is that it is not endorsed by the drug industry. That is because we hold down drug costs by bringing down drug prices, not by charging seniors on coverage. Our bill creates a drug coverage option for Medicare beneficiaries that is affordable, it is reliable, and I emphasize is at least as generous as the coverage available to Members of Congress.

Our bill strengthens Medicare, rather than snubbing it. It minimizes the hassles involved in getting drug benefits.

We add the drug coverage option to the Medicare benefits package. Seniors are not forced to go outside of Medicare and enroll in an insurance company to get their drug benefits as they are required to do under the Republican plan.

Our bill takes action against inflated drug prices on behalf of every senior and every American consumer. The brand name drug industry has taken to exploiting loopholes in the FDA drug approval process to block generic competition and keep drug prices high. So not only do the drug companies charge Americans the highest prices in the world for prescription drugs, while those drugs are still under patent, these companies, these drug companies continue to charge Americans ridiculously high prices even after the drugs have become generic. Even after the patents expire, because they block generics, block competition from entering the market.

This gaming of the patent system is not theoretical. It happened with Paxil; it happened with BusPar; it happened with Prilosec; it happened with Neurontin; it happened with Wellbutrin. These are top-selling drugs. Seniors and other consumers who need these drugs have paid twice, three times, four times more than necessary for months, for years sometimes for years because brand-name drug companies block legitimate generic competitors from the market.

These big-name drug companies supported by Republicans over and over game the patent system.

While the Congressional Budget Office has not formally scored these provisions, their estimate suggests Medicare alone could save tens of billions of dollars if we make drug companies play fair. Needless to say, these provisions to bring drug prices down are not in the Republican bill. The drug industry, in fact, has ponied up $3 million, $3 million to fund an ad campaign touting the Republican’s bill, which protects the drug companies.

If drugmakers thought there was any chance the Republican’s bill would reduce drug prices for Medicare enrollees, do my colleagues think they would endorse it? Of course not. The Republican bill has the drug industry’s fingerprints all over it.

Our bill is admittedly more expensive than the prescription drug bill. It should be more expensive because our coverage is better. The Republican bill is dirt cheap for a reason. Their bill is most notable for the coverage it does not provide. It is basically one big disclaimer.

The last thing we want to do is to reduce the number of uninsured in this country simply to increase the number of underinsured. If we can afford $4 trillion in tax cuts, we can afford to create a real drug coverage option in Medicare for retirees and disabled Americans. It is a matter of priorities.

This Congress made a choice between tax cuts for the richest one-half percent of people and the most privileged people in this country, a choice between giving them tax cuts and providing inadequate prescription drug benefits for seniors. Republicans chose the tax cuts for the most privileged. Democrats are choosing access and lower drug costs for 38 million Medicare beneficiaries.

It is a question of priorities. Let us do the right thing and pass the Democratic substitute.

THINNING AMERICA’S FOREST LAND

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. Flake) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, as I stand here today, my home State of Arizona is burning. We have lost now nearly 400,000 acres to fire. That is more than 50 square miles of forest is burning as well. We have lost a tremendous amount of forest just this year, and we have got to do something about it.

We should not be surprised at the losses so far this year. Our forests have been choked with underbrush and excess trees for years now; and whenever we try to go in and thin and manage our forests, we are blocked by radical environmentalists who file lawsuits, who create such uncertainty with the Forest Service that nobody can go in and thin our forests like they should.

Of one the groups that is blocking us from going into forests and thinning is a group called Forest Guardians, one of these radical environmental groups. They were interviewed in the East Valley Tribune in Arizona yesterday, and in the paper it says, Forest Guardians oppose using any forest thinning that might benefit commercial companies. If one uses the words thinning and/or they use the word forest and commercial in the same sentence, it seems they sue before one can finish the sentence. They simply oppose anything that benefits commercial companies, which means that to go in and thin the forest it is all on the public treasury.

It is estimated that it would cost them $35 billion to go in and thin our forest properly, to prepare them to make sure that we do not have the devastating crown fires that are killing trees and everything, wildlife, whatever stands in their way, but we cannot do it with the public treasury.

The last thing we want to do is to think the work does not affect air quality in the forest. Solar-powered chain saws. I know my way around a hardware store pretty well, although I have never stumbled into the solar-powered chain saw aisle. It is simply laughable, if it were not so horrifying, that we are being held up by such groups that have such outlandish ideas.

I do not know what is next, trained beavers? Are we supposed to round up the animals of the forest, Mr. Deer and Mr. Bear, and convince them to get a forest council together to help us replant? We need to remind the radical environmentalists that Ferngully was a cartoon.

We have serious problems here in our forests. They demand serious solutions, serious debate, serious answers, and we are getting solar-powered chain saws? We have got to reframe what we are doing.

Our State is burning. Colorado is burning. There are some 3 million acres of Ponderosa pine forest in Arizona. We stand a chance of losing most of that over the next year or two. It is a tinderbox unless we get in, and we cannot afford to wait another 4 or 5 years until we wade through all the lawsuits to allow private interests in to thin forests. We have got to move ahead, and I plead with those serious environmentalists who want to protect habitat for endangered species, who want to have beautiful forest land, to join with us and create a balance as we are getting serious about the issue, instead of throwing up roadblocks and talking about solar-powered chain saws and the like.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. Filner) is recognized for 5 minutes.

[The text continues with additional content, which is not included in the provided data.]
CORPORATE SCANDALS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DeFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, well, today’s headlines, WorldCom Finds Accounting Fraud, $3.8 billion, slight misstatement of their earnings. The stock dropped from $64.50 down to a few pennies, and 17,000 people will lose their jobs, but the former CEO is living happily in his mansion on the millions which he looted, as are many of his cohorts. This is a pattern that is being repeated time and time again. It has gone on for far too long.

It started a year ago today with the energy scandals in the West, little more than a year ago today. We were told by the Republican majority this is market forces at work, you have not built enough plants, has nothing to do with market manipulation. Well, now we got the memo that, in fact, Enron was manipulating the markets, but even with those market manipulations they went bankrupt.

Their former CEO, Mr. Lay, and their former Chief Operating Officer, Mr. Fastow, have between them more than $100 million while employees have lost their pensions and their jobs.

This seems to be a pattern, does it not? What is the response of the Republican majority? Well, we pretended to adopt pension reform, but we did not prohibit what Enron did to its employees happening at other corporations, and it looks like there is a whole heck of a lot of other corporations out there on the edge while the CEOs are living off the capital gains and it looks like there is a whole heck of a lot of other corporations out there which the CEOs are living on the gravy here, and that was sort of the initial response.

Then we had another little scandal coming along here which was American corporations do not think they should pay taxes anymore. Stanley Works wants to move to Bermuda, set up the new Bermuda Triangle, avoid U.S. taxes on its U.S. earnings and its overseas earnings. Bank of America has done the same scam. The corporations are lined up from here to Sunday to do that.

What is the response on that side? Well, the Secretary of the Treasury says our tax laws are too complex, this is a rational response by these unpatriotic corporations who are ripping off the American people, taxpayers and their own employees, and the majority leader on that side says he endorses this practice that they should not pay taxes unlike working wage-earning Americans.

Then we had Global Crossing, the CEO, a couple hundred million bucks there, little accounting scandal; Enron, accounting scandal; Tyco, accounting scandal; now WorldCom. What have we done about the accounting system? Well, we are going to let the market work, the Republicans said. We adopted some securities and accounting reform here. They say let them police themselves. Of course we get Harvey Pitt, Mr. Harvey Pitt appointed by the President of the United States, George Bush, to be headed by the Securities and Exchange Commission. He is a former lawyer for the securities companies that are out defrauding the American people. He is going to be a real lap dog down there. Where there is status quo, do not upset the boat.

So there seems to be a common trend here which is we are in a meltdown. American CEOs are disgraced, American corporations are disgraced, the stock market is crashing, hurting average Americans; and the response on that side of the aisle is do not do anything, let market forces work and, by the way, let the CEOs skate. Oh, yes, we did do one really important thing last week, that is, a last gasp at the government repeal of estate tax for people who have over $5 million of assets to make sure that Ken Lay, Mr. Fastow, and all these others who have ripped off tens of millions of dollars from their employees will never pay a cent on the money they stole. God forbid they should, because they are all major contributors.

Last week the Republicans held the largest fundraiser in the history of Washington, D.C., headed by the wonderful pharmaceutical companies, but followed up by many of the other players whom I have mentioned here because their CEOs happen to be awash in cash, and they want to make sure they do not go to jail. So they are becoming more and more generous in their contributing.

This is the most outrageous scandal in the history of the United States. The largest restatement of earnings by a corporation, tens of thousands of employees losing their jobs, millions of Americans losing their 401(k)s, their pensions; and the response on the Republican side of the aisle is nothing, because they are frozen in place by the fact that they are taking so much money from the people who have perpetrated these frauds. I hope that the American people demand and vote for some change next fall.

REACTION TO U.S. 9TH DISTRICT COURT DECISION CONCERNING THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KEENES). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, look what the courts have done now. Just when we think life after September 11 and extending them even after 9 years from now, the American people really want a prescription drug benefit for seniors before they want a tax cut.

What is frustrating is that if we had been able to pass even one single Democratic amendment during that markup, I think all those days and that night would have been well spent. Unfortunately, every effort we made to improve the bill, and there was so much to improve, was shot down on basically party line votes.

Mr. MILLER. Mr. Speaker, look what the courts have done now. Just when we think life after September 11 had gained some sense of normalcy, patriotism at a level not seen since World War II had permeated every segment of our society, a society under God, two liberal judges in San Francisco have told this Nation at war that our Pledge of Allegiance is unconstitutional. Personally, Mr. Speaker, I am sickened. The Pledge is not a prayer. It is a declaration of being an American. It is the embodiment of everything we hold dear, the flag, the Republic, and one Nation under God.

I guess in a country where our constitutional safeguards have been taken to the extreme and have had to be rethought every few weeks, it might not be surprising. I suspect it is only a matter of time or a matter of finding the right lawyer who is seeking to make a name for himself to proclaim that the U.S. flag is unconstitutional and that by flying the flag someone may be offended by its semblance. We are forced to say happy holidays instead of Merry Christmas. We are forced to say God bless you rather than God bless you. If a school teacher mentions Jesus during a lesson on history, that teacher faces disciplinary action.

Mr. Speaker, it is time we put our foot down as a body, a representative body of this country and respond to this outrageous decision and proclaim that these United States are united against terrorism, united against this decision, and united under God.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS UNDER MEDICARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last week the Committee on Energy and Commerce spent 3 long days and one very long night marking up a piece of legislation that is supposed to provide seniors with a Medicare prescription drug benefit. I say “supposed to” because most Americans support putting prescription drug care, I have a graph here that shows those who support or oppose rolling back the tax cut that Congress passed last year and using that money to provide a prescription drug benefit under Medicare for seniors. Supporting is 64 percent, opposing is 25 percent, and 6 percent do not think Medicare ought to have prescription drugs. This poll was done between March 28 and May 1 of this year. I am afraid of having the huge tax cut that we passed last year before September 11 and extending them even after 9 years from now, the American people really want a prescription drug benefit for seniors before they want a tax cut.

Unfortunately, every effort we made to improve the bill, and there was so much to improve, was shot down on basically party line votes.
When I look at all the problems of the bill, I have to wonder why my friends on the other side of the aisle fought so hard to preserve it, because their bill creates such a complicated scheme of varying copays, high deductibles, and insufficient coverage. When seniors sit down around their kitchen table to figure out how the Republican plan affects them, they will find this bill simply does not add up.

Under the Republican proposal, the beneficiary pays a $250 deductible. For the first $1,000 worth of drugs, they have to pay a 20 percent copay, or an additional $150. Does not sound too bad. But for the second $1,000 worth of pharmaceuticals they have to buy, the copay jumps to 50 percent, or $500. So far we are up to $900 in out-of-pocket expenses for a $2,000 benefit.

The legislation that came out of our committee had a gaping hole in coverage from $2,000 to $3,700 where seniors have to pay every single dime for that $1,700 worth of drugs. At the same time, they are still paying their $35 plus a month for coverage they are not receiving. So to get to the catastrophic coverage, there has to be $3,700; but seniors will have to have $1,800 worth of drug costs before they will receive the catastrophic benefit under the Republican plan.

Most seniors never will actually reach that level. If a senior’s drug cost, for example, is $300 a month, they will hit that $2,000 by midyear. For the next 6 months, they will be paying these premiums but getting nothing in return. And while we are talking about the monthly premium, let us point out that the legislation does not specify exactly what it should be. It says that the private drug plans can charge whatever they want.

Now, in the committee we talked about $35 a month, and that is great. But when we tried to put an amendment it could be $35 or the cost of living after that, that was defeated. But the $35 a month adds up to $420 a year in premium before they even get to the copay. Mr. Speaker, under this plan, the seniors’ out-of-pocket expenses are adding up, but their benefits are not.

There are even more holes in the bill that should cause great concern. Under the legislation, private health care plans can create a benefit that an actuary deems it an “equivalent” plan to the one we have. That means that the insurance companies can create any plan they want, any premiums, any deductibles, any copays as long as an actuary deems it an “equivalent” plan.

Under this plan, the health insurance companies could go to an actuary, such as Arthur Andersen, with a plan and have them sign off on it and sell it as a Medicare product. There is no guarantee that a private plan would look anything like the Republican proposal.

Finally, I want to focus a moment on a point that seniors will be thinking about. The Republican plan relies on private insurance companies to run this new benefit. It will be separate from Medicare part A and Medicare part B and will be run by something called a Medicare Benefits Administration. Why is this relevant? Because this is the first step to long-term efforts to privatize in Medicare.

The Republicans have tried to do it for 5 or 6 years. It has not worked. Those HMOs just do not make enough money to serve seniors. My Republican colleagues have been long-time crusaders against Medicare. I subscribe with the free market, but you cannot have the free market and private insurance trying to cover seniors. It does not work. We learned that in 1965.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) is recognized for 15 minutes.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to talk about prescription drugs as well, and I have to acknowledge that some of the points made by our colleagues on the other side of the aisle are exactly right. It is unfortunate that we are brought tonight about a middle-aged parent trying to cover seniors. It does not work. We are going to try to create this insurance benefit, that will be good; but we are not going to try to cover seniors who are not going to get it.

It is unfortunate that we are brought tonight to discuss a bill that, as is true with every bill, is not perfect. And there are a lot of things about this bill that I do not like, but I want to talk tonight about what I think are the most glaring omissions in this bill.

As we talk about prescription drugs, as we talk to our constituents, the one theme that comes through to us over and over again is that the prices are just going through the roof. And it is not just from seniors at our town hall meetings. It is from business people, big business people.

We had a meeting the other day with one of the representatives of one of the largest corporations in the United States. They are spending $1 billion a year on prescription drugs. They are spending $1 million a week on just one name-brand drug. I am very concerned about the glaring omission in this bill, because we do not deal, I think, effectively with the most serious problem and that is the price. People cannot afford it.

Whether someone is on Medicare, and we are going to try to create this insurance benefit, that will be good; but we are not going to have to be a senior citizen to have diabetes in the United States. Twenty-seven percent of our expenditures for Medicare are diabetes related, but a lot of people have to take Glucophage. Look at what we pay in the United States. These are not my numbers. This is according to the Life Extension Foundation. The average price, according to their study for Glucophage, for a senior in the United States is $124. That same drug sells in Europe for $22.

We did some of our own basic research. We sent some people out. These were illegal drugs, my colleagues. According to the FDA, I am holding up illegal drugs because they were bought in Germany and Italy. But they are the same drugs we buy here in the United States.

Let us talk about this one. Claritin. Very commonly prescribed drug. This drug, Claritin, in a pharmacy in my district, this exact same drug, made in the same plant under the same FDA approval, in my district sells for $64.97. This same drug was bought a week ago in Germany for $13.97. American equivalent. That is 14.8 Euros, in case you are keeping score at home.

Another very commonly prescribed drug, an important one, Zocor. This drug in the United States, at a pharmacy in my district, we checked just the other day, sells for $5. This little box of pills, $45. This same drug purchased in Italy 1 week ago is 14.7 Euros, or $13.94 American.

My colleagues, we have a serious problem with prescription drugs. Everyone agrees to that. We have to do something about it. We have carloadings who are currently falling through the cracks. Everybody agrees on that. But, my colleagues, I submit if we do not do something serious about opening markets, about creating competition, about allowing our pharmacists to reimport these drugs and allowing Americans to have access to world drugs at world market prices, then it is not shame on the pharmaceutical industry, it is shame on us.

We are the ones that set that policy. We are the ones that let it happen.

Unfortunately, I am put in a position in the next day or two where I am going to have to make a tough choice. I am going to have to choose between staying loyal to my leadership or being loyal to what I know is true. I hope I do not have to make that choice.

Ultimately, we cannot allow this chart to continue. Shame on us if we do. We are going to have an important vote here on the floor of the House, and I hope leadership is listening. We had a tough vote today on trade. But if Members really believe in free trade and open markets, then come down here to the well of the House. Come down here, Mr. Speaker, and tear down this wall. Allow Americans to have access to world drugs at world market prices. The time has come for Americans to stop subsidizing the starving Swiss. Let us have lower prices, and then we will be able to afford to give Americans the kind of coverage that they deserve.
IN MEMORY OF DISABILITY RIGHTS LEADER JUSTIN DART, JR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KERNS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a fallen hero, Justin Dart, Jr., in the disability and human rights community. Justin Dart, Jr., recognized by many as the father of the Americans with Disabilities Act, died on June 22. Mr. Dart was known by many Members of Congress and by millions of Americans for his inspirational leadership and determined efforts to open the doors of opportunity wider for all Americans.

The grandson of the founder of the Walgreen drugstore chain and the son of a wealthy businessman, Justin was born in Chicago into a life of privilege. At age 18, however, his world view as well as the world’s view of him was changed when he contracted polio and became a wheelchair user.

His concern for the civil rights of all people first became apparent when he founded an organization to end racial segregation as a student at the University of Houston. Justin also experienced the misunderstanding people have regarding the capabilities of people with disabilities when he was denied a teaching certificate upon completing college.

In 1966, Mr. Dart traveled to Vietnam to investigate the conditions of its rehabilitation system and had an experience which caused him and his wife, Yoshiko, to dedicate the rest of their lives to the advancement of human rights for all. Instead of rehabilitation centers for children with polio, he found squalid conditions where children had been abandoned on concrete floors. He was confronted with a young girl who reached out, held his hand and gazed into his eyes as she lay dying.

“That scene,” he would later write, “is burned forever in my soul. For the first time in my life, I understood the reality of evil, and that I was a part of that reality.

After several years of building a grassroots movement and advocating for the rights of people with disabilities in Texas, Justin Dart was appointed in 1981 by President Reagan as Vice Chair of the National Council on Disability. He and his wife embarked on a nationwide tour at their own expense during which they met with activists in all 50 States and helped lead the Council in drafting a national policy that called for civil rights legislation to end the centuries-old discrimination of people with disabilities. This policy laid the foundation for the eventual passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Mr. Dart served as the first Commissioner of the Department of Education’s Rehabilitation Services Administration and then as the chairman of the President’s Committee on Employment of People With Disabilities.

As Chairman of the President’s Committee, Mr. Dart directed a change in focus from its traditional stance of urging people to hire the handicapped to advocating for full civil rights of people with disabilities. Justin is best known for the pivotal role he played in ensuring passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

As Co-chair of the Congressional Task Force on the Rights and Empowerment of Americans with Disabilities, he once again toured the country at his own expense to build grassroots support for his landmark civil rights legislation.

The sight of Justin in his trademark Stetson hat and cowboy boots was a familiar sight to all Members of Congress. He made what he called a very difficult decision of conscience in 1996 and campaigned for the reelection of President Clinton, telling his followers to get into politics as if your life depended upon it, because it does.

In 1998, he received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation’s highest civilian award. The revolution of empowerment Mr. Dart talked about extended far beyond the rights of people with disabilities to making the world a better place for all humanity.

Please hear, as I close, some of the words that Mr. Dart addressed to a group of us in his final public statement a few weeks ago at a rally for the passage of the Mica bill.

“Listen to the heart of this old soldier. As with all of us, the time comes when body and mind are battered and weary. But I do not go quietly into the night. I do not give up struggling to be a responsible contributor to the sacred continuum of human life. I do not give up struggling to overcome my weakness, to conform my life, and that part of my life called death, to the great values of the human dream. Let my final actions thunder of love, solidarity, protest, of empowerment. I adamantly protest the richest love, solidarity, protest, of empowerment. I adamantly protest the richest love, solidarity, protest, of empowerment. I adamantly protest the richest love, solidarity, protest, of empowerment. I adamantly protest the richest love, solidarity, protest, of empowerment. I adamantly protest the richest love, solidarity, protest, of empowerment. I adamantly protest the richest love, solidarity, protest, of empowerment. I adamantly protest the richest love, solidarity, protest, of empowerment. I adamantly protest the richest love, solidarity, protest, of empowerment. I adamantly protest the richest love, solidarity, protest, of empowerment. I adamantly protest the richest love, solidarity, protest, of empowerment. I adamantly protest the richest love, solidarity, protest, of empowerment. I adamantly protest the richest love, solidarity, protest, of empowerment. I adamantly protest the richest love, solidarity, protest, of empowerment. I adamantly protest the richest love, solidarity, protest, of empowerment. I adamantly protest the richest love, solidarity, protest, of empowerment. I adamantly protest the richest love, solidarity, protest, of empowerment. I adamantly protest the richest love, solidity...”

Mr. Speaker, Justin Dart was truly a great American, and I join with millions of Americans interested in the empowerment of people with disabilities to extend condolences to his wife and family.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. SULLIVAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to talk about an issue that is very important to First Congressional District of Oklahoma and all across America: the need for a prescription drug benefit for our seniors.

During the last few weeks, the Republican plan has been criticized by my Democrat colleagues with a number of half-truths about their prescriptions. They are using this issue for political gain during an election year.

I ask the other side of the aisle to please stop scaring my grandmother and millions of seniors who buy prescription drugs. For the past few months, I, along with several Members of Congress of this body, have been visiting with seniors about their wants and needs and a prescription drug benefit. From these conversations, the House Republicans have developed a plan in line with helping seniors receive coverage immediately. I ask the Democrats to stop scaring my grandmother and my constituents for political advantage.

The House Republican plan is the only plan that lowers drug costs for seniors through best-price competition and the promotion of generic drugs. Recently, the Health and Human Services Department released a study that shows an average senior would save nearly 70 percent of the money spent on their current coverage under the GOP plan. The liberal Democrats say our plan is a meaningless benefit that protects the pharmaceutical industry, but studies done on this issue say just the opposite.

The Republican plan uses a best-price competition model that will lower the dollar amount through competition, cutting into the pharmaceutical company’s bottom line. I ask Members on the other side of the aisle to stop scaring the Nation’s seniors.

The House and Senate Democrat plans fail to use any competition measures. Instead, the Senate plan calls for a tax credit on the prescriptions. Seniors would pay $10 for generic drugs, $40 for name-brand drugs, and the government would pick up the rest of the cost, regardless of the price.

Without price competition, the drugmakers will be able to raise and raise their price whenever they want. And of course the Democrats want the American taxpayer to pick up the tab on the price difference. This could potentially cost Americans more than a trillion dollars. I call on the Democrats to stop scaring our seniors and millions of seniors in our Nation who are looking for a workable plan from Congress. This is not a political issue.
It is a life issue important to seniors throughout our Nation. I urge Members to support the House Republican prescription drug plan.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.

KEEP AMTRAK RUNNING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. TIERNY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TIERNY. Mr. Speaker, I have the honor of representing the North Shore of Massachusetts; and, like many of my colleagues, I am deeply concerned about a possible Amtrak shutdown and the effect on my constituents. I am doubly troubled by the fact that this situation was avoidable and totally unnecessary. Congress is now being asked to step in and help after the administration failed to take action.

Mr. Speaker, 23,000 workers across the country fear job losses. A shutdown will mean lost jobs for thousands of employees who already demoralized by years of wage deferrals and wage freezes that have left Amtrak workers among the lowest paid in the industry. A thousand jobs have been lost already in the past months, as Amtrak has cut corners in the absence of government support. We cannot allow additional jobs and benefits to be lost.

Local commuter rail riders have voiced their fears about being left stranded by a possible Amtrak shutdown. Failure to act now will mean suspension of Amtrak service in the busy Northeast Corridor, and this will jeopardize commuter rail services for Massachusetts’ communities such as Lynn and Salem in my district, not to mention the likely permanent loss of the system’s long-distance trains.

Amtrak’s current financial difficulty is a result of unwise and unattainable congressional goals established in 1997 that forced unfortunate managerial choices and undermined Amtrak’s financial condition. Allow access to capital that Congress realized it made a mistake and has since repealed the 1997 requirement that Amtrak file a plan for its own liquidation if it not achieve operating self-sufficiency by the end of 2002.

Unfortunately, the damage has been done, and it is imperative that Congress correct its public policy misadventure. We are at the point where Congress has to step in and offer some assistance.

As today’s Boston Globe reports, “Rail shutdown would be a slap to the region. Amtrak ridership is on the increase.” The article notes that ridership in the Northeast Corridor was up 22 percent in May, with a 44 percent growth in revenue over the last year. Over the years, and particularly since the terrorist attacks of September 11, Amtrak ridership in the Northeast Corridor has decreased traffic at the airports, providing another option for people to travel and pleasure.

We should reward, not punish, this good service with increased Amtrak investment. Indeed, every G-8 country knows the value of investing in mass ground transportation. All of them support their passenger rail system. Amtrak is held to a double standard as no other segment of America’s transportation system is forced to meet the capital and operating needs without substantial government financial assistance. Amtrak has responded to the growing expectations placed on the passenger rail carrier since September 11; and Congress should, too.

America needs better energy and environmental policies. Rail service conserves energy and emits less air pollution than the automobile. This is even more significant in high-density areas.

Mr. Speaker, let us compare Amtrak with investments in airports and highways. Overall, our highways, aviation and mass transit receive almost $57 billion in annual government investments, but Amtrak only receives 1 percent of that. $571 million is slated for fiscal year 2003.

Amtrak has only received $25 billion in Federal funding over the past 30 years in comparison with $750 billion spent on highways and aviation during that same period. We can and we should do better.

While administration critics propose to shut down Amtrak because not every route is self-sufficient, we should note that the airlines received $135 billion this year alone in Federal funding to provide air service to 80 cities where passenger revenues were insufficient to support the provision of service. Amtrak is a bargain by comparison to that.

That is why I join my colleagues and asked appropriators to provide sufficient supplemental funding to keep the trains running. The administration seeks to privatize, their solution for government programs they just do not like, from Social Security to prescription drugs, all the way to mass transportation. The fact is, privatization is not the answer. We only have to look at the tragic accidents, delays and system failures in Great Britain to know that privatization does not work. For those whose national corridors, our workers, our environment and our economy, we must keep the trains running. Shutting down Amtrak is clearly not in the public interest. I urge the administration to listen to the American people and respond with a thoughtful, sensible plan to keep Amtrak going.
been one traffic jam from the Alexandria suburbs to New Haven, Connecticut. But we had Amtrak, and we did not have that desperate situation.

We have also had people take to the floor and talk about what is happening in the train service, with the Texas Eagle down through the South. Mr. Speaker, we find that every administration since President Nixon was in office have underestimated Amtrak’s customers who continue to ride, often not just the underfunded system and often not the service, but where cases the equipment has been deplorable. These same passengers deserve better treatment from us. They include people who ride in rural communities. They are people increasingly in the tourism and resort activities where people are traveling the rails for pleasure. There are thousands of businesspeople who are involved with these critical corridors. In fact, we are finding that each and every day in the New York area Amtrak controls the flow of 1,100 trains and more than 300,000 passengers in and out of that city.

Despite a lack of clarity, the administration, and we have called them time and again when they have appeared before us on rail-related activities, their rail subcommittee in the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has asked the administration repeatedly, they have been in office now a year and a half, what is their position? What is their plan? How can we work together? We have received no response.

Mr. Speaker, we have developed a bipartisan alternative under the leadership of the gentleman from New York (Mr. QUINN), the Chair, and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. CLEMENT), the ranking member. It has been supported by over 162 Members in this body, a broad bipartisan coalition. It has a majority of the Senate ready to move forward with ongoing programs that will get us through this year, not with a Band-Aid but in a way that actually enhances operation and security and puts us in a good position for the next Congress for full reauthorization. We should not be held ransom for a $205 million loan guarantee conditioned upon meeting some vague principles that, to the extent to which you can determine them, would be destructive. I strongly urge, Mr. Speaker, that we move forward, that we deal with the funding this year and be in a situation in the next Congress when we can reauthorize surface, reauthorize aviation, reauthorize rail. Give it the package that the American public deserves.

VIOLENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. McGovern) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to speak to the very disturbing trend that we have seen in the growing violence in the Middle East of Palestinian terrorists deliberately targeting Israeli children.

As we all know, there has been a tremendous increase over the last 20 months in the number of deaths, fatalities, with many of these suicide bombers, homicide bombers. But what is particularly disturbing is what I see as an emerging trend in all of this to specifically try to target children.

I want to show to my colleagues here a picture and talk about these two young people. The first one I want to talk about is this baby over here. Shalhevet Pass. Shalhevet was literally in her stroller being pushed by her parents when a Palestinian sniper opened fire on the family. What is very, very disturbing about this particular incident is that, and this was based on the investigation after the event, it appeared as though the Palestinian sniper who was shooting at them from a hill specifically targeted the baby and targeted the family. She was shot by a gunshot wound to the head while in a stroller.

The next one I want to talk about is this little girl right here, Danielle Shefi. A Palestinian gunman broke into the home. The mother had retreated into the children’s bedroom. She was with two brothers, and the Palestinian gunman first shot Danielle and killed Danielle, then proceeded to shoot the mother and the two brothers. The mother has managed to survive. If you look at some of the other trends in these Palestinian attacks, there was a suicide or homicide bomber who attacked a discotheque filled with young people. Over and over again it appears as though the Palestinians are specifically attacking children.

The Palestinians tried to claim in their defense that the Israeli Defense Forces are just as bad, that they shoot Palestinian children and they made quite a big deal about a particular case. It involved the death of a 12-year-old Mohammed A-Dura during an exchange of gunfire between the Israeli Defense Forces and Palestinians. This little boy was killed. He got in the crossfire somehow. The Palestinians claim that the Israeli Defense Forces specifically targeted Mohammed. The IDF did a review. This is not part of Israeli policy, obviously, to attack children. They forwarded their review, that it was impossible for the Israeli Defense Forces to have killed this young boy. The Palestinians, of course, dismiss this as propaganda, but what was very interesting is German public television decided to do an independent investigation on their own. They looked at the ballistics, the angle of entry of the bullet into the boy, that it was impossible for the Israeli soldiers to have killed that boy, but that he was actually killed by the Palestinians.

Some people may say this is hard to believe, that the Palestinians would shoot a Palestinian boy, but let us keep in mind that they sent a 10-year-old boy as a suicide bomber to try to blow up a bunch of buildings that ultimately collapsed and killed, I think, 13 Israeli Defense Forces. They have sent other teenage suicide bombers. It is very, very clear, at least in my opinion and based on my review of this issue, that they not only are targeting children, Israeli children, but they will even kill their own children for the purpose of furthering their political agenda.

It is my opinion, Mr. Speaker, that this is reprehensible. This is beyond the pale. Some people will try to justify this, claiming that they have no choice, that they have to resort to this. We should never allow this sort of thing to go on. I think it is perfectly justifiable for the Israeli Government to reoccupy the Palestinian territories. Land for peace has not worked. It has actually led to even more violence. The Palestinians have to do what the President said. They need to abandon these suicide attacks. They need to establish democracy before we will ever have lasting peace in the Middle East.
posture and engage in a reckless game of brinkmanship. The administration continues to cling to the myths promoted by the Amtrak Reform Commission that privatization of many of the lines is necessary. We all know that privatization of our rail system will not work, and if anyone has any doubt about that, they should call our friends in Great Britain where delays and safety problems are rampant due to privatization.

We also know that none of our transportation systems operate without Federal support. In fiscal year 2001, our highways received more than $33 billion in Federal funding. The airline industry received $13 billion in regular funding and a $15 billion bailout. In the same fiscal year, Amtrak received $521 million, which represents less than 1 percent of all Federal transportation spending and far less than the $1.2 billion it needs to properly operate.

Nevertheless, on the eve of a national crisis, the administration has said that it does not want to go above last year’s funding level for Amtrak.

Mr. Speaker, instead of turning our backs on the men and women who work for Amtrak, this administration should be running to invest in a national passenger inner city rail system to complement our aviation and highway systems. Rail is regarded as the cheapest, most energy-efficient, environmentally sound, comfortable and reliable mode of travel. It is the preferred mode of travel by thousands and thousands of Americans. Ridership in this country is rapidly increasing, and the potential is unlimited. America deserves a first-rate passenger rail system; and accordingly, Amtrak deserves to be fairly funded, both now and in the future.

Therefore, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4545 to keep Amtrak alive, and I urge the Bush administration to stop the posturing and do the right thing: give Amtrak the resources it needs to run.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KENNY). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. MALONEY of New York addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

SUPPORT FOR AMTRAK LOAN GUARANTEE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a $200 million loan guarantee for the Amtrak national passenger rail system and to urge the administration to expeditiously and favorably respond to Amtrak’s request.

Amtrak services well over 500 cities and towns throughout the Nation, and is a safe, efficient, and affordable mode of transporting millions of Americans to work and leisure activities each year.

The events of September 11 clearly underscore the need for an alternative mode of transportation to air travel. In the 8 months since the 9-11 attacks, Amtrak ridership has remained strong, despite the many significant reductions in travel and tourism, and steep declines in domestic air travel.

In my own congressional district, the city of Richmond, Virginia, has invested over $56 million in the restoration of the historic Main Street Station. Amtrak will be a major provider of service; and after 10 years of planning, the first phase of renovations is now finally under way and trains are expected to begin stopping at the Main Street Station within the next 6 to 8 months.

Mr. Speaker, passenger rail service is an essential component to our plans to create a multimodal transportation center at the Main Street Station, and an Amtrak shutdown will leave a significant gap in our region’s transportation network.

A shutdown of Amtrak will also lead to the possible halt in other linked services, including the Virginia Railway Express, which transports 12,000 riders each day, many coming into Washington, D.C. on rail rather than adding to the congestion on Interstate 395.

Mr. Speaker, each year, this Congress appropriates significant dollars in the way of subsidies to our highways and national aviation system; yet we fail to provide the same level of support and commitment to passenger rail. A responsible Federal investment in our Nation’s passenger rail system is long overdue. I believe this Congress is ready to work toward that end; but in the short term, I urge the administration to make available the resources that Amtrak needs to sustain its national operations.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. CUMMINGS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

SUPPORT EMERGENCY AMTRAK FUNDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a matter of utmost importance: the transportation, economic, and environmental needs of our Nation, and the Northeast in particular, and that is the survival of Amtrak.

For 31 years the Amtrak rail system has provided an essential service to millions of Americans, providing safe, reliable travel at an affordable price. It has helped to balance our public service and commercial objectives, but has never been given adequate resources to deliver either objective fully. And now, without an immediate infusion of $200 million in emergency funds, Amtrak could be forced to close within days. This will cause serious disruptions for commuters and travelers everywhere.

The fact is, funding for Amtrak is not simply an issue of transportation. It is an issue of economics, commerce, and livability.

In my State of Connecticut, Amtrak’s service is a vital component of daily life, as it is to thousands of cities and towns along the 875 miles Connecticut citizens rely on Amtrak annually, 370,000 in my hometown of New Haven alone. So many people there rely on Amtrak to commute to work from New Haven. Often relying on Amtrak’s travel and tourism into cities without commuter airline service. In the Northeast, people travel Amtrak because it is, quite simply, the most convenient and time-efficient method of traveling from city to city, alleviating the heavy rush-hour traffic faced by so many commuters today. In doing so, it is a major contributor to reducing emissions that contribute to respiratory illnesses like asthma, That helps us keep our air clean and our children healthy.

Amtrak means jobs as well. They own and operate a rail yard in New Haven, Connecticut, where maintenance and equipment repair take place. One can only imagine how busy they are, given the continual underfunding of Amtrak. All in all, Amtrak employs nearly 700 employees in Connecticut alone.

Since September 11, I might add, Americans are looking for alternatives to commercial airlines; and despite our best efforts to make our airline security the best in the world, many Americans still fear for their safety. Amtrak has proven that it is a viable transportation alternative.

With so many concerns regarding air traffic congestion, from safety to overcrowded skies, it simply makes sense that we have in place an alternative of transportation to alleviate the stress currently on our air traffic controllers and our airline security forces. The fact is, more choices means less risk to our people, less stress, healthier communities and, thus, a more livable region.

For over 3 decades, funding for America’s passenger railroad has nearly been enough to keep the system operating on a year-to-year basis, which prevents it from meeting its long-term public service mission, not to mention its capital obligations.

The administration’s budget for Amtrak requests $521 million for 2003, less
than half of what Amtrak says it needs to meet its long-term and short-term financial needs. Sadly, this amount would only maintain the current level of funding and represents less than half of what Amtrak needs.

The fact is that the Federal Government dedicates resources for highways, airlines, airports, runways for capital improvements. Despite the popular myth, Amtrak has no such luxury. Amtrak is expected to pay for capital and track improvements, new cars, repairs and maintenance. With only a fraction of the Federal subsidies for airlines and highways, Amtrak is expected to do a lot more with a lot less.

Recently, I sent a letter, along with 161 of my colleagues, asking Congress to fully fund Amtrak at $1.9 billion. This funding includes $1.2 billion in Federal funding for capital and operating expenses, as well as $375 million for much-needed rail security projects across the system, and $400 million for life-safety improvements in Amtrak tunnels along the northeast corridor.

We are asking for $200 million to be made available immediately. If we can move heaven and Earth in order to provide the airlines with $15 billion with very few strings attached, as we did last fall, surely we can find $200 million to keep Amtrak running when so many people rely on it.

Failure to provide the necessary funds will not only mean the suspension of Amtrak service in the busy northeast corridor, but the likely permanent loss of long-distance trains; it will mean that thousands of commuters around the Nation will be stranded; loss of production, loss of $1 million for communities and companies in areas where these areas need the services. It is unacceptable.

Mr. Speaker, Amtrak is too important to our communities to let die. It needs reforms. Let us do it in a realistic timetable that does not ignore the needs of millions of Americans. Congress and the administration must send the President is about the business of quickly responding to the needs of Amtrak, not unlike the way that it did for our airline industry when we provided a $5 billion grant to that industry and $10 billion for broadband resources in the event that our airline services decided that additional resources were needed to be guaranteed by this country.

Mr. Speaker, I would encourage Members of Congress and the administration as well to act quickly, not politically, but quickly, for the benefit of the families who rely on us as Members of Congress and who rely on the support that we have already shown that is necessary for the American Nation so that we can go forward. We cannot afford the luxury of being a superpower in our mind and not allowing America to, in reality, be one by having a first-class passenger rail system.

To us, Mr. Speaker, to sustain Amtrak.

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The SPEAKER pro tempore. (Mr. KERNS.) Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, not surprisingly, in this election year the Republicans are attempting to portray themselves as the protectors of Social Security and many of our women colleagues tonight, led by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLER-MCDONALD) and the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. THURMAN) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) will be discussing this more.

During my 5 minutes, what I would like to do is put some history on the record.

First, the Republicans have advocated mailing out fancy but meaningless less guarantee certificates to Social Security beneficiaries this year at a cost of $16 million to the taxpayers, and each million that would be needed to produce and mail these certificates would pay for the processing of maybe 1,400 disability claims.

When it started to come out how they wanted to waste the money on those kinds of phony certificates, and that proposal literally flopped, Republicans have sought other forms of political cover but to no avail. So now they have moved into the avoidance mode and are simply dodging Social Security, blocking key legislation from coming to this floor.

The American people deserve to hear the details of the Republicans’ privatization plans for Social Security before the election. That is why I signed the Democratic discharge petition to bring this vital debate to the floor. It requires 218 Members of the House to sign that discharge petition to bring up the bill.

Now, realistically, will the Republicans allow these bills to come forward? Well, let us see. Probably not, because the Republican leadership of this House says that Democrats will stand against privatization and expose their risky and flawed plans for what they are.

Truly, Republicans have always had trouble believing in Social Security
and have a long record of opposition to our Nation’s premier social insurance program. Let me put this on the record.

Beginning with the original Social Security Act when the ranking minority Republican member of the Committee on Ways and Means was Representative Allen Treadway, a Republican from Massachusetts, he led the attack here in Congress, in the House, offering a motion to delete the old age and unemployment insurance programs and I quote, and I would vote, and I quote, “most strenuously in opposition to the bill at each and every opportunity.”

At that time, 95 of 103 Republicans voted along with Representative Treadway to gut the original act. That was 92.2 percent of the Republicans. But they failed because there were more Democrats that believed that we should lift those in poverty who are seniors to a level at least of subsistence need to dignity in their retirement years.

Now, Republican opposition in the Senate was also pronounced, with a majority of Senate Republicans voting with Senator Hastings to delete the re- tirement benefit from the Social Security Act. As we all know, the Act went on to pass both Chambers and was signed into law by Democratic President Franklin Roosevelt on August 14, 1935.

But Republican opposition to Social Security was not limited to the old age and unemployment provisions. In 1956, 38 of 44 Senate Republicans voted against an amendment to restore the disability insurance program to the bill. That was 86% percent of the Republicans in the Senate not wishing to include the disability insurance provisions, which are the lifeline for millions and millions of people who have been stricken in their families with illness or with injury.

In 1965, when Medicare Part A and B were created, when President Lyndon Johnson was President and led this fight for health care for our seniors, 128 of 165 House Republicans, or 77.6 percent, three-quarters of them, voted to recommit the bill and replace it with, guess what, a voluntary system. Have we heard this before?

Most recently, Republicans have broken their repeated promises, voting seven times on the issue to ensure that, as they say, every penny of Social Security will be locked away in a lockbox. Instead, they have drained the budget, even as we stand here tonight, with tax breaks for the super rich and are plundering the trust funds of Social Security over the next 10 years by nearly $2 trillion.

So every week I am coming down here to the floor to take a look at the grade on the Social Security trust fund. We call it the debt clock. As of today, Republican have raided now $223,945,205,479 from the Social Security trust fund, which averages now about $796 per American.

Every week since we have come on the floor, that is up over $6 billion from last week. They keep going into the trust fund to give money away to CEOs like Kenneth Lay, who, believe me, owes us money. The Social Security recipients of this country and the taxpayers have always believed in Social Security, and we always will.

CONGRESS HAS AN OBLIGATION TO THE TRAVELING PUBLIC TO SUPPORT AMTRAK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. BROWN) is recognized for five minutes to address the House.

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, first of all, let me just say that I am here to discuss Amtrak, but I not only support Amtrak, I have loved the trains ever since I was a little girl. I remember when I was a little girl, the trains spoke by day and by night by my house. The question that we have in this country is whether or not we support passenger rail.

Let me just say before I get started that there is no form of transportation in this country that supports itself. Whether we are talking about the airline industry, whether we are talking about trucks, roads, buses, none of them support themselves. So the question is whether or not we support passenger rail, or whether we are going to let it fall apart and leave this country’s travelers and business people with absolutely no alternative form of public transportation.

Without the $270 million Amtrak needs to keep operating, we will soon see people that rely on Amtrak to get to their work each day waiting for a train that is not coming.

This Congress absolutely must provide funds to avert a shutdown of Amtrak. We continue to subsidize highways and aviation, but when it comes to our passenger rail service we refuse to provide the money Amtrak needs to survive. This issue is much bigger than just transportation; this is about safety and national security. Not only should we be giving Amtrak the money it needs to continue to provide services, we should be providing security dollars, money to upgrade their tracks and improve safety and security measures in the entire rail system.

Once again, we see the Bush administration’s too-little, too-late policy. I am surprised they have not suggested a tax cut to solve this problem. Instead, they are trying to take money from the hard-working Amtrak employees who work day and night to provide top-quality service to their passengers. These folks are trying to make a living for their families, and they do not deserve this shabby treatment from this President.

It is time for the administration to step up to the plate and make a decision about Amtrak based on what is good for the traveling public and not what is best for the right wing of the Republican Party.

I represent Crescent City, Florida, where we recently experienced a tragedy when an Amtrak auto train derailed, killing four and injuring hundreds of others. Soon after that, we experienced another derailment in Gainesville that injured many more.

Florida depends on tourists for its economy, and we need people to be able to get to this State safe so they can enjoy it. Ever since September 11, more and more people are turning from the airlines to Amtrak, and they deserve safe and dependable service.

Some people think that the solution to the problem is to privatize the system. If we privatize it, the same thing we saw when we deregulated the airline industries. Only the lucrative routes will be maintained, and routes to rural locations, I say to Members who represent rural areas, we are going to lose them. In other words, they will cut these areas out if we privatize it.

Mr. Speaker, I was in New York shortly after September 11 when the plane leaving JFK crashed into the Twin Towers. We all knew that at that time we were talking about transportation as an alternative to flying. A shutdown would cause serious disruptions for commuters and travelers nationally, and to local economies across America.

Amtrak is critical to my constituents in Kansas City and to the people of Missouri. Missouri has four Amtrak trains: two Missouri Mules that travel between Kansas City and St. Louis and the two Ann Rutledge trains that travel between Kansas City, St. Louis, and Chicago. These trains are integral to tourism and commerce in our state.

This year, the Kansas City station has had approximately 60,000 passengers. The St. Louis station has had 84,000, the Jefferson City station has had more than 41,000, Hermann’s station has had over 11,000, and the Warrensburg station has had 11,000 plus passengers.

Amtrak is proven to be an extremely convenient method of transportation for the business traveler. Missouri state officials commute on the train to work at the State Capitol in Jefferson City. Many Missouri business travelers...
commute between Kansas City to St. Louis to avoid airport and highway congestion. This rail system has played a significant role in helping reduce congestion at Lambert International Airport in St. Louis by providing routes from Kansas City to St. Louis and throughout the Midwest.

The stop in Warrensburg Amtrak station provides an affordable transportation route for Central Missouri State University students from across the state. This station also provides 10,000 military personnel and civilians access to Whiteman Air Force Base which maintains the Air Force's premier weapon system, the B-2 bomber.

Individuals traveling on the Missouri routes are able to visit many sites including the restored historic Kansas City Union Station, Truman Presidential Museum in Independence, American Jazz Museum in Kansas City, Missouri State Capitol and Governor's Mansion in Jefferson City, Hermann's wineries and famous Octoberfest activities, Lewis and Clark Territory, and the restored St. Louis train station by the landmark Arch.

Amtrak has been forced to run a national system with insufficient financial support since its creation. Approving $200 million in emergency funding is essential and timely. The federal government has provided subsidies for all modes of transportation including our nation's airports, highways, and buses. No comparable national passenger rail system in the world has operated without subsidies, and no system has ever succeeded without substantial public capital investment. I urge my colleagues to support emergency funding for Amtrak and maintain and reform America's national passenger rail system.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, we're not talking about tracks, or trains, or rails, or stations—we're talking about people—their jobs, their families, their lives. And I am sick of people playing politics with it. In a modern nation, in the greatest nation on Earth, passenger rail service is not a luxury, it's a necessity for the millions of people who use it to get to work, to get to clients, to create new business, to meet friends, to see family, to take a vacation, to enjoy the Holiday season, to see family.

America needs reliable, affordable, efficient rail service—for all these reasons. All over the world, passenger rail service is a comfortable, popular, reliable mode of transportation, especially between cities that are two to four hours apart—like Paris and London, Tokyo and Osaka, and New York and Washington. The same should be true of travel between cities like Orlando and Miami, Atlanta and Charlotte, Chicago and St. Louis, and Los Angeles and San Diego.

At a time when roads are increasingly clogged, when air travel is strained, wisely investing in rail service is the right thing to do, and the smart thing to do. But this Administration has been asleep at the switch—and if Amtrak fails, if we lose passenger rail service, it will be because this Administration didn't think it was important enough. Tell that to the people who won't be able to get to work to support their families; tell that to the businesspeople that won't be able to get to their clients; tell that to the grandmother who won't be able to get to her grandmother's house; and tell that to the union worker who loses his or her benefits.

As of last year, Amtrak employed 1,736 people in my state. Almost 4 million people from my state rode Amtrak last year—and 80 thousand daily commuters ride New Jersey Transit, that would be effectively shut down if the signaling and operators that Amtrak provides are closed.

The passenger rail system in my state, my region, has become the engine of job creation, commercial development, and commerce, especially in revitalized urban centers and smaller communities between major cities without an airport or other means of mass distance travel. The loss of commerce for even a single day closing would be enormous—and in some cases, permanent.

So I say again: we're not talking about tracks and trains, we're talking families and towns and cities and livelihoods. Amtrak is not some disembodied entity—it's an integral part of the communities it serves. We need immediate action, and we need it now, but we also need this Administration to start getting serious about a real, long-term solution that ensures the smooth continuation of passenger rail service—not just a rehash of the Amtrak Reform Council's proposal to largely privatize the system, and abandon infrastructure ownership from operations, which has been tried and failed elsewhere. Besides, the nation's railroads are adamantly opposed to giving other entities the access rights to their tracks that Amtrak currently has. So to the Administration I would say: get serious and start dealing with reality.

We need this Administration to be involved not just when we are at a crisis point—not just days before the system could go under—we need long-term thinking, long-term planning.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, many of my colleagues have spoken about the importance of Amtrak to the Northeast Corridor, or to the small towns throughout the country that do not have access to air travel. However, Amtrak is equally important to Michigan and the Midwest, where it provides competition to the air lines and links major cities, alleviating congestion on roads and in airports.

Americans have chosen to ride Amtrak at increasing rates. Between 1996 and 2001, systemwide ridership grew from 19.7 million to 25.3 million. Last year, Amtrak served over 500,000 people in Michigan, many of whom are my constituents. It is important that Congress let President Bush know that Amtrak must be kept running.

Passenger rail service should not be stopped in its tracks, especially as riders begin to receive the benefits of Amtrak's roll out of high-speed service. Amtrak owns 96 miles of track in Michigan in the Detroit-Chicago high-speed corridor. The Michigan Railroad Administration, the State of Michigan and private industry have invested in upgrading this corridor. The ultimate goal of this high-speed project is to reduce the total time between Detroit and Chicago from the current 6 hours to 3 and one-half hours. In January 2002, 90 minute hour service began on a segment of the Amtrak owned right-of-way. Additional speed increases over the entire length of the Amtrak-owned line are planned for later this year. This is the first significant increase in passenger rail speed above 80 miles per hour over the Northeast in 25 years.

Amtrak has been woefully underfunded since it was created in 1971. The Bush Administration has continued this unfortunate leg-

acy, proposing $500 million for Amtrak for FY 2003 when it needs $1.2 billion. This is unacceptable and would only continue to allow Amtrak to wither on the vine.

President Bush's recent proposal that Amtrak make a quick profit and be spun off to private corporations is shortsighted, no passenger rail service in the world—including every subway system—operates without subsidies. Second, Amtrak was created because the private railroads asked that they no longer be required to operate passenger rail service because it was unprofitable. Passenger rail service was not profitable for railroads to run three decades ago. I do not see how it could be profitable now.

The American people deserve an alternative to driving and flying. If the President refuses to lead, Congress must step in and keep the trains running on time.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, Amtrak is an institution that we must preserve. Now is not the time to turn our backs, and deny the emergency aid that we need to keep Amtrak in business. Were Amtrak to shut down, the consequences would be far more widespread than merely affecting long-range service. This shutdown would be disastrous to commuters, as such commuter lines as Virginia Railway Express and MARC in the Washington DC area, and Shoreline East in Connecticut, all operate on Amtrak tracks and use Amtrak crew.

Each day, 60,000 passengers travel on Amtrak, and 24,000 travel between New York and Washington, DC alone. The entire Northeast Corridor would be crippled by a shutdown of Amtrak service.

Mr. Speaker, when service first began in 1971, Amtrak had merely 25 employees. Today, Amtrak provides employment for over 24,000 workers. Amtrak's future is an issue that must be resolved. Mr. Speaker, we in Congress must be adamant about guaranteeing Amtrak that we will not let it fail. Congress must also resolve to adopting a long-term strategy of reform for our nation's passenger rail system. Congress must be sure that Amtrak can continue maintaining, and upgrading its fleet of trains. A quick fix cannot be misconstrued as being a long-term answer.

Mr. Speaker, I do not stand alone when I say America needs Amtrak. Yes, we need a strong and reliable passenger rail system. With improvement, Amtrak would be much cheaper to maintain than constructing new airports and highways. Roads that are more environmentally friendly than airports, and putting more cars on our highways. Terminating Amtrak will mean a serious loss to metropoli-

tan areas as New York and Chicago. The loss of train service will lead to increased automobile traffic into downtown areas from the suburbs. Passenger rail service is very important to maintaining and improving pollution lev-

els. Without commuter rail service, the number

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of cars that already park New York City’s crowded streets would greatly increase.

Pollution and transportation are not issues limited to the northeastern corridor. These are national issues, as well. Amtrak is also a national issue. People all over the country ride on the passenger rail service Amtrak provides.

Mr. Speaker, Amtrak is worth maintaining. We must also recognize that it is in Congress’s power to step in and fix this problem.

Mr. Speaker, this issue needs our attention and it needs it now. Congress must pass an aid package that gives Amtrak the tools not only to survive, but also to excel.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5010, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2003

Mrs. MYRICK, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107–536) on the resolution (H. Res. 461) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5010) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5011, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2003

Mrs. MYRICK, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107–537) on the resolution (H. Res. 462) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5011) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Mrs. MYRICK, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107–538) on the resolution (H. Res. 463) providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

THE SKYROCKETING COST OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. THURMAN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mrs. THURMAN. Mr. Speaker, tonight we have a group of women here who are very concerned about the prescription drug benefit that we may be voting on this week and with some particular interest in the high cost and skyrocketing cost of prescription drugs in this country.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), who is an invaluable member of our caucus and has been actively involved in the area of prescription drugs.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida for yielding to me, who has been such a great help to the Democrats since we need to talk about a couple of things. The first is the necessity of the prescription drug benefit to help the 39 million people who are on Medicare. Those are the elderly and persons with disabilities.

A lot of times we come to the floor and we talk about people that are in our districts or people that we have heard about or issues that affect some segment of our society, but not so often do we come to the floor and talk about a problem that affects so many people that also directly impacts our own families’ pocketbooks. The issue of the high cost of prescription drugs is hard to escape from, regardless of the income or the position of one’s family. I found, much to my surprise, sometime ago that my family was not immune from this particular crisis.

One day I got an e-mail from a cousin of mine that said, “The reason I am writing you today, I saw you on C–SPAN giving a speech on prescription drugs.” He said, “I thought you would be interested in my mom’s story.” This is also my cousin, his mother.

“The last couple of years of my dad’s life, he was relying heavily on all sorts of heart medication and other prescription drugs to keep him going and maintain a quality of life.”

□ 1990

Well, Mom kept on putting those drugs on the table. She would ask, “Mom, are you going to pay them? With Social Security? I do not think so.

Well, anyway Mom did everything she could to make sure Dad got his meds. When Dad passed away in January 1996, Mom was left with a mountain of credit card debt. The Tuesday after his funeral, she had to declare bankruptcy. It just does not seem fair. But if you ask Mom, she would do it all over again to have a few more days with Dad.

As we see the baby boomers get older and the cost of prescription drugs is skyrocketing, something needs to be done to curb the drug companies. It cannot all be for recouping R and D. Somebody is gouging somebody.

This e-mail was sent to me almost exactly 2 years ago today. And at that time there was not a candidate running for office, particularly for Federal office, who was not promising that something was going to be done about that high cost of prescription drugs. Oh, yes, elect me, go to the White House or I will go to the Congress and I will pass a prescription drug benefit for senior citizens. Do not worry, seniors. Vote for me and I will get you a prescription drug benefit. There was not anybody running for any office at the Federal level that did not say that.

Well, those seniors, people in our own families, are still waiting in line for that prescription drug benefit. We are almost through an entire session of Congress, and there still is not a prescription drug benefit. They have been bumped out of their place in line by the airlines who we bailed out a very short time ago over September 11. They have been bumped out of their place in line by a very few rich dead people when we excused them from the estate tax. And now as the front of the line appears closer and closer, maybe they are getting there, what they are offered up by the Republicans is a sham and not a plan, a bill that was written by the drug companies and for the drug companies that does nothing to control the high cost of prescription drugs, provides no guaranteed benefit, there is no predictable premium or copayment, no guarantee even that any insurance company will even offer them the chance to purchase a plan.

A former member, Bill Gradison, who was president of the Health Insurance Association of America from 1993 to 1998, criticized the GOP private market approach to prescription drug coverage saying, “I am very skeptical that ‘drug only’ private plans would develop.” So even those people who are associated with the insurance industry think that there is not going to be such a plan available. That is what the Republicans have offered up.

The Democrats on the other hand, we have a plan that does provide a guaranteed benefit, that is absolutely going to lower the cost of prescription drugs, will lower the cost by enabling the Secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate a lower price for senior citizens, that says that all the beneficiaries of Medicare, just like an HMO or the Veterans Administration, and they will negotiate a lower price for senior citizens, and lower the amount of out-of-pocket costs.

But women, women are the ones who are most affected, that are most hurt by the high cost of prescription drugs just like my cousin was who had to declare bankruptcy. Out-of-pocket spending on prescription drugs by seniors is the single largest out-of-pocket health care component after premium payments.

Older women spend more out of pocket on prescription drugs on average than do older men regardless of the type of supplemental insurance coverage they have. Women on Medicare without supplemental benefits spend almost 40 percent more on prescription drugs than men, and men are spending too much. Older women are less likely than men to have employer-sponsored prescription drug coverage. Women with drug coverage may have out of pocket on drugs than men. On average older women fill more prescriptions than men each year regardless of
whether they have prescription drug coverage. Older women without pre-
scription drug coverage on average have 18 prescriptions filled in 1 year compared to 14 for men.

So this is a problem that impacts all Medicare beneficiaries, all older Americans, but particularly falls the hardest on women. And I know that my colleagues here, the women here, today are going to talk about how the Demo-
ocratic plan is going to directly address the needs of the elderly, and particu-
larly older women; and we will go into that.

But I would just like to say that if anybody thinks that their families, their own relatives, their own parents or grandparents and aunts and uncles and cousins are immune from the run-
away costs of prescription drugs, think again. If my cousin had not sent me this e-mail telling me about the bank-
rupcty in my own family, I would not have known because my cousin was too proud to tell the family that this was what was going on.

So I am just happy to be part of a great group of women who are here today to stick up for and to go to bat for all of the women who really need our help. Our seniors, the true prescription drug benefit under Medicare. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding to me.

Mrs. THURMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman and certainly appreciate the story that you told about your cousin because that is exactly what happened to hundreds and thousands of stories like that throughout this country, and it puts a face on why this issue becomes so important to us in this Congress.

At this time, I yield to the gentle-
woman from Nevada (Ms. BERKLEY), who has been a continued voice of rea-
son from her experience and the experi-
ence from her own State, and we are certainly glad that she is here to en-
gage us and give us some idea of what has been happening and happened and why some of these plans just will not work.

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. THURMAN) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD), the co-chair of the Women’s Caucus for organizing this Special Order.

I am here to discuss an issue that is absolutely crucial to seniors across America, Medicare coverage for pre-
scription drugs. It is one of the most important issues that Congress will work on this year. This is a defining issue. Who exactly do we represent in this body? Do we represent millions of older Americans or do we represent the CEOs of the pharmaceutical compa-
nies? Seniors have the greatest need for prescription drugs. This is one of the most
absolutely crucial to seniors across the country, and it is time for us to step up to the plate, fulfill our campaign promises and improve the lives of older Americans in this country.

I thank the gentlewoman, and I ap-
preciate the opportunity.

Mrs. THURMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ap-
preciate the gentlewoman’s concern and her participation in tonight’s Special
Order.

I am proud to yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON), someone who I have valued over the last 10 years, somebody who came in with me, and somebody I served with on the Committee on Agri-
culture, and someone all of us in this House respect for the work that she has done. We are all very sad that she has made a choice to go home, but I have met her husband T.T., and I certainly understand. I am glad to have the gent-
lewoman here today.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her leadership, and I thank her for yielding and her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind my colleagues of a promise made by Members and the Presidential can-
didates of both parties only a little less than 2 years ago. We all agreed that the rising costs of prescription drugs had reached critical mass and that it was forcing many Americans, particu-
larly older women, to make choices they should not, in their golden years, be forced to make.

But I also would like to point out that what the Republican leadership is just now getting around to offering is a choice that really is a false choice. They have tied two issues that really should be dealt with separately. One is the prescription drug plan that is deficient at best and probably is dead on arrival in the Senate. The second matter is in-
creasing reimbursements to rural hos-
pitals and medical facilities by Medi-
care to better reflect the costs of pro-
viding a better service which I support but not in this bill. And especially as a co-chair of the Rural Caucus and the co-chair of the Rural Caucus, we know the devastation that rural hospitals are suffering. So they need this reimbursement.

So they have tied these two issues to-
gether with their Medicare Moderniza-
tion and Prescription Drug Bill. The Republican leadership pits struggling health care facilities against strug-
gling seniors. In this, the majority party shows us the height of their cyni-
cism and the depth of their partisan politics at the same time. That is quite an unfortunate and nothing serious to help solve our seniors’ problems relating to access and afford-
ability when we understand what they have provided.

Now, it does something. I have to say, in terms of the hospital. But it will not be enough to solve the finan-
cial crises being experienced by our hospitals and our clinics, particularly in rural areas, and as a result of inad-
equate Medicare payments.

The choice is too much for our seniors are forced to make result in the dif-
ference between life and death in a struggle to juggle the very basics of
their life such as rent, utilities, food, medicine and having those conditions that senior citizens have to juggle each time to make sure they are living.

Disproportionately to men, this is the common quandary in which senior women find themselves. Senior women find themselves far greater in the quandary. First of all, women live longer than men.

It is also a fact that cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of disability and death for women. Women have the highest incidence of diabetes, stroke, high blood pressure and cholesterol problems. There are also maladies like Parkinson’s and Alzheimer’s disease, breast cancer, arthritis and others, all of these requiring a lot of medication.

As a result of years of gender pay inequity and other factors, older women are poorer than older men. Seventy-five percent of all elderly poor are women. Older women are twice as likely as older men to have incomes below $10,000. Sixty percent of all Medicaid beneficiaries are women, many widowed. Medicare beneficiaries of all ages with incomes below the poverty level, nearly 70 percent of them are women.

Women are living longer than men with less money, usually on fixed incomes and with more medical problems to deal with, therefore requiring more prescription drugs, but prices for these drugs are increasing at triple the rate of inflation.

According to a recent study by Families USA, which analyzed price increases for the 50 most commonly prescribed drugs for seniors over the last year, for the last year, nearly three-quarters of these drugs rose at least 1.2 times the rate of inflation and over one-third rose three or more times the rate of inflation. Ten of the 50 most prescribed drugs for seniors are generics, only 10 of them. The average price for generic drugs is only about $375. However, the average price for the 40 that are not generically available is $1,103, three times that.

So women who have less money, less income, more health problems, find themselves having to rely on drugs that are four and five times the cost of generic or over-the-counter drugs. Sixty percent of all Medicaid beneficiaries are women, many widowed. Medicare beneficiaries of all ages with incomes below the poverty level, nearly 70 percent of them are women.

Helping our hospitals by modernizing the payment schedule for medical services provided under Medicare and helping our seniors cope with the costs of life-sustaining medicines that are spiraling out of control are both worthy causes. We should be doing both but separately. They have different objectives, and they should be separated in different bills. These two issues should be debated separately in order to spare the people affected a divisive fight they did not ask for.

I have my rural hospital calling me right now to tell me to vote for this bill, and they know that I understand their plight. I also have my senior citizens calling me that this is insufficient.

We should not be having these divisive fights by struggling rural hospitals and struggling rural citizens. We are pitting them against each other.

The leadership knows what it is doing. It is putting together a poison pill for us to swallow. This is no choice because, indeed, my senior citizens should not indeed have to do this.

We can do better, and we should do better, and the Republican leadership knows this is indeed only a fight of ideology, not really a worthy fight of principle.

I thank the gentlewoman from Florida as well as the gentlewoman from California for having allowed me to participate in this special order on this very special subject.

Mrs. THURMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida for her leadership on this issue. She has been absolutely front and center with us on this, and she has worked so well with the Women’s Caucus in trying to bring the issues and make sense of some of these things that we are hearing about in potential bills. I know tonight that we had especially one Republican Member of their caucus that got up and kind of talked about some issues that really kind of go to the essence of part of our message here tonight. So I would love to yield to the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida for her leadership on this issue. She has been absolutely front and center with us on this very critical issue, an absolutely critical and important to women, senior women, seniors, and women as a whole.

I was struck tonight by one of my Republican colleagues who came to the floor, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT), and he said something to the effect that we know the bill has problems, he says, about his Republican bill. He also said we must do something serious about this critical issue. It was amazing that he admitted to the fact that the Republican bill has problems, but I want to turn our attention to this chart I have here, because this chart speaks volumes to the experts who have also spoken about their concerns about the Republican drug bill.

Bill Grad has, the former president of the Health Insurance Association of America, says, I am very skeptical that this drug-only private plans would develop.

Then we have John Rother, the policy director of AARP, and he says, There is a risk of repeating the HMO experience. These experts are talking about this Republican drug bill.

Then we have Richard A. Barasch, chairman of Universal America Financial Corporation, and he says, I do not think it is impossible but the odds are against it, insurance participation. In fact, he is talking about the insurance company’s participation.

Then we have Thomas Boudreau, the senior vice-president and general counsel of Express Scripts, and he says, We are not enthusiastic about that approach.

When we have these four to five experts that are experts in prescription drugs and Medicare and they are saying they have a problem with this Republican drug bill, then it solidifies just what we Democrats have said all along. This bill is flawed. This bill does not speak to what the Democrats have in our plan that we call the Medicare Modernization and Prescription Drug Act of 2002. This is a plan that is universal, affordable, dependable and accessible, and in spite of all of those facts, the things the Democratic plan has, it is voluntary.

When the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. THURMAN) talks about that, I am happy to join her and the other Members who have now come to the floor so that we can talk about stories that we have, that we can bring to the American people about the difference between the Democratic prescription drug plan and the Republican prescription drug plan. So I will turn it back to her. Then I will introduce the other two ladies, and we will get started on what the people are telling us about the difference.

Mrs. THURMAN. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, before we move on to that, because I think the gentlewoman's poster says what the experts are saying about the Republican drug plan, one of the big differences that we all need to recognize is that, under the Democratic plan, seniors would have a prescription drug benefit under Medicare.

Let me repeat that, under Medicare, and that would look and operate like the benefits they already get such as hospitalization and physician care because we would use those same providers that we use today. However, very interesting, the Republican bill can only guarantee private HMO-like drug plans and will participate in every area we think almost by bribing the taxpayer, because this is what they do. This is a direct, I mean, this is not available to my colleagues poster, directly to the poster. To entice plans to participate, the Republicans allow a giveaway to the private insurers of up to 99.99 percent of the risk they would incur. In other words, in Arizona, the country where private plans are worried they might not make a profit, the government would guarantee at least a minimal profit to the private insurers at taxpayers’ expense. The GOP plan does not require that the HMO-like insurers pass on the savings to the beneficiaries, directly to what they are saying.

First of all, we do not know that there would even be a plan that would
be offered. If there is not one, they are going to actually entice them at taxpayers' funding, similar to what we have done under MedicareChoice programs that have created all kinds of problems for us and, just as importantly, in this plan we still do not give the average Medicare beneficiary in fact, negotiate and use the power of 40 million Medicare beneficiaries to achieve greater discounts for seniors.

Guess what? This is proven. Look at the numbers we talk about up here. The gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. Brown) can tell us. She is a member of the Committee on Veterans Affairs. She has been an outspoken member on the Committee on Veterans Affairs and, in particular, dealing with prescription drugs both at the VA level and for our military retirees that we have offered. She can tell my colleagues that the power of people, and when we put a number like 40 million people into the risk pool, the costs are reduced.

She has done a fabulous job in this area, and I would love to hear some of her maybe comments and experiences that she has even had in that realm, showing why it is so important that this power of Medicare and not to private insurers. We are so glad she is here tonight, and we really do appreciate her leadership on this issue.

Ms. Brown of Florida, Mr. Speaker, let me say that I want to thank both the gentlewoman for yielding, but I want to also thank her for her leadership on this matter. We both share the great State of Florida, and we also share the many problems. Being one of the oldest aging populations, we understand what our seniors are going through, and we know we have got to bring some relief from the Federal Government, because clearly both of us serve, she served in the Senate and I served in the House, we know that in Florida, Mr. President, the only thing that is going on is tax breaks, tax breaks, tax breaks, and not addressing the problems that our senior citizens are experiencing.

Let me just tell my colleagues about my experience. When we had our little break in March, I went home. Just like all of us when we go home, we are going to do what we can to help out with our family; and so I am going to go to pick up my grandmother's prescription. I went there, and I am ready with my money, and I am waiting for the prescription. I know she pays this bill every month, $53, so that she can get a reduction and with an HMO. So I thought it would be a $10 or $15 co-payment, just like we have a co-payment of a small amount.

The amount of the bill was $91 for one prescription. I could not believe it, $91. I talked to the doctor, and I wanted to know, I talked to the pharmacist, what is the problem, and what they told me was that the co-payment had run out. We are talking about March. Three months with this HMO, and her benefits had run out.

So when I think about my grandmother, who I could write a check for $91, I think about all the other grandmothers. We have a responsibility to look out for the grandmothers who cannot afford $91 a month for one prescription, and most people are taking four and five. It does not make any sense.

During the last election, and my colleagues know the kind of hanky-panky that went on in Florida, but one thing we do know for sure, that all of the candidates were elected, I will provide a prescription benefit for the seniors.

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Well, let me tell everyone something. We have been waiting 2 years for that promise to be kept, and in the meantime we have had constant tax cuts. We have had the terrorists operate; and if we are not careful, the seniors who cannot afford it will be the ones who are left out in the cold.

Mrs. Thurman. Mr. Speaker, I want to talk about that for just a second and what the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. Brown) talked about in the benefit plans and because it was under probably a Medicare Choice program of some sort; and by the way, the Medicare Choice plans would be covered under the Democratic plan. There has been some conversation on this topic of recent days, saying they would not be able to keep what they already have. That is not true. That is number one.

Number two, though, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. Brown) mentioned a couple things that I think are extremely important to point out. Number one, under the Democratic plan it is a guaranteed minimum benefit, that is guaranteed; and under the Republican plan it is not. Guaranteed lower drug prices, for Democrats the plan is there. Under the Republican, it is no. Guaranteed monthly premium, that is a good thing. We think that is wonderful. Ours would be $25 set in the bill. It says $25. In the Republican plan we have no guaranteed monthly premium.

What we have is a CBO estimate that it might be on an average premium of $34, not set in the bill. Annual deductible, again a most important part. The gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. Brown) talked about her grandmother in March. Well, under the Democratic plan it says $100 deductible, period. Under the Republican plan it says $250 or an amount that makes benefit actuarially equivalent. I am not an actuary; so I am not sure what that means, but somebody will explain it. Co-insurance paid by beneficiary per year, 20 percent under the Democratic plan until out-of-pocket cost is $2,000. Under the Republican bill, listen because we do know for sure, that all of the candidates were elected, it says 30 percent. 20 percent for $2,000; 30 percent for $1,000; 50 percent for $1,000 to $2,000; 100 percent of above $2,000 until out-of-pocket cost is $3,800.

Mrs. Brown of Florida. Mr. Speaker, would the gentlewoman yield?

Mrs. Thurman. Mr. Speaker, one other issue that the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. Brown) brought up that I also think is very important in this debate and quite frankly it is an issue that affects every American. We have got to make sure that the seniors who are having, I can say from CongressDaily today, one is the cost issue. They are concerned about it. The gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. Gutknecht) came on the floor and showed the comparison of what we do in this country as compared to the same cost of that drug in another country, an industrialized country which is important to appreciate and understand and the price issue but it is the pharmacist issue.

Leaving a little behind I think makes a really good point. A couple of years ago, my mother, who lived with me, and I took care of her when she was sick and she was in Florida with me during one of my breaks, she had been at one of our teaching hospitals, Shands. I had brought her home after she had been in the hospital for a couple of days, and they had said to me, You know, Karen, we think this is some of the things we think are wrong, and what we want to do is go ahead and bring her back, and we would like you to bring her back in about 10 days to see how she is doing.” I said, okay.
So I go to the pharmacist, and I pick up the medicines. And I am not even going to speak to the cost of the medicines, but my dad was military, so my mother had always had the opportunity to go to the bases to get her medicines. It was an eye opening shock, I think, for the very first time to see what the real cost of medicines were for other folks, or for her friends.

But listen to how important this was. Just leaving the pharmacist out of this equation, which is another thing they do not do on purpose basically, because they do not have to include the pharmacist, our local pharmacies, my pharmacist said to me, You know, Karen, I can give you the full month's prescription on this, and it will cost you X amount of dollars, he said, but when does your mom go back to the doctor to get a checkup? And I said, Well, in about 10 days we will take her back to see how things are going. He said to me, You know what, I will just give you a 10- or 11-day supply, should I pay for 10 days when they may end up changing her medication because it may not be doing what it is supposed to be doing.

That 10-day supply was something that added to the overall cost of my mother less, and more importantly, when she went to the doctor in 10 days, guess what, they in fact did change and prescribe something different. And I just have to say that that kind of a story is so important to why the local pharmacists need to be involved in this issue, because we depend on them.

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, if the gentlewoman will yield on that point, I had the Committee on Government Reform do a study in my district, and we compared what the seniors in the Third Congressional District of Florida pay. We pay 131 percent more for a brand-name prescription than other consumers and 98 percent more than consumers in Canada and Mexico. Mrs. THURMAN. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Speaker, I want to get back to that issue, because I want to talk about an amendment that we offered to try to bring the cost down.

But at this time I would like to take the opportunity to invite the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE), a valued Member of this body, who has been actively involved in this issue and who I think has some information that we might have skipped over. So I would like to hear from her about this discussion.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. THURMAN), and might I acknowledge my other colleagues, the gentlewoman from California and, of course, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. BROWN) for their leadership, and particularly the areas of expertise that they all generate.

I thought it would be helpful, as I was listening to my colleagues, to come to the floor and share some of the messages and the concerns that I bring back from Texas, but also the history of the Medicare legislation that many of my colleagues are familiar with.

I would like to, as I show them some very important facts in pictures tonight, I would like to hold up a picture of President Johnson signing this legislation. In the room of aging of America, we would determine that post-1965 our senior citizens have lived longer because of the implementation of Medicare. And what we talk about tonight is the component that has been lost. What have we lost? When I was listening to my colleagues, to their leadership, and particularly the areas of expertise that they all generate.

And as many of my colleagues know, particularly the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. THURMAN), we have been supporting something I guess in our life, two or three terms, but 6 years or more, and some even longer; and for many times during that time frame, we budgeted very responsibly, meaning Democrats, in preparing ourselves for the expenditure. In fact, I want to cite for the record that last year, March 2001, we had about $5.6 trillion in our surplus. We were prepared for what this might cost.

I listened to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. BROWN) discussing her grandmother, and I took a tour of my senior citizen centers and asked couples and singles how many of them are cutting their prescription drugs, and hands went up; and how many of them are not taking the drugs or not taking them in the right amount, and hands went up, there, right in front of my eyes, was the undermining of their health.

In addition, about 2 years or so ago, I was running back in my district in a panic because my seniors were in a panic. We were trying to answer concerns, because what had happened in Texas was that HMOs had shut their doors, literally shut their doors. We had seniors in Harris County who had become reliably comfortable with HMOs, between 3 and 4 million people. Many of us, elected persons or others, begged HMOs either to come back or to stay. I remember us getting into negotiations where we asked if they could please just stay. My senior citizens know what I am talking about. Their HMOs shut down on them.

My fear with the Republican plan, this plan that is a card or some kind of membership, is that when we get to a point and we find that it is not profitable, and when I say “we” I mean those who are engaged in this plan, when they find it is not profitable, am I to expect that those pharmaceuticals will shut their plan down?

So I wanted to show another picture to say why this can be done and why it is imperative that we do this. Because imagine becoming dependent on this voluntary card, imagine seniors having accepted it, having become comfortable with it, that is, if it ever works, and they get a few dollars off from it, and they hold this card in their hand and, of all of a sudden there is something somewhere in corporate headquarters that says, you know what, they are not making any money in Jacksonville, they are not making any money near Orlando or Houston, Texas, so shut it down because we have got thousands of seniors without the ability to secure their medicine.

I want the American public to understand that this is a well thought-out process; and we believe, many of us, that when we look responsibly, and we are talking about that major one that really just focused in on 1 percent of the population, there were other side-bar tax cuts, but it is that big one, and we believe when we look at that seriously we can find 64 percent of the people that would not be opposed to rolling back the tax cut that Congress passed last year and using that money to provide a prescription drug benefit under Medicare for seniors.

So this dialogue tonight, and I thank the gentlewoman from Florida for it, this dialogue tonight is not reckless, it is not an attempt to use what we do not have. It is, frankly, a recognition of really the concern we all have. And I want to be responsible, but sometimes I visit my seniors and there is that word use that only because I have seen it, the panic they might face by going one more month, one more day without a real drug benefit.

Mr. Speaker, I simply say in closing that I know the other body is discussing this issue. We have to recognize other legislation in the House that has absolutely limited chance in a compromise effort in the other body? We are trying to get legislation that is realistic and will answer the concerns of all seniors. I am disappointed that we cannot come to a conclusion on something that deals realistically with a guaranteed benefit, and I might say protection of our rural hospitals and urban hospitals, taking care of some of the very important medical centers that are not making any money near Orlando or Houston, Texas, so shut it down because we have got thousands of seniors without the ability to secure their medicine.
Mrs. THURMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) and her concern for her constituents and the stories that they have told the gentlewoman.

I do want to say one other thing. We are gathered here today, and I want to tell you that my staff this afternoon about this phone banking. I asked what are they saying.

They said, first of all, we get this phone call, and then all of a sudden there is a click and somebody is on the phone. We say, this is the office of Mrs. THURMAN; and they say, I want you to vote for whatever the bill number is on this piece of legislation.

My answer is, I will be glad to vote on a Medicare prescription drug benefit but not one that is privatized. They say, that is exactly what I want you to do.

Just remember, all of us standing here today to introduce a prescription drug benefit that is under Medicare.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON), former ambassador, as well as a State legislator, who has dealt with State health issues in California and I know had some difficult times after health issues in California and I know had some difficult times after some propositions out there.

Ms. WATSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. THURMAN). I thank all Members who are making the case for our particular legislation who are women, because they rely more heavily on prescription drugs than the average American. Although they represent just 13 percent of the population, they consume more than one-third of all prescriptions. Not only do seniors use more drugs, they also rely on more costly medications. Drug expenditures for seniors constitute 42 percent of the Nation’s total. Seniors with health insurance find themselves without prescription drug coverage more often than not.

More than 10 million Medicare beneficiaries lack coverage, and millions more have inadequate and unreliable drug plans. Part of the solution to our current problem is the enactment of a meaningful drug benefit within the Medicare program.

I am from California, and I know some Members did not really understand what our substitute Democratic proposal was. They said it would hurt California. The only reason that perception was out there is because California has an excellent MediCal program where we offer about 32 to 35 more benefits than are required under Medicaid. That accrues to the Medicare program as well. This properly that if a substitute proposal or a supplemental proposal will only benefit our seniors in California, not hurt them.

Republicans have proposed a bill to address the problem that is just plain bogus. The American public must filter the rhetoric and see the Republican plan and the Democratic substitute for what they really are. The phone calls that the gentlewoman is getting are people who have been deceived and misled. We need to clarify so they will know. I want to spend a second clarifying.

The Republican bill covers less than one-half of Medicare drug costs over the next 10 years. The Republican bill does not help with any drug cost between $2,000 and $5,600. The Republican drug benefit is vague. They offer a standard suggestion for what private plans might offer. In addition, their drug coverage is not adequate for seniors who will have affordable, that is the keyword, affordable drug coverage.

The House Democratic proposal adds a new Part D in Medicare that provides voluntary prescription drug coverage for all Medicare beneficiaries beginning in the year 2005. The Democratic proposal authorizes Medicare contractors to obtain guaranteed reductions in prices.

The Secretaries of Health will have the authority to use the collective bargaining power of Medicare’s 40 million members to negotiate prices on particular drugs. The basics are: $25 a month premium, $1,000 a year deductible; and beneficiaries pay 20 percent. Medicare would cover 80 percent; and a $2,000 out-of-pocket limit per member per year. That, Mr. Speaker, is the Democratic plan. That is not a Republican maybe plan.

Yes, it has a price tag. But the Republican tax cut would pay for this program several times over. Just do the math.

Members should be able to respect older Americans, and we need to be able to give aid to New Yorkers post 9–11 and fight the terrorist threat at the same time. We can do it all if we were not foolishly led to support a $1.6 trillion give-back to the wealthiest Americans.

Mrs. THURMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to introduce the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. DAVIS) who has been one of those out on the campaign trail when everybody was saying we have got to have a prescription drug benefit. We are so pleased that the gentlewoman is here and is such an active voice on this issue.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, it is true when I was out on the campaign trail we talked a lot about health care. That is why it was so interesting to me a few months ago when I was in Costco on the weekend with my husband doing some shopping and I noticed that people were following me around the store. I started getting a little nervous and finally stopped long enough for them to approach me.

Basically what they said is that they know that Congress has got to focus on the war on terrorism, that that is our priority, and I support the President in his efforts. Then they said, we understand that, but when is Congress going to get back to talking about health care? They proceeded to tell me about the difficulty that they are having with their mother and her prescription drug costs.

I know that Members get e-mails and letters daily. I have one here. “Dear Congresswoman Davis: I have only one request. That is to pledge support with members who suffer from Alzheimer’s disease. Medicare does not cover my mother’s prescriptions, which is very costly, around $140 for 30 tablets that she must take. Taking care of her is really hard. Where are we going to get the medications for this disease? We need your help soon.”

And another letter, “As retired people and getting up in years, my wife and I are spending an increasing share of our income on medicine. I hope you can find a way to help us with that problem.”

We, all of us Republicans here tonight is talking about the impact that this has particularly on women. It is all who are women, what is important to us and what do we choose to fund.

We know that in America today over a quarter of women on Medicare, nearly 6 million women, lack any prescription drug coverage at all. The average woman, age 65 and older, lives nearly 7 years longer than the average man, and the average woman spends 20 percent of her income each year on out-of-pocket health care costs.

I am committed, as I know Members here today are committed, to a fair prescription drug plan under Medicare that does not stifle innovation or eliminate choice in coverage. I want to help seniors afford the increasingly expensive prescription drugs that they need to treat or prevent illness.

We know what is going to be before us does not have the access, has geographic inequalities that do not work, and has premium concerns that will not work for our seniors. We need to develop the best comprehensive plan. We need to develop a prescription drug plan that provides our seniors with real benefits. An alternative does exist, and I hope that there will be an opportunity to bring that to the House floor for discussion.

I thank the gentlewoman for bringing these issues before us today.

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I understand the family of the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mr. KERNs) is visiting with us in Washington here today, and I know that they are very very proud of you being the Speaker. I want to thank the gentlewoman for being here tonight as we conduct this very important debate.
Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. Speaker, I thank you. Congresswoman THURMAN for organizing this important special order on the need for prescription drug coverage.

Medicare provides health care coverage to forty million retired and disabled Americans.

For decades, Medicare has proved to provide needed, lifesaving health care to millions, but it is missing a fundamental component: a prescription drug benefit.

If we have courage, this Congress can make history and give our nation's seniors what they desperately need: a real, and meaningful prescription drug plan.

I am proud to join my Democratic colleagues, led by Mr. DINGELL, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. STARK and Mr. BROWN, as an original cosponsor of the "Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit and Discount Act."

I come to the floor this evening to discuss two points:

Number 1: unlike the Republican drug plan, the Democratic plan is simple because it builds upon a proven model—Medicare.

Just pay a Part B premium today for doctor visits, under our plan, seniors would pay a voluntary Part D premium of $25 per month for drug coverage. For that, Medicare or the government would pay 80 percent of drug costs after a $100 deductible. And no senior would have to pay more than $2,000 in drug costs per year.

There is an urgent need for this plan. The most recent data indicates that almost 40 percent of seniors—an estimated 11 million—have no drug coverage. Problems are particularly acute for low income seniors and seniors over the age of 85 (the majority whom are women). Additionally, those older Americans who do have coverage find that their coverage is often inadequate for their needs.

The Democratic plan is a real plan with real numbers, not estimates.

Point 2: the Republican Plan does nothing to bring down the cost of prescription drugs. The Democratic plan is the only plan that provides real Medicare prescription drug coverage for our seniors by stopping soaring drug costs.

Under the buying power of Medicare, through competition and bargaining we can rein in drug costs. Prescription drug costs are too high for our older Americans. They need help now.

For instance, look at Prevacid. Prevacid is a well known to all of us in this Chamber, a popular arthritis medication and a drug needed by many older women, especially, since older women are stricken more often than men by arthritis. According to a Government Reform Committee report released by Mr. WEINER and myself, a monthly supply of this drug costs $86.26 in France. In New York City, a monthly supply of Celebrex costs only $30.60. This is a price differential of 182 percent. Seniors in New York City without drug coverage must pay almost three times as much as purchasers in France.

Prices for prescriptions have risen 10 percent per year for the last several years, leading to over $37 billion in profits last year for the giant drug companies. While these corporations wallow in their spoils, seniors suffer without coverage.

Unfortunately, the brunt of the problem falls squarely on our nation's olderly women, who are nearly sixty percent of our senior citizens. We need to take care of America's older women, we need to help all of our senior citizens.

Mr. Speaker, we must pass the Democratic prescription drug plan without delay. It is built on a proven model of Medicare. The Republican plan only offers gap-ridden coverage. The Republican plan is about privatization. The Republican plan is about partisan politics.

For the sake of our seniors, we must pass the democratic plan, and we must pass it now.

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### GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. THURMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members who do have coverage find that their coverage is often inadequate for their needs.

The Democratic plan is a real plan with real numbers, not estimates.

### NINTH CIRCUIT RULES PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE UNCONSTITUTIONAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to bring to the attention of the House the decision of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in the case of Michael A. Newdow v. United States Congress. This case, Mr. Speaker, even though it was decided by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals only a few hours ago, has already attracted considerable national attention. Indeed, it has drawn the comment of the President of the United States.

The reason is rather simple. It is a decision involving something that is well known to all of us in this Chamber, the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has ruled that the Pledge of Allegiance, written into statute a half century ago, is unconstitutional. Of course this Chamber is opened each day with a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. Public schools across the country begin their day this way. Some Members and some students may, if they choose, listen or absent themselves, indeed, because there is no requirement of Members of Congress as we open our day this way or of students that they recite the Pledge. It is a voluntary act.

Nonetheless, a parent, Michael A. Newdow, a student in a California public school brought a lawsuit, one of several that he has brought, urging an injunction against the President of the United States and an injunction against this Congress. In the latter case, he wished us to be ordered by court immediately to rewrite the statute, the statute he wished that we would rewrite so that the words “under God” would be deleted from the Pledge of Allegiance.

I think because the Pledge is so familiar to us, particularly the Pledge has been recited by so many so often in so many public ways, whether it be at sporting events or public gatherings such as September 11, that it comes as something of an unexpected surprise that a court would rule this way.

I will devote a brief portion of my brief remarks this evening to the substance of the question and, that is, whether or not Congress, which was a defendant in this case, was within its rights to write the law as we did a half century ago; but I would spend most of my time drawing attention to what I consider to be the sloppy jurisprudence in this case.

What is really at issue in what shall become a very well known decision of Newdow v. U.S. Congress is the rule of law. Precious little respect was paid to precedent in this case, because many of the questions, procedural questions indeed, not just the substance here, many of the questions have already been decided.

But this court chose to decide the same questions differently, and that lack of respect for precedent raises questions about the rule of law in this country, about the ability of any of us to know in advance what are the rules to which we must conform our conduct.

Let me begin by just describing a little bit about the case, a little bit about the facts of the case. Newdow, the fellow who brought the lawsuit, is an atheist whose daughter attends public elementary school in the Elk Grove Unified School District in my State of California. In the public school that she attends, like many public schools, they start the day with the Pledge of Allegiance.

But Newdow, according to the Ninth Circuit, does not allege that his daughter's teacher or school district requires his daughter to participate in reciting the Pledge. Rather, he claims that his daughter is injured when she is compelled to watch and listen. That is what is really at issue in what shall become a very well known decision of Newdow v. U.S. Congress is the rule of law.

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not an injury sufficient to confer standing under article 3, even though the disagreement is phrased in constitutional terms."

Let me describe a little bit about what the Court was saying here. The Court said in this case, as well as in the constitutional legal view. One of the contests in constitutional law, in constitutional interpretation, is between those who believe in what is sometimes referred to as original intent, those who believe that what the Founders thought of the words, versus those who believe in the Constitution as a living document, that the way we choose to interpret those words in our time and place ought to govern.

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The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals was aware of this binding U.S. Supreme Court precedent. And what did they say to deal with that fact? They said, "Valley Forge remains good law." They acknowledged that case has not been overturned. It has not been reversed. It is still there. But what they chose to do is to say that the way that thing is progressing here, we want to take it the next step, because they view the law as an organism, something that is ever evolving and changing and developing. Leave aside whether they are right or wrong in the application of that principle, if one chooses to call it that, in this case. What does it mean if the law is the plastic, malleable instrument of judges? It means that none of us as citizens knows in advance how the case will be decided, how it is going to turn out.

Everyone here, in addition perhaps to dealing with that fact? They said, "Valley Forge remains good law." They acknowledged that case has not been overturned. It has not been reversed. It is still there. But what they chose to do is to say that the way that thing is progressing here, we want to take it the next step, because they view the law as an organism, something that is ever evolving and changing and developing. Leave aside whether they are right or wrong in the application of that principle, if one chooses to call it that, in this case. What does it mean if the law is the plastic, malleable instrument of judges? It means that none of us as citizens knows in advance how the case will be decided, how it is going to turn out.

Everyone here, in addition perhaps to having said the Pledge of Allegiance in school when they were schoolchildren, probably learned about Hammurabi. Hammurabi is well known for erecting in the town square stone tablets bearing the written law. For the first time, the law was written down. Why was that important? Why was written law important? It was important because, for the first time, the subjects of Hammurabi, the citizens, knew in advance the standard to which they should conform their conduct. And at that moment the law stopped being arbitrary. We have heard it said that we are a government of laws, not men. Yet what does it mean when it is essentially a lottery? We roll the dice. We do not know how these cases are going to turn out in advance because it is up to the judges to decide. They say, "We think this way."

One of the contests in constitutional law, in constitutional interpretation, is between those who believe in what is sometimes referred to as original intent, those who believe that what the Founders thought of the words, versus those who believe in the Constitution as a living document, that the way we choose to interpret those words in our time and place ought to govern.

It is of some great consequence how one answers that question, because the Founders lived some time ago; and whether or not one agrees with them or disagrees with them subsequently, in subsequent ages, at least what was settled at the time and is objective and standard. And the Founders left us with an article in the Constitution, article 5, that permits us in our time and place to amend the document if we decide that it is too much of a tight collar for us and we cannot live within that and time. So is there anything about the first amendment which is at issue here in the time of its drafting and what was on the mind of the Founders that can help us understand how they might have interpreted the words to God in public places, not references to a particular establishment of religion, were violative of the Constitution?

Let us turn to the first amendment. With respect to religion, it is very concise. It says, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." So the question is, should this clause be interpreted as barring the government from giving preferential treatment to religion? That is the principle, if one chooses to call it that principle, if one chooses to call it that, can be divided into two parts. There is the constitution and the people. Under the Constitution, the people are the sovereigns. Under the people, the sovereigns, is the district was compelling the students to declare their belief in a particular religion? That is the constitutional protection. That is the protection.

The Supreme Court considered this very question in an earlier case involving the Pledge of Allegiance. They considered it in a different way, however. Remember that the language that we are talking about, "under God," was not in the Pledge until a few years before that language was added, the Supreme Court first considered the Pledge without those words, and it decided that students cannot be required to recite it. Students cannot be required to recite the flag and Pledge. A different interpretation.

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Indeed, it was pointed out in that connection and in other connections that that is what the Pledge of Allegiance is about. If there is liberty for all, that means we have to be free in our minds as well as in our physical actions, and so we cannot be compelled to say we believe something we do not believe. A very important case.

But they went on. They said that it was unconstitutional because it invades the sphere of intellect and spirit which is the purpose of the first amendment to our Constitution to revere from all official control. It was the compulsory aspect of what was going on in that case that bothered the Court. The Court noted that the school district was compelling the students to declare their belief and requiring the individual to communicate by word and sign. Remember, the Pledge was accompanied by a flag salute or a hand over the heart. "The compulsory flag salute and Pledge requires affirmation of a belief and an acknowledgment of a belief and an establishment of a belief and an establishment of religion or other matters of opinion or force citizens to confess by word or act their faith therein."
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an application of well-known principles of law to the facts at hand.

So having said, “The Pledge, as currently codified, is an impermissible government endorsement of religion,” the court cited some authority. What did the court for authority? They cited Justice O’Connor’s words in another case, and they cited Justice Kennedy’s words in another case. Here is how they interpreted Justice Kennedy’s words: Justice Kennedy agreed with us. That is why I bring up Justice Kennedy. Justice Kennedy agreed with us that “The Pledge, as currently codified, is an impermissible government endorsement of religion.” But Justice Kennedy does not agree with that. There is plenty of case law making it very clear that the language that they are quoting from Justice Kennedy was written for the opposite purpose.

Here is what Justice Kennedy said in his dissent, in his dissent in a case called Allegheny County v. Greater Pittsburgh ACLU, and now the way, involved holiday displays in the downtown area in Pittsburgh. On some public property they were displaying a menorah and they were displaying a nativity scene; and the ACLU, the Civil Rights Union, sued, and by a 5 to 4 majority, the Court said that could not go on because a menorah signified a particular religion, Judaism, and the nativity scene signified a particular set of religious practices as our national motto, and the Pledge, and then Justice Kennedy, likewise, does not support this proposition.

In this case of Allegheny County v. Greater Pittsburgh ACLU, the majority opinion was written by Justice Blackmun. Justice Blackmun discussed, before he got to his result, a case called Marsh against Chambers in which legislative prayers were challenged, and some of my colleagues may be in memory of what happened at the beginning of the day today and what happens at the beginning of every one of our sessions every day. We begin with our Chaplain saying a prayer here in the House Chamber, standing, more to the point, under the motto, “In God We Trust.”

There was a lawsuit challenging legislative prayers; State legislatures do this as well. It went to the U.S. Supreme Court. That decided, and the question is called Marsh against Chambers. Now, we can guess what the result was in that case, because our prayers are still going on. Justice Kennedy, in the case of Allegheny County against the Greater Pittsburgh ACLU, the one that they decided about the nativity scene and the menorah, Justice Kennedy dissented in that case and he cited this Marsh case. And Justice Blackmun did not like his use of the Marsh case, did not like the reference that he made because he is saying, “Justice that the Ninth Circuit was representing indicative the motto and the Pledge characterizing them as consistent with the proposition that government may not communicate an endorsement of religious belief.” And he cites for that proposition the words of two justices in other cases, Justice O’Connor and Justice Blackmun.

Now, Justice O’Connor is the other Justice that the Ninth Circuit was relying upon to reach today’s result. So we now have on the record both Justice Kennedy and Justice O’Connor for the proposition that that the Pledge and our motto, “In God We Trust,” do not raise these establishment clause questions. That is certainly how I read those opinions, Mr. Speaker.

Justice Blackmun goes on to say, “However, history may affect the constitutionality of nonsectarian references to religion by the government, history cannot legitimate practices that demonstrate the government’s allegiance to a particular sect or creed.”

Why is that so important? Let us go back to the language of the first amendment. It is very short: “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.”

Well, the free exercise clause obviously includes God in the motto and in the Pledge. But that is all. In the opposite direction of this case: “Government shall make no law prohibiting the free exercise of religion.” So one should be free to practice religion in America. That is what the Constitution guarantees. But this other portion, the establishment clause says: “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion.”

Now, some people like to do a little bait and switch with the specific article, the definite article, the specific article. They substitute that for “an,” and the result is an establishment of religion. I look forward to reading the dissenting opinion. I do not know if we are all grammarians here this evening, but it matters. “A baseball game” is different than “the baseball game.”

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.” What if it said instead: Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion? Would that matter? Mr. Speaker, I think it would matter a great deal, because if it is religion that we are concerned about rather than an establishment of religion, an instance, one of many, then I think we would observe that you are sitting under the very model that Justice Kennedy is referring to in this decision, it says right over your chair, “In God We Trust.” He says it is “prominently engraved in the wall above the Speaker’s dais in the Chamber of the House of Representatives,” and Mr. Speaker, I would observe.
God is as general and as high on the ladder of abstraction as one can be, and is not another person’s God. It does not matter what particular religion one believes in, the one I think to be correct, is the one that appeals most to me, the one that is meant to guard our Pledge of Allegiance will tend to make peace with your God, whatever you conceive him to be, Harry Thunderer or Cosmic Muf-
fin.’ A little bit of humor that illustrates how one person’s God is not another person’s God. In fact, what God is, in the minds of physicists, it could be the entire universe as we know it. For animists, it could be the plants or the animals.

God is as general and as high on the ladder of abstraction as one can be, and it is all right to make this reference to God, than a particular religion.

That is important, Mr. Speaker, because I think the court betrays its funda-mental error in logic when it says, and I will find the precise language here, but it says essentially that for constitutional purposes there is no dis- tinction between the words ‘under God’ in the Pledge and ‘under Jesus’ or ‘under Vishnu’ or ‘under Zeus.’ That is what the opinion says. And I think it is awfully clear that that is what is at stake here, because the court, the Ninth Circuit Court is troubled by the fact that there is the most conceivably abstract reference possible to God, not to even religion or to a spe-cific religion, but simply to God.

I am put in mind, and this will escape almost all of my hearers, of a National Lampoon parody of ‘Desiderata’ called ‘Deteriorata.’ This was popular in the 1960s. And they sort of made fun of the well-wishing, at the time at least, ‘Desiderata,’ and in ‘Deteriorata’ they said, ‘Therefore, make peace with your God, whatever you conceive him to be, Harry Thunderer or Cosmic Muf-fin.’ A little bit of humor that illus-trates how one person’s God is not another person’s God. In fact, what God is, in the minds of physicists, it could be the entire universe as we know it. For animists, it could be the plants or the animals.

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“the Supreme Court did not say that the Pledge could not be recited in the presence of Jehovah’s Witness children; it merely said they did not have to recite it. That fully protected their constitutional rights by precluding the government from trenching upon the sphere of intellect and spirit. Government from trenching upon that merely said they did not have to recite it. That fully protected their conscience, but did not say that the government could not require the Pledge to be recited. That is what Judge Fernandez says.

So this is a different judge of the Ninth Circuit giving us a very different point of view from the minority, and citing, I think rather more correctly, the holding in Barnette.

“My reading of the stellarscript suggests that upon Newdow’s theory of our Constitution, and Newdow, remember, is the plaintiff in this case, the father whose daughter goes to school and has to watch as others recite the Pledge of Allegiance. My reading of the stellarscript suggests that upon Newdow’s theory of our Constitution, accepted by my colleagues today, we will soon find ourselves prohibited from using our album of patriotic songs in the public setting. ‘God bless America’ and ‘America the Beautiful’ will be gone for sure, and while use of the first and second stanzas of the Star-Spangled Banner will still be permissible, we will be precluded from straying into the third. And why beware! Judges can accept those results if they limit themselves to elements and tests, while failing to look at the good sense and principles that animated those tests in the first place."

So Judge Fernandez is now giving us a view of where we might be headed if this decision holds and becomes law, the decision from which he dissented.

He says, “What about God Bless America and America the Beautiful being gone for sure, and while use of the first and second stanzas of the Star-Spangled Banner will still be permissible, we will be precluded from straying into the third. And why beware! Judges can accept those results if they limit themselves to elements and tests, while failing to look at the good sense and principles that animated those tests in the first place.”

The problem, they say, is that when Congress did this in 1954 and Mr. Speaker, I have it here in just a moment, that the purpose of the Congress was not to establish a religion.

They said, and I ought to be sure to quote the opinion directly to make sure that I do not mischaracterize it, but they said, in essence, that the legislative history in their mind was clear evidence of an unconstitutional purpose. Then they quoted a very, very small part of it.

The problem, they say, is that when Congress did this in 1954 and Mr. Speaker, I will have it here in just a moment, that the purpose of the Congress was not an establishment of a religion.

That is the language that they quote. It rather befuddles one to understand why, therefore, they infer that was the purpose. Here is the legislative history that they quote: “The sponsors of the 1954 act expressly disclaimed a religious purpose.” So in those days, in 1954, when political correctness was not at large, they still did not get tripped up by the test that we are applying now in 2002. They said: “This is not an act establishing a religious establishment, an act’s affirmation of “a belief in the sovereignty of God and its recognition of the guidance of God are endorsements by the government of religious beliefs,” the court says. But the legislators, this Congress at the time that we passed the law, said that there was no such purpose.

The establishment clause they say is not limited to religion as an institution. And so they are again retreating to this abstract notion of all religion being the problem, not just an establishment, even though that is the plain word of the first amendment.

Here is what the legislative history says, Mr. Speaker. I have taken it from our official documents in May 1954. They say: “By the addition of the phrase ‘under God’ the Congress of the United States, the consciousness of the American people will be more alerted to the true meaning of our country and its form of government.” That was their purpose. The consciousness of the American people will be more alerted to the true meaning of our country and its form of government.” That, Mr. Speaker, is a secular purpose. In this full awareness we will, I believe, be strengthened for
the conflict now facing us and more determined to preserve our precious heritage, “Fortify our youth in their allegiance to the flag by their dedication to one nation under God.”

So the purpose is to fortify our youth in their allegiance to the flag, to the Supreme Court, to the Almighty which run through our laws, our public rituals, and our ceremonies in no way flout the provisions of the first amendment. Then they cite the Supreme Court authority of the day.

So what has happened is between then and now, perhaps, the Constitution has changed. The language of the first amendment has not changed. It is the very same language. The Congress did the best it could at the time. They relied on the Supreme Court, which clearly indicated that the references to the Almighty which run through our laws, our public rituals, and our ceremonies in no way flout the provisions of the first amendment.” Then they went on to say in 1954, “In so construing the first amendment, the Court,” referring to the Supreme Court, “pointed out that if this recognition of the Almighty was not so then an atheist,” the plaintiff in this case, “could object to the way in which the Court itself opened its sessions, namely, ‘God save the United States and this honorable Court.”’

Well, today, across the street at the United States Supreme Court that is how the Court opens its sessions. They still say as they did in 1954, “God save the United States and this honorable Court.” So these questions are all of a piece, the motto, Mr. Speaker, over your head; indeed, the fact that the great law givers of all time ring this light of the speech and debate clause in our Constitution and it is the role of the courts interpreting it, because those can be changed and are very mutable, and precedence are only so good as the paper they are written on. But they can be overturned at will.

The fact that the Seventh Circuit has already disagreed with the Ninth Circuit and the Seventh Circuit came first and that that precedent was ignored here; the fact, Mr. Speaker, that the very remedies that the plaintiff were seeking here are all illegitimate remedies that are the equivalent of that was so, none of that seemed to slow them down. It is worth bringing to the Members’ attention that what Newdow was asking for here is that the court should order the President of the United States to alter, modify or repeal the Pledge. So he is drafting the complaint. He has brought a lawsuit, and he wants the court to order the President to alter, modify or repeal the Pledge by removing the words “under God” out of the pledge of allegiance, under God. He wanted the court to order the United States Congress immediately to act to remove the words “under God” from the Pledge.

Well, now, in our jurisprudence in America you cannot do that. The courts cannot do that. The President is not an appropriate defendant in an action challenging the constitutionality of a Federal statute. Period. And in light of the speech and debate clause of the Constitution, the President is not an appropriate defendant in an action challenging the constitutionality of a Federal statute. Period. And in light of the speech and debate clause as the first amendment, article 1, section 6, clause 1: “The Federal courts lack jurisdiction to issue orders directing Congress to enact or amend legislation.”

The words that the plaintiff in this case is challenging included the Pledge of Allegiance were enacted into law by statute. And therefore, no court may direct this Congress to delete those words any more than it could force Congress to take such action. An injunction against the President is not in order, and an injunction against the Congress is not in order. And that is all that the plaintiff was asking for, so there is nothing left of the case. And yet, even after acknowledging all these things, the Ninth Circuit moved on.

The Ninth Circuit also just zipped over to the Supreme Court and filed an amicus brief. The words that the plaintiff in this case is challenging included the Pledge of Allegiance were enacted into law by statute. And therefore, no court may direct this Congress to delete those words any more than it could force Congress to take such action. An injunction against the President is not in order, and an injunction against the Congress is not in order. And that is all that the plaintiff was asking for, so there is nothing left of the case. And yet, even after acknowledging all these things, the Ninth Circuit moved on.

The Ninth Circuit also just zipped right past the article 3 standing question even though that is jurisdictional, even though you must address standing in order to have a case to decide at all. And they skipped beyond the article 3 holding of the United States Supreme Court that “the psychological con-sequence presumably produced by observation of conduct with which one disagrees is not an injury sufficient to confer standing under article 3 even though the disagreement is phrased in constitutional terms.”

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The Ninth Circuit said that the Ninth Circuit says it is still good law, and they just breeze right past that as well.

Now, Mr. Speaker, we may find after an en banc court of the Ninth Circuit takes this case and rewrites it, that these results are corrected. We may find even a different result in the case; but at a minimum I would expect that if the same result is reached, it will be reached in a much more legitimate manner than this.

But what are we to think in the meantime? The Ninth Circuit is a big circuit. It governs a lot of States. My whole State of California, 30 million people, Nevada, Arizona, Washington, Oregon, Montana, Alaska, Hawaii. Public school students in all of these States are bound by the decision of the Ninth Circuit. It means that Congress is constitutionally bound. The Ninth Circuit says it is, I think it pays no attention to the fact that there is none of that seemed to slow them down. It is worth bringing to the Members’ attention that what Newdow was asking for here is that the court should order the President of the United States to alter, modify or repeal the Pledge. So he is drafting the complaint. He has brought a lawsuit, and he wants the court to order the President to alter, modify or repeal the Pledge by removing the words “under God” out of the pledge of allegiance, under God. He wanted the court to order the United States Congress immediately to act to remove the words “under God” from the Pledge.

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Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, let me say to the gentleman from California that I listened very carefully to what he said in analyzing that Federal court opinion. I think that thing came down yesterday, and I do agree with him that the opinion does not make any rational sense and that the use of the term “in God we trust” does not in any way violate the Constitution.

I wanted to take to the floor this evening, however, as I have so many times in the last couple of months, and talk about the need to pass a prescription drug benefit and also to give a little status report, if I can, about where I think we are on this, because I am very concerned from some of the statements that I have been hearing today and some of the reports in the media, as well as some of the things I am hearing tonight, leading up possibly to Committee on Rules action or inaction, that there is a real possibility the Republicans this week will try to bring a prescription drug bill for a vote before we recess for July 4, for the Independence Day celebration.

I say that because for several months now I have been asking that the Republicans lay out a case in this way. I think that the issue of prescription drugs for seniors and the issue of increasing high drug prices is one of the major issues that the Congress needs to address.

I have a case, Mr. Speaker, I think is one of the reasons why the Republicans may not bring the bill up. The reason they may not be able to bring the bill is because they do not have the votes. The talk this afternoon around the House of Representatives was that they were shy 20 or 30 votes on the Republican side; and, of course, they are getting practically none, if any, Democratic votes.

So I would like to mention some of these reasons. It says lawmakers, this is the Republicans now, want to pass a prescription drug benefit for seniors. It does not happen. As far as I can tell, the Republican leadership once again say they were going to bring a prescription drug bill to the floor before the Memorial Day recess, and I was disappointed when we went home for Memorial Day and that had not happened.

I was once again hopeful when after the Memorial Day recess in June we heard the Republican leadership once again say they were going to bring a prescription drug bill to the floor before the July 4 recess.

Last week, we actually did have the Republican bill unveiled, and we had a 3-day and all-night marathon in the Committee on Energy and Commerce, where I served, where the bill was discussed and the Democratic alternative was discussed. Although I think that the Democratic bill is the only really meaningful bill, and I will discuss that in a minute, I was at least happy to see that we did have the opportunity in committee to discuss medicines or prescription drugs for seniors.

So I would be extremely disappointed and very critical of the Republican leadership once again if we find out tonight or tomorrow that they still do not intend to bring this bill up. I am not surprised because I have said many times that the Republican bill is basically a sham. It does not provide any benefit for seniors. It has no real hope of providing any kind of prescription drug benefit for seniors. It does not even try to reduce price, the price of drugs, but at least if we had the opportunity to have this bill on the floor tomorrow or Friday we could then offer our Democratic substitute and see which side gets the most votes.

I am actually here tonight, Mr. Speaker, because I understand that this is the last half hour, or we will be hearing from the Committee on Rules as to whether or not they will be considering the Republican bill tonight, either at 10:00 or 10:30 or 12 o’clock or possibly tomorrow morning. If we hear that they are not, then that is a very good indication that the bill will not come to the floor for a vote. So I am waiting here, Mr. Speaker, to see what the Committee on Rules is going to do. I am hoping that this prescription drug bill to come up and we will have a debate on probably one of the most important issues facing this country.

I am still hopeful, although I have less reason so to be hopeful, given some of the comments that have been in the media today.

Let me explain why the Republicans may not bring the bill up. The reason they may not be able to bring the bill up is because they do not have the votes. The talk this afternoon that I think is one of the reasons that were articulated today in Congress Daily, in the lead story, says, House GOP still shy of majority to pass prescription bill, and it mentions about three or four reasons why different Members were having trouble getting the bill up to the floor, which I think go far to explain why the bill is a bad bill.

So I would like to mention some of these reasons. It says lawmakers, this is the Republicans now, worry about not getting the 20 votes they would need for the bill for hospitals and rural health care, more attention to drug costs rather than coverage and guarantees to protect local pharmacies. The GOP leadership aides conceded that these groups of Republicans, in the face of the very few Democrats expected to cross party lines on a vote for the GOP bill, have left the measure short of the 218 votes needed to pass it.

Let us talk about some of these issues that some of my Republican colleagues, so to believe, are wrong or do not justify their voting for the Republican bill. Maybe before I do that I should say that I am very happy to see that there might be 20 or 30 colleagues on the other side of the aisle, the Republican side, who would be willing to say to their leadership that they do not want to vote for this bill, because I have said many times, and again, I will give some third party documentation, that this bill is nothing more than a huge state cost shift for the pharmaceutical industry. In other words, the reason why the Republicans have put forth a bad bill and one that will not work is because they are beholden to the brand-name drug industry.

If my colleagues doubt what I say, let me mention last time when we had a markup in the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the Republican bill, last Wednesday, a week ago today, they actually had to adjourn, the chairman adjourned the markup, and some of the reports in the media, because the Republicans had to go to a fund-raiser that was primarily being underwritten by the prescription drug...
industry. So lest there be any doubt about what they were doing, it is all laid out here in the Washington Post.

This is the Washington Post from that day, which says, “Drug Firms Among Big Donors at GOP Event. Pharmaceutical companies are among 21 donors paying $250,000 each for red-carpet treatment at tonight’s GOP fund-raising gala starring President Bush, two days after Republicans unveiled a prescription drug bill the industry is backing, according to GOP officials.”

“Drug companies, in particular, have made a rich investment in tonight’s event. Robert Ingram, GlaxoSmithKline PLC’s chief operating officer, is the chief corporate fund-raiser for the gala, and his company gave at least $250,000. Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, a trade group funded by the drug companies, kicked in $250,000, too. PhRMA, as it is known inside the Beltway, is also helping underwrite a television ad campaign touting the GOP’s prescription drug plan.

Pfizer Inc. contributed at least $100,000 to the event, enough to earn the company the status of a “sponser” at the fundraiser. Eli Lilly and Co., Bayer AG and Merck & Co. each paid up to $50,000 to ‘sponsor’ a table. Pharmaceutical officials said other drug companies donated money as part of the fund-raising extravaganzas.

Every company giving money to the event has business before Congress. But the juxtaposition of the prescription drug debate on Capitol Hill and drug companies helping underwrite a major fund-raiser highlights the tight relationship lawmakers have with groups seeking to influence the work before them.

A senior House GOP leadership aide said yesterday that Republicans are working hard behind the scenes on behalf of PhRMA to make sure the party’s prescription drug plan for the elderly suits drug companies.

I am glad to see that they did not work hard enough, because as of this afternoon I think we will see, once the Committee on Rules decides what they are going to do, there were about 20 or 30 Republicans that were not willing to go along with this sham proposal so maybe PhRMA has to work a little harder so that they can make sure that this Republican bill that is basically written by the pharmaceutical companies does come to the floor.

Again, as I say, Mr. Speaker, I am not saying I do not want it to come to the floor. I would be very happy because I think we can defeat it and we can pass a good bill, which is the Democratic substitute.

I see my colleague from Connecticut is going to talk tonight. He has been here before to talk about this bill, and I appreciate his coming, and I would like to yield to him at this time.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for yielding to me and again applaud his effort of senior citizens all across this country. Clearly, if I might piggyback on some of the things that he said earlier, it has been our hope all along that, and I am so pleased he mentioned the number of valiant Republicans who are holding out, who are holding out on behalf of senior citizens all across this country, who implicitly understand that this specific program belongs rightfully under Medicare, where it should have been placed in 1965 at the Hill’s inception, and it is because of their great courage that they are willing to go against their leadership, high, and do so, and to go against the vested interest of the pharmaceutical industry, as my colleague has pointed out, and stand with those seniors in their district who have become refugees from their own health care system, to people who have to get in automobiles or trains or buses and travel to Canada in order to obtain the prescription drugs at an affordable price that their doctors have told them they must have in order for their survival.

These are the same people that, without congressional action, will have to making the nightly decision between feeding themselves or taking the prescription drugs that their doctors have said must be taken in order to sustain themselves or, in our neck of the woods, either heating their homes in the winter or cooling them in the summer.

This is unconscionable. We are a better Nation than that. I commend my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, and I hope they can resist the unbelievable pressure I am sure that will be brought to bear on them over the next several days to conform with the majority party’s desire to bring this program forward.

As the gentleman from New Jersey has said, I hope that we bring some benefit forward. My concern, it is one that I have expressed back in my district, is that we have an opportunity to see the plans side by side so that the American public gets to see the opportunity that Congress has presented them as a benefit over the ever-escalating costs of prescription drugs.

We have said before on this floor, and it has been well chronicled, that especially when we talk about our seniors, that they are the greatest generation ever and rightfully so. They have been heralded by Tom Brokaw. They have been talked about on countless TV shows, heralded in the movies, in books, in literature. But what they really want is an end to the platitudes and the realization of policy, policy by way of prescription drug relief that is affordable, that is accessible, that is available.

The Democratic plan offers that kind of a program to seniors. Perhaps the other side believes that their program is more viable; and, hey, this is a great country and we ought to have room for people to disagree and present their programs, but American citizens ought to know the choices that they have and the difference between the programs.

My local paper, the Hartford Current, the other day issued an editorial saying that they thought there was very little difference between the programs.

I could not disagree more with that assertion and that this was not a bad first step, something we have heard on this floor from our colleagues. If the Republican plan were to be initiated, it would be a step in the wrong direction. I believe we have to be pretty practical about this stuff, and I thought out that they were concerned about costs and a number of issues that they raised with respect to a comparison between the Democratic plan and the Republican plan. Let us be clear about it. We are unabashedly proud of the fact that we believe this should be included under the Medicare program, and we believe it should be included under Medicare because, at its inception in 1965, prescription drugs were not thought to be the problem that they have become today. But clearly this is a benefit that our elderly not only need but richly deserve, and so it makes ever so much sense for it to be included here.

I hail from the First Congressional District in Hartford, the insurance capital of the world, perhaps, arguably, the HMO capital of the world as well. And I have talked to the CEOs, and I have talked to the people in this business. The proposal that Republicans have put forward, and I have to believe they have done it in good faith, they have many bright and talented people on that side of the aisle, but this is an unscrupulous, an unscrupulous, an irresponsible risk manager’s nightmare. Aside from setting up obvious adverse selection, the pricing involved in trying to come up with the program like this is out of reach for so many of our elderly and so, therefore, from our perspective, a sham.

I commend those on that side of the aisle who have the courage of their conviction to stand up and say this is wrong. It is my sincere hope as a Democrat that we are going to get to vote on the Republican plan and the Democratic plan. This is what the American public deserves. This is what a democracy is all about. Let the two proposals stand on their respective merits and end all the so-called partisan quibbling by simply and matter of factly putting forward two plans side by each for all our constituents to examine. Let us not be harried by rules. Let us not have this whole issue side and only one vote that is going to come forward. Let us look at the proposal side by each and then stand up and be counted.

Our colleagues on the other side who have resisted going along with a plan that is advantageous prescription drugs should be commended, should be supported. But even if Democrats and valiant Republicans on that side who believe with us fail, we should at least have the opportunity in this body to vote on the plans that we believe in, that we have gone back to our districts and talked about with our constituents who are crying out to us for help.
The Hartford Current concluded that this issue should be taken up. This is a match that cannot be postponed, because so many senior citizens have in this country. So I commend the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) again for his efforts in this, and again thank our colleagues on the other side for at least now having the temerity to bring the issue forward. I disagree with their privatization attempt. I think it is wrong. I think it is an unbelievable situation that people in the insurance and HMO industry understand as well; but I do think it is important that we vote this issue up or down and have an opportunity to examine side by side what the programs will offer.

And one last thing, because the paper concluded that the costs might be too high. We have gone through a horrific time in this Nation since September the 11th. I commend the President of the United States for bringing us together, for having us focus as communities, as a Nation, calling upon Americans to sacrifice as we move forward. But this Greatest Generation lived through the first day of infamy back on December 7, 1941; and now having lived through a second day of infamy on September the 11th, they should not be made to be the only people making sacrifices here. So when we say there is not the money there to assist these people, that is an outrage of course, money, and that means freezing the tax cuts that we have put forward 10 years out, then that is what we should do on behalf of these citizens who have given so much to their Nation. Minimally, we owe them the opportunity to live out their final days in the dignity that we would want for each and every one of our parents.

I commend the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. PALLONE. I want to thank my colleague from Connecticut, Mr. Speaker, because he raises so many really good issues, and I just want to key in on a couple of them, if I could.

The gentleman mentioned the Hartford paper talking about the cost of the plans. I have said it so many times, and the gentleman basically touched upon it as well tonight, that it is not only that seniors deserve a prescription drug benefit, but it also makes sense from the point of view of taxpayers. Talk about the fact, as the gentleman said, that, first of all, it could easily be paid for by simply postponing some of these tax cuts that primarily went for the wealthy and for corporate interests. We are not even talking about now. We are talking about in the outyears, 10 or 12 years from now.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Exactly.

Mr. PALLONE. The second thing is what the Republicans have done with these tax cuts, of course, is to drive us back into debt where we are now using the Medicare and Social Security trust funds to pay for daily operating expenses of the Federal Government. I would much rather see the Medicare trust fund used for a Medicare benefit, like prescription drugs, rather than to run the country, because that is not what it is for. It is supposed for the Medicare program.

The last thing, and in many ways the most important, is the fact that we provide a generous benefit under Medicare, and we are not proposing anything that is out of line. We are just taking what Part A of Medicare pays for the hospital bills, and Part B pays for the doctor bills. And right now if an individual wants their doctor bills paid for, they pay a premium, I think it is like $45 a month, with a $100 a year deductible, and 80 percent of the cost of the doctor bills are paid for by the Federal Government.

Well, we are doing the same thing with our bill. Our bill says we will create a low-cost drug plan, which pays only $25 per month for their premium, they have a $100 deductible, and 80 percent of the cost of their drug bills, up to $2,000, is paid for by the Federal Government. After that, it is 100 percent.

This is not rocket science here. This is just the same old, same old Medicare, but now using the same principle used for paying doctors we are now using to pay for prescription drugs.

The problem is, as the gentleman said, and I will go to the second point the gentleman made that I wanted to mention, is that we came up with a simple proposal under Medicare, and Medicare has worked for 35 years; and yet the Republicans say we cannot do that. They do not want to continue and extend Medicare; they want to give money to the private insurance companies in the hopes that somehow they will provide a benefit. But they do not define what they do not say how much is to be paid for the benefit. We do not even know if they will offer the benefit.

And as the gentleman says, most of the insurance companies and the trade associations are saying they do not want to provide it. No one can go out and buy a drug-only policy now, so why would they provide a benefit? We do not even know if they will offer the benefit.

So the biggest concern we have as Democrats, and the main reason we think the Republican bill is a sham, is because these policies are not going to be sold. And if they were to be sold, we calculate that the benefit to the average senior is about 20 percent of the cost of their drug bill. So who would even pay $35, $45, $50, whatever the premium is per month, to get only 20 percent of their drug bill paid for?

So the whole thing really is just a sham. It really is. I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. It is not practical. And I do not want to say this, because I hail from a part of the country that has a deep understanding of insurance and a deep understanding of risk management and spreading risk over a large population; but actuarially and from an underwriting perspective, when they take a look at trying to underwrite the very day those who would opt in to a voluntary program, by its very nature it sets up an adverse selection.

So, therefore, to price this would be very difficult. If they are further forced to price it artificially, we have all seen what has happened to HMOs across the country when this happens. They pull out of the program and the elderly are left without insurance or, in this case, look at the benefits that they provide for their seniors.

My dad, God rest his soul, and the gentleman reminded me of something that he would say all the time when he was addressing the fairness of this issue, especially when we look not only here in this country but into our immediate borders, but also when we look all across the industrialized world and define what the benefits that they provide for their seniors.

My dad used to give his lectures to the family. He would, on Sunday afternoon dinners, and usually by evoking the holy family’s name, but always talking about how great the country was and how we had risen to be the pre-eminent military, social culture, and economic leader in the world. Then he would turn to my mother and say, “But look at the benefit that is offered to the very people we defeated in the Second World War. We defeated the Germans and the Japanese; and then we, as only this country would do, turned around and rebuilt and restored those nations that they were once our competitors today. He would turn to my mother and say, “Look at the benefits that they have; look what they offer their people. And he would say, “Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, Pauline, who won the war.”

His point was that their countries valued the service of their citizens more than our country. And while we all know how much we value the great service, because clearly we have chronicled it, as I have said earlier, in books and in movies and on talk shows, but the proof ultimately is in the legislation and the policy that we write here.

If we care about those veterans that served so valiantly, if we care about our aging population, then what we should do is provide them with the benefit that they have richly earned.

This is not an entitlement in the sense that it is something that we are handing out. This is something that has been more than paid for by the sacrifice of a generation who made us what we are today. For us at this point in time, at this historic moment to turn our backs on our elderly in their time of need is just outright wrong.
That is why I have come to the floor so many nights along with the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) to express our concern. All I am asking is that we get an opportunity to vote on the plan that we believe is in the best interest of the citizens and taxpayers of our country. Let them stand side by side, and let them go through the test of being under the bright lights, and then let people across this country decide what truly is the best plan.

Mr. Speaker, as the gentleman said, we do have an option to vote on the issue and debate the issue over the next few days, and in the context of that we do have the Democratic alternative or other options, certainly.

Mr. Speaker, if I can spend a little time talking about some of the reasons that we have seen in the media over the last 24 hours why there may be as many as 20 or 30 of our colleagues on the Republican side who are not willing to vote for this Republican bill. I think what we sort of articulated already the general reason, which is that this Republican bill is not a Medicare benefit. It is not guaranteed to anyone because it is not the Committee on Rules is going to decide what truly is the best plan. And then let people across this country stand side by side, and let them go through the test of being under the bright lights, and then let people across this country decide what truly is the best plan.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend those valiant Republicans that we saw a member of my delegation, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. GANSKE), stand up and do the right thing in terms of campaign finance reform. I saw a member of my delegation, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS), stand up along with many Republicans on that side and do the right thing in terms of campaign finance reform. We have seen this happen before. We saw it with campaign finance reform. I saw a member of my delegation, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS), stand up along with many Republicans on that side and do the right thing in terms of campaign finance reform. We have seen the same thing in the Patients’ Bill of Rights. We saw the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. GANSKE) stand up and do the right thing, and the Patients’ Bill of Rights was achieved. We have an opportunity here if we come together and are able to examine these various proposals side by side and then vote on them.

I believe in my heart of hearts, and I have no illusions that many people around the country are listening to the dialogue between the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and myself, but for those that are and can still contact and call people in their respective States to tell them just how important this is, to have a vote, to deny people to have an opportunity of benefit. The one thing that was interesting to me was not only was every amendment on price struck down by the Republicans, but during the markup we realized that they had actually put in a section in the bill that was entitled noninterference. I am not going to read all of it, but this title specifically says, in carrying out the administrator of the prescription drug program’s duties, it says that, “The administrator may not require or institute a price structure for the reimbursement of covered outpatient drugs. The administrator may not put something in affirmatively to address price, but the Republican bill does not allow the administrator of the program to do anything to affect price. So they clearly, totally go down the road of what the pharmaceutical companies say and do not deal with the price issue at all.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Connecticut. Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. And yet they have a great opportunity. I want to commend those valiant Republicans who have stood up to their leadership. I will not use the Member’s name who said, I have to choose between my leadership and the senior citizens that I represent. We have seen this happen before. We saw it with campaign finance reform. I saw a member of my delegation, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS), stand up along with many Republicans on that side and do the right thing in terms of campaign finance reform. We saw the same thing in the Patients’ Bill of Rights. We saw the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. GANSKE) stand up and do the right thing, and the Patients’ Bill of Rights was achieved. We have an opportunity here if we come together and are able to examine these various proposals side by side and then vote on them.

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Mr. Speaker, this says at the same time the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. EMMERSON), who supports the amendment of the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) and those valiant Republicans. Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, this says at the same time the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. EMMERSON), who supports the amendment of the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) and wants to add a measure she is sponsoring to make it more difficult for brand-name drug companies to delay the market entry of generic medications.

Again, that is something that is in the Democratic substitute. As the gentleman knows, if there is a patent exclusivity for a period of time, then of course, the company that develops and gets the patent has an exclusive right. To be honest, something like 50 percent of the brand-name drugs are under patent right now, exclusivity, and therefore we cannot bring a generic to market. That basically inflates the price of the prescription drug.

What happens is when those patents run out, the pharmaceutical companies...
use all kinds of gimmicks to try to delay the generic coming to market. That is what the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) has a bill, and some of that language is included in our Democratic substitute that affects those loopholes. Again, this is a pricing issue. Because if we bring generics to market, we reduce the cost of prescription drugs.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. EMERSON) is absolutely right. I think what is also compelling about the Democratic initiative is the ability, and I think people understand this readily, to be able to leverage the great buying power that the Federal Government would have in terms of initiating a program under Medicare.

Currently, whether you are a large corporation, whether you are the Federal Government itself, or whether you are a large labor union, you have the opportunity to buy directly from pharmaceutical companies and leverage deep discounts in order to make prescription drugs more affordable. Medicare is a Federal program. Medicare would provide us with an opportunity to have large volumes that will allow us to leverage and bring down the cost, just like every other western industrialized country in the world is able to do. This makes common sense.

I commend our colleagues on the other side of the aisle who understand at the heart of this issue is price and getting the cost down here and being able to have a program that is affordable, that is accessible, and will be ready available and, most importantly, workable for our seniors. Again, that is why I commend the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) for his efforts.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I am going to just mention one more Republican who I think knows more than much here. It is interesting to see that some are standing up to their leadership. This one is the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PETERSON) who said he absolutely would vote against the measure unless more money is included for rural hospitals. He said once pharmacy is a part of Medicare, there will be no extra cash any more.

What he is referencing is the problem for rural areas because, as the gentleman from Missouri pointed out, there is a concern that those loopholes that do not offer, do not have benefits, we do not have HMOs in a lot of rural areas, the same problem will exist here because you do not have a guaranteed Medicare benefit. It is unlikely in a lot of rural areas there would be any kind of private drug plan offered because that is what the Republicans are saying. The concern is that rural areas will be left out, and there will be no insurance policies for them to buy.

The other thing is with regard to the pharmacies that are located in rural areas. What would happen with a private insurance plan, just like with HMOs, they will decide what vehicle to use to dispense the drugs. They may use a large chain or may decide to do it through mail order and not through the local pharmacy. There is a real problem with those in rural areas, our colleagues who are concerned about whether any benefit would be available at a local pharmacy. A company would not sell in those areas. Or, secondly, if there is one, it will operate like an HMO and will exclude any kind of dispensing of medicine from the local pharmacy.

Of course, in our bill do the opposite. We say this is a Medicare-guaranteed benefit, and you can go to any pharmacy or any outlet to buy the medicine.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON).

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, again, I thank the gentleman for pointing out the many Republicans on the other side who understand this.

This is an age-old battle between Democrats and Republicans and why I feel it is so important that we vote side by side on the differences between the proposals and the Republicans who have come forward with their own concepts and are focused on pricing, because they are among the feew and the brave and the valiant who are willing to go against their own conventional wisdom.

Roosevelt said it best during the struggles to bring Social Security to the forefront. He was amazed at the time that Republicans seemed to be, as he said, frozen in the ice of their own indifference to what the policies they would perpetrate would do to the American public. Frozen in the ice of their indifference to what their proposals would do to a Nation that is crying out for relief. That is why their Members who are standing up and saying Medicare works; and the best way to provide this prescription drug benefit, really the only way in the system that we have, is for the government to expand Medicare to include prescription drugs, which is what we are advocating.

Again, I do not know whether it is the ideology or, maybe going back to what I said at the beginning, it is just by the money that the Republican leadership is not able to do what works for the American people. The Democrats are simply saying Medicare works; and the best way to provide this prescription drug benefit, really the only way in the system that we have, is for the government to expand Medicare to include prescription drugs, which is what we are advocating.

CORPORATE GREED, THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND COLORADO FIRES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. MCINNIS) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I have a number of subjects of which I wish to cover this evening. Of course, having the opportunity to come over and wait for my time allotment to speak to the Members here, you get to listen to the people that preceded you speaking. The gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is a very capable individual and speaks very well. There is only one point I want to make clear about his conversations.

At the beginning of his remarks, he expressed some dismay that the Republican leadership may not be able to bring up the prescription care bill, the Medicare bill, this week. He was very discouraged by that. He talked about and gave some examples of people that needed prescription assistance and senior citizens and their trials and tribulations that they go through, of which of course we would all agree with.

What he did not point out was the fact that none of the Democrats want to help us. So there is a reason that that bill cannot come to the floor, and that is because we do not have bipartisan cooperation. The Republicans have asked the Democrats for a regular briefing and help us. Prescription care is a serious problem in this country. We have got to come up with some type of solution. We prefer to come up
with a bipartisan solution. Prescription care problems out there in our society do not happen to just Republicans. The ability or lack of ability to pay for prescription services does not just happen to Democrats. It happens to all people in our country. That is why it is necessary for bipartisan support.

But, unfortunately, this is an election year; and with November not very far away and with the Democrats vowing that they will make prescription care services their main issue to try and defeat the Republicans, they find within their own conferences no incentive to cooperate. This thing is being driven by politics, and that is exactly why we get criticism of the Republicans not bringing it up.

The reason is Republicans do not have the numbers. They need some help from the Democrats. But there is no way in an election year that the Democrats are going to help us with prescription services. One, they do not want the issue resolved before November. They do not want the Republicans to get the credit for having solved the big problem in this country, so they will do whatever they can to resist cooperation. While on one hand they will not cooperate, they turn around on the other hand and blame us for not bringing that bill to the floor.

So I would suggest to my good friends on the Democratic side, come on, let us be a little less partisan about this. Help us. Work with us. That is what we are asking for.

But that is not the intent of my speaking to you this evening. I really want to cover three separate subjects. I want to talk, of course, about the outrageous decision made today by the Ninth Circuit in California about the fact that America now must hang its head in disgrace because our Pledge of Allegiance, which we have declared unconstitutional, unconstitutionally, by a Federal appeals court.

That is no low-level court. That is a very high court in our country. It has had the audacity to come out and take the most recognized symbol in the world and the Pledge of Allegiance to that symbol and to that country, in a time of war, in a time when every other country in the world encourages its children in its schools, in its institution of public domain, encourages their civilizations to engage in religious practice, that this court finds it necessary for the United States to see that its Pledge of Allegiance is unconstitutional because it mentions the name God. We will talk a little about that.

I want to talk about the fires in Colorado. In fact, I have got a poster. I want to talk a little about the fire damage in Colorado, the fires and what is going on. During those discussions, I am going to point out, so that you have some proportion of the damage in Colorado, Colorado is not burning as a State. The great majority, 99 and some percent, of Colorado is not on fire. 99.9 percent of the State of Colorado is open for tourism; and if you want the greatest deal of the summer, you go to Colorado, because there are a lot of deals out there. There are a lot of opportunities.

Colorado is a very gorgeous State. Of course, I am very proud of it. My family on my side and on my wife’s side, we have multiple generations in Colorado. I could talk about Colorado all evening, but I wanted to put at in some proper place and we will hold that at this map to my left. I will give you a little idea of exactly what we are talking about.

But are we not going to move that map yet because I want to also talk this evening about corporate greed, this WorldCom stuff, Kmart, Global Crossing, Xerox Corporation, Tyco Corporation, and now maybe even our favorite, Martha Stewart. What is going on out there in the corporate world? What are the priorities of these people? What are they doing to our society? What are they doing to that credibility gap which is a foundation of the economic cycle of this country, of the economic principles of this country?

It depends on integrity from people who manage these companies and people who oversee the management of the company, i.e., the board of directors. We are uncovering stone after stone after stone after stone in corporate America, and what are we finding? We are finding corporate self-serving greed, not greed in a healthy capitalistic fashion but greed in a way that it is criminal. I intend to spend some time on that this evening, too. I intend to talk very specifically about what I think some of the solutions are. When I think of the thing that is going on out there, it makes me think of a four-letter word. That is what I think of when I think of corporate greed. I think of one word, J-A-I-L, jail. That is exactly what I am thinking about. That is exactly where some of these corporate executives ought to be. That is exactly where those corporate boards of directors ought to be. That is exactly what I am thinking about.

I am not trying to jump into these remarks too early, but let me tell you something. If you were an employee with Kmart Corporation or you were an employee with Enron Corporation or Tyco Corporation, or let us go back to Kmart. Let us say you are just a sales clerk at Kmart, at one of their stores and you stole a candy bar. You stole a candy bar from Kmart, from your employer, you stuck it in your pocket, a candy bar, and walked out of the store with it. Up to this point in time, you would suffer more repercussions for stealing a candy bar as an employee of Kmart Corporation than will those executive of Kmart Corporation who under the threat of millions and millions of dollars and then took a corporate board action and forgave the loans to themselves and then filed bankruptcy on behalf of the corporation. Think about that. There are people that will get in more trouble stealing a candy bar or a magazine or a tool from one of these retailers than will the CEOs.

Let us take, for example, WorldCom. If you steal long distance services from WorldCom, let us say you steal $100 worth of long distance services from WorldCom Corporation. You are going to get in more trouble than the chief executive, Bernie Evers, got in trouble; and he got a $550 million loan from the board of directors, $350 million of which he will never be able to pay back.

It is unbelievable, and the American economic society is suffering as a result. We have got to bring the hammer down on these executives, and we have got to bring it down hard and heavy. We have got to make it so that every prosecutor in this country, every U.S. attorney in this country when they think of these chief executives, they think of that four letter word, J-A-I-L, jail.

Let me start back and let me talk about in a little more detail some of these subjects. First of all, let me talk about the flag. I, like many millions and millions and millions of Americans today, was stunned, stunned, that a Federal appeals court, that two judges could bring this country to its knees by saying that this country’s Pledge of Allegiance, a pledge that every child in this country has said, that every school in this country and every school this country has ever had has been said within its four walls is unconstitutional because it has the words “under God” contained within its four corners.

You think about this decision. What is next? That ought to be the logical question. We have these liberal judges. By the way, you take the most liberal Member of this House Chamber, and these judges make those liberal Members of this House Chamber look like they are right-wing conservatives.

The Ninth Circuit is an island of its own as known in the legal circles. I practiced law. I was an attorney. The Ninth Circuit has always been known as kind of an island of its own, but, nonetheless, it is still a Federal appeals court. So you have to ask yourself, okay, somebody that wants to stir up trouble, what is the next logical thing for this court in California to declare unconstitutional?

Could it be the crosses at Arlington National Cemetery or the crosses at every military cemetery in this country? Is it unconstitutional because the cross is seen as a symbol of Christianity and we find it on Federal property; we find it on every grave of every military person and their spouses and, in some cases, their children, who have served this country? Do the liberal judges, do we think that is logical? Of course it is logical. And of course it is something that now, something that
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Mr. Speaker, I bet these judges, if you are true to principle, you should refuse this cash. You should not take American money. It has the words, "In God We Trust." It is unconstitutional. You should uphold the judiciary of this fine land. You, after all, are the ones who made the earth-shattering decision that the Pledge of Allegiance in the United States was unconstitutional. I would not be the only person who steps forward for the benefits of American cash, because after all, that has "In God We Trust" and that would be offensive to the decision that you made.

But, of course, they will not hear of that; and of course, they will take their money on July 1 as they snicker about the decision that they handed down to the American people today.

I should know. I am a lawyer. Granted, since I have been in Congress, I have not practiced law. Granted, I am not a constitutional lawyer, although I studied the Constitution. I would not be considered as a judicial scholar, by any means. But what kind of scholar does one have to be to say the judicial system in this country, back off? How far, how hard do you want to push this Nation? In a time of war, in a time when this Nation needs to be unified, do we know what happens? These judges have their jobs as a result of these soldiers, as a result of the citizens of this country.

Now, I know, I know the arguments. Look, I used to be a cop. I heard the defense attorneys, and I know tomorrow the American Civil Liberties Union and some of these other people will stand up and talk about the bravery of these judges, the Constitution, popular opinion, as if popular opinion is always wrong; to stand up against popular opinion and say, the Pledge of Allegiance was unconstitutional, and somehow they want a feather in their cap and a badge on their vest. Mr. Speaker, there comes a time when we ought to consider the circumstances in our Nation. There comes a time when we have to say, why do we need to take this issue on? As if there is nothing more important in this world going on; as if this is the psychological blow that the American people need right now, and that is to tell them that when their children go to school, it is taboo for their children to say the Pledge of Allegiance to the finest country in the history of the world, the strongest country on the face of the Earth. I do not mean just strong militarily. I mean strong as far as what it does for other countries; strong as far as what it does for the poor people in this world. It does for its contributions of inventions, of mechanical inventions, of medical inventions, of medicine, of prescriptive services. I mean think about this.

Mr. Speaker, what are these judges? They are elitists. They are in a ivory tower out there in California, and they take for granted the fact of the hundreds of thousands of American soldiers who have died throughout the history of our country to keep this country free. I would like my colleagues to show me one soldier tomorrow that is going to say to us that their children, that children should not say the Pledge of Allegiance, that our Pledge of Allegiance is unconstitutional.

Now, I do take some reluctance in criticizing the judges’ opinion. I think the judiciary has to have some flexibility. But by God, and I said that word just a minute ago, because I mean it. I hope He is not paying too much attention; or He or She or whoever that God is, I hope they are not paying much attention as to what these judges in our country did today. I hope the patriotism that all of these hundreds of thousands of our soldiers have died and the patriotic cause for which they gave their lives, or maybe not their lives, but gave their career; or maybe not their career, but gave some time in their lives to go to bat for this country, I wonder what they are thinking today about why these judges did not go to bat for our country, why these judges have to stretch the law so far, so extreme. This is such a liberal interpretation of this that they would have the audacity or maybe the ignorance or maybe just the naivete of a Nation as great as this Nation, as a part of this Nation, which has given them everything they have, by the way;
In an ivory tower they begin to think more and more and bigger and bigger of themselves, and the next thing we know they give another judgment. Do not be surprised. There will be before too long, I am confident of it, some judgment will fill the courts that the crucifix, the cross used in our national cemeteries is unconstitutional because it is a symbol of Christianity or a symbol used related to God. Do not be surprised. Although they will use the money, spend the money for their own need, but they come out and say every American coin, every American dollar that says “In God We Trust” ought to be declared unconstitutional, that our money is unconstitutional.

Mr. Speaker, back during the Cold War, I think it was Nikita Khruschev that said with America, all we have to do is be patient and give them enough rope, and they will hang themselves. Give them enough rope, and they will hang themselves. They do not have to hang themselves, they will hang themselves. Give these elitists enough rope, and they will hang themselves. Give these elitists that declare our Pledge of Allegiance as unconstitutional, just give them enough authority and enough jurisprudence, and pretty soon they will divide their own country.

Many countries throughout the world are amused by this. These countries that hate us: Iraq, Iran, North Korea, think we are like Paynter’s countries. They are overjoyed. They look and they see within the family, one of the most respected symbols of the family, of the American family, the family is split. They are probably as surprised as we are; but they are smiling, they are elated, they cannot believe their good luck that the American family is being split, not by outside members, but by members within the family itself, these elitist judges. Those judges should be ashamed.

Mr. Speaker, I did not think when I went to law school, I never thought throughout my time as practicing law, which I practiced for 10 years, I never thought when I represented the fine States of Colorado in the State House of Representatives, nor did I imagine that being on the House floor of the United States Congress, a privilege and an honor for me, that I would be standing in front of my colleagues talking about these things, that I would be talking about the disgrace they have brought about to our country. I hope that the generations and generations of their families from now, assuming that this country survives over a long period of time, I hope that their families will look back someday upon the words of my record this evening and understand my anger and my disgrace directed towards them for the decision they made today.

Mr. Speaker, this is not emotionally driven. This is driven by my intense love and my intense belief that this country has to have a guiding light, and that guiding light is not only a supreme being that all of us may or may not believe in or the type of supreme being that one believes in, but a guiding light driven by a sense of patriotism, a guiding light driven by a flag, by a symbol, a guiding light driven by a President with integrity, a guiding light driven by the Pledge of Allegiance.

What is wrong with singing a National Anthem? Mr. Speaker, that is probably next, for some reason. These are all tools, tools of protection of democracy; tools that make people come together as a team; tools that excite us about our Nation, that are used to encourage us to redelegate time and time and time again our belief in this fine country. And yet tonight, a couple of judges at a Federal court trash it. I am stunned, disappointed, and even disappointed beyond the point of being angry, but I am ashamed of what these judges have done.

Let me move on to an entirely different subject, the subject of fire and the fires in Colorado. First of all, I will tell my colleagues that my district consists primarily of all of the mountains of Colorado. There are a few mountains that are out of it, but most of the mountains in Colorado are in that district and will remain in that district after redistricting. Our district in Colorado, it is the third district, the highest district in elevation, highest place in the country when you take the elevation. I am pointing out a few of these things because we are having pretty serious problems with a drought out in Colorado.

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We do have serious fires. We have had a horrible fire in Durango, Colorado. Yesterday we got a second fire in Durango, Colorado, just across the road; and it was from another origin, another cause. It was caused by an entirely different source. We have a terrible fire near Denver, we have a terrible fire near Glenwood Springs. That fire got the best of us; that fire, somehow all the mountains are on fire, and that Colorado is a dangerous place to visit. I will tell the Members that on its face is inaccurate.

I have to my left, and I would like to go through this map, what this map does is shows Colorado fire damage. The black spots on this map will show Members where there has been fire damage.

Members have heard about the size of these fires. They are huge. We have heard about them. But when we put it in proportion to the entire State of Colorado, these are not the size areas we imagine by seeing all the pictures that we see in the national press.

Here is that massive, massive fire called the Hayman fire near Denver, Colorado. That fire is about 70 percent contained, meaning that we are 70 percent around it. We are going to whip that fire. That fire got the best of us for a few days. But all the publicity Members heard, that is where that fire is. That fire does not have any national parks affected. It has pined forest. We have closed part of that national forest down.

We have numerous national forests that are still open for the public that are not affected by this fire. We have numerous national parks that are not affected by this fire that are open for the public. We have thousands and thousands of tours and attractions, tourist attractions, that are not affected by this fire that are open.

In fact, if Members want to visit this black spot, of which I would guess, of the people who visit in Colorado, probably less than one ten-thousandth of a percent of the visitors that come to our State every year would camp or be in these particular areas to visit. Members’ visit or vacation to Colorado would not in all likelihood be in any of these black areas of Colorado.

Durango is down here in this black area. It probably is not a very accurate depiction. I am looking for a date. This is 3 days old. This map is 3 days old, so Durango would be down in this area about right over here where this little black mark is right here. That is the Durango fire. That black mark has grown. But Durango, the City of Durango, has not burned down. Durango, City of Durango, is to go visit Colorado, go have a vacation over there.

There are lots of things that can be done, and we can help the State and help Durango. Durango needs our help. Why? Not because the city has burned. It has not burned at all. It needs our help because the perception out there is that we ought to cancel our vacations to Colorado.

In fact, one of our State newspapers ran an article to say, hey, come back next year. That on its face is an absurd statement. As I said, 99 and some percent of this State is unaffected by those black marks, and the majority of the black marks, for example, in Glenwood Springs, for example, in Glenwood Springs, I do not think, and I am from there, I was born and raised there so I know the fire pattern very well, I do not think one campground in Glenwood Springs was closed this fire, or is closed as a result of this fire. I might be off by one. But there is so much area around Glenwood Springs. This is the flatop region. Look at all this area. There are hundreds and hundreds of thousands of square miles, or, excuse me, hundreds and hundreds, millions of acres and hundreds of thousands of square miles, I guess would be
correct, that we can go visit and camp and these attractions that we can go to.

Let me explain what got us to the fire situation that we are in. First of all, keep in mind the dryness and the drought. What we have had is that we have had a large accumulation of dead forest material, and we call that material fuel. It drops off the trees, for example, and it accumulates on the forest floor.

Now, nature, frankly, before the Native American people occupied, nature used to take care of these forests because they were what we could truly call at that point natural forests, and fire would rage on a consistent basis throughout much of the United States. In fact, to give a little history, in the 1900s, 1910, 1920, and really this is what led to the birth of Smokey the Bear, that is, we would, on an annual basis, have 50 million acres, up to 50 million acres a year that would burn in this country.

Last year, for example, I think we had 3 million acres burn, because we have become much better at fire suppression. Our acreage, and because we have really educated the public about the dangers of fire, instead of losing 50 million acres a year, we are losing much closer to 3 to 5 million acres a year, which means over a period of time 45 million acres a year is not being cleared out by fire, so we have fuel.

It is like trash in the home. Over time, it accumulates; and, over time, it becomes a hazard. That is what has happened on our forest floors. We have not been able to get in there for a number of reasons, the least of which or the not the least of which is the environmental movements, which have opposed, because they are so emotionally driven against logging.

And, by the way, Colorado is not even a logging State. I am not sure we have a large commercial sawmill left in Colorado. But they are so emotionally driven by logging and their hatred towards logging that they have used these emotional arguments and their educational efforts to try and stop the thinning of the forests. Now, of course, after the fire they cannot wait to get up there and say, Oh, no, we support thinning of forests, but look at the facts, and they have contributed to it.

I am saying that these radical organizations, these radical environmental organizations, are the cause of the fire. I am not saying that they are the only contributing factor to the fire. But what I am saying is, do not let them leave the table. Bring them back to the table, because they did contribute. Their actions, instead of allowing our forest service to manage our forests based on science, they have engineered and financed and engaged in a very sophisticated educational effort to have our forests managed by emotion, not by science.

We have to come back to science. We need to let the people who specialize, who are educated, who grow up in it, who work it every day, our Forest Service, our BLM people, these Federal biologists, we need to let them manage these forests. We need to follow their advice, instead of going out to the public as a whole and driving emotional flames in the back of these agencies. I hope these fires wake some of these people up.

But putting the environmental issue aside, I also want to say to my fellow homeowners in the mountains, I have had some of my colleagues who have come up to me and said, look, why do you guys live up there? Why do you live in those mountains? Why do you live out there where there are trees that can burn up?

I said, wait a minute, why do you have trees in your yard in the big cities? That is where we live. It is our home. It has been our home for many, many years; generations in my family’s situation and in my wife’s family, too. But not tell us to move from where we lived since the 1860s and where our Native American people have lived for several hundred years. That is our home.

But we do have a responsibility, fellow homeowners out there, and that is to take care of our own properties. Every one of us who lives out there in what we call the urban interface, where the homes start to come into these forests around ponderosa pine or things like that, we need to put some money and put some investment in the protection of our home.

I frankly do not think it is going to take government regulations to force us to do it. What I think is going to force us to do it out there are the homeowners insurance companies. They are going to say, with some justification, we are not going to ensure your home unless we get a check-off that your home has been treated, that the trees around your home have been trimmed back, that you do not have a ponderosa pine tree up against your house, that you have done the proper trimming, treating, and cleaned out the pine needles, and so on, and then we will ensure your home against fire. So that is something we can do for the future.

But what are the dangers we are seeing this year in this fire season? Why is everything so explosive? Not everything of one of the fires, do we see fires so intense, so intense they sterilize the soil?

And these people that tell us, well, this fire in Durango or the Hayman fires, these are good for the environment. It is not good for the environment. These are horrible fires. In Durango, it rained dead birds. We had birds falling out of the skies, flying into the gases. We had smoke plumes 50,000 feet in the air. We have soil that is so hot that it has been, as I said, it has not been the soil that is good for planting. It is so hard, the water is just going to run right off it. It will not go in it anymore. It has been scorched to that point. These fires are not good for us.

These fires are burning with an intensity that we have not seen in recorded history. These fires are burning at a rate that is incredible. Yesterday’s second fire in Durango was 20,000 acres in 24 hours. Think of four football fields in 4 minutes burning; starting at one point, not multiple points, but starting in one point and going through 20 football fields, approximately an acre, going through 20 football fields in 4 minutes. There is a reason that is happening.

The other thing that concerns us about the fire season that we are facing this year is that it is so early in the season. We do not usually see these kinds of fires of this intensity this early in the season.

The other concern we have, as I mentioned earlier, the district that I represent, is the highest elevation on the continent. We do not have fires above 9,000 feet this early in the season. Our Nation, for the first time since we have had a level 5, which is the highest level of alert for firefighting that we can go to, for the first time in the history of this area we have gone on July 28.

Now it is not uncommon to go to a level 5 alert system on our fires. We did it, I think, the fire year 2000. But what is uncommon is to go so early.

So there are a lot of challenges we face in Colorado, but I will tell the Members, what would really hurt Colorado was for tourists, for people who wanted to come visit what is one of the most beautiful States, one of the most beautiful geographical locations in the world, to cancel their visits this summer and decide to come next year.

I am telling the Members, there are a lot of people that would hurt very, very badly if people just decided not to come to Colorado this year. I would say, for the families, have lost their homes. Fortunately, the loss of life has been minimized, although last weekend not far from my house we lost five firefighters in a car accident, which brings me to the point: I want everybody to wear their seatbelts. It was a tragic loss, young people.

In fact, it was interesting, one of the faces of one of the fires, do you know something, these bastards, they will not let us timber these forests, but they expect us to send our young men and women in there to fight these fires. So there is some bitterness out there.

But I want to help ease this pain, it is the same thing that we talked about after September 11 to help New York City ease its pain: Go visit New York City. Go visit Colorado.

Again, I want to refocus on this map to my left. The areas that have burned out, the areas where the fires are, and they were burned out as of 2 days ago, are indicated by the black marks. If we put all of the black marks together,
follow my finger here to the left, we probably would have an area about like this, and the rest of the State is green.

So do not think for a moment that all of Colorado is burning, that it looks like a desert of burnt-out ash. It is not that at all. We have our problems, and we have some fire crews are working on them, and we need your help. But the best thing you can do to help us, outside of your prayers, is to come visit us in Colorado. Go ahead with your scheduled vacation. I urge Members to do it, and I think the people for the State where I am asking for consideration to come out to Colorado and help us this year. Of any year we have needed some help, we are asking for it now.

Let me move on to my final subject of the evening. I will talk about some of the principles of American economics. Now, I am not an economics scholar. I do have a degree in business administration. I have enjoyed business all my life. I read everything I can about business, and I think I am studied on it, but I certainly am not a scholastic professor or talented, maybe, necessarily. But I do understand some principles.

And some of the principles that we have in business in this country, really, our capitalist system works pretty well, but when you really take a look at the capitalist system, there is one part of the foundation, we have a couple of parts of foundation that are important for the building to stand. One of them is the judiciary, the enforcement of contracts in this country. The other is the free flow of commerce. Another foundation pillar would be interstate commerce, the ability to do business from one State to the other.

But in the center of all of this, one of the pillars of the foundation for our capitalist system works pretty well, but when you really take a look at the capitalistic system, there is one part of the foundation, we have a couple of parts of foundation that are important for the building to stand. One of them is the judiciary, the enforcement of contracts in this country. The other is the free flow of commerce. Another foundation pillar would be interstate commerce, the ability to do business from one State to the other.

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Fastow, you heard about Andrew Fastow. F-A-S-T-O-W, sets up secret partnerships, pays himself $40 million. And I am telling you today, so far at this point in time, if you stole a candy bar or you stole a magazine at the magazine store up the street here from the Capitol, you would be being more consequences than this Andrew Fastow who worked for Enron Corporation is suffering for stealing 35 or $50 million that he paid himself as a salary. He does not call it stealing. He says, look, I earned it. I went out and did a little work for a couple of months and should have got paid $40 million. By the way I did not bother to tell anybody about it because I wanted it to be a secret.

By the way, I was a big art donor and down there in Texas I gave lots to charity and stuff so leave me alone. You know what? Andrew ought to spend a long time in that four letter word I used earlier on, J-A-I-L, jail. He ought to spend time there. He is going to be on that Monopoly card when he bets everybody else’s money. And he not only bets their money, he takes their money for his own self-serving purposes. He ought to pull that card every time he reaches into that deck, he ought to pull out that card that says you ought to go straight to jail. He ought to go straight to jail. And that is not the only one at Enron. We all know about the Ken Lays and some of the other mismanagement that went on.

Take a look at the bonuses they paid to their executives. They paid some of their executives millions and millions of dollars to stay with the company after the news broke about the corruption of the company. And some of these executive officers took their millions of dollars in bonuses and walked away 30 days later. And how many thousands of employees of Enron now are losing houses because they cannot make payments? How many of these kids are going to have to not send their kids to the colleges they all dreamed of? How many of these 17,000 employees that got laid off today at WorldCom lose their dreams because Bernie Ebbers got a $350 million loan from the corporation while they drove the corporation into the ground as a result of a $4 billion fraud.

It does not stop there. Take a look at Xerox Corporation. Who could have ever imagined that Xerox would find itself in this situation? Take a look at Global Crossing and the executives at Tyco, as well as our favorite, Martha Stewart, all fly around in private jets. This has not hurt many of these people. You think Andrew Fastow down there in Texas is flying commercial? No, he is probably flying private and living like the king down there, having taken all this money.

How many of those people that work for Enron are flying around like that? They are lucky to go to a garage sale to try and sell some of the things they have. Let me go on because it does not stop just at Global Crossing.

How interesting that WorldCom today had as its auditor Arthur Andersen. Ever heard that name before, Arthur Andersen? I can tell you, instead of bringing the corporation down, I do not understand why we did not go to those specific auditors that are responsible for the obstruction of justice, that are responsible for the malfeasance in Enron audits and now WorldCom audits and take those auditors and send them to jail, give them that four-letter word, give them that card in the Monopoly game that says you go straight to jail. It is not happening.

I got a little encouragement today when President Bush, and you know how he is when he announces a commitment, when he sets his eyes on something. He goes for it; and I think he is committed.

I would hope the Members of the U.S. House, both Republican and Democrat, come on board and clean the system of the dirt that we have got in there. This dirt is in our filter, and this filter is important for our engine to run. Our economic engine needs clean filters. We have got to take the time to slow the engine down enough, although it has been slowed down because the filter is too dirty. We have got to pull those filters out, and we have got to get the dirt out of the filters.

The dirt means that we go after people like the WorldCom that have taken this money, that have committed these acts of larceny and crime against the people of America and their stockholders, and it does not stop there. Look at Tyco Corporation, look at the lawyer for Tyco Corporation. I used to practice law. This lawyer made an agreement, had their board of directors approve an agreement that if he was convicted of a felony within a year and got fired because he was convicted of a felony, they had to pay him $10 million. This guy got paid $20, $30, $40 million, and he put the payments in such a way that he did not have to go into front of the board of directors or disclose it on their public disclosure statements as an executive salary, and his lawyer stands up for this lawyer and says this is justified when the whole story does not pan out, and it is not going to pan out by the way, that lawyer ought to go to jail. He ought to be disbarred and every asset that he has that he got through his ill-gained fruits ought to be taken away from him and given back to the people that he took it from.

How much of a thing with the guy at WorldCom. I understand I think his annual retirement is $4 million a year. They ought to take it away from him.

Why do we reward these people who have put dirt in the filter that is so important for our economic engine to run? It does not stop there. How do you restore confidence in the stock market in this country? In the last 5 years, what we experienced in this country was a tremendous participation in one of the neat mechanisms of our economy and that is the stock market. We had people, whether they were driving a taxicab, we had congressmen, myself included, we had people that had never before been in the stock market. They invested in the stock market.

Now we have got an economic downturn, but that is being hidden. The cycle of the economic downturn is being concealed and hidden and distracted, diverted from by fraud in the corporate boardrooms in the corporate chief executive offices.

Once we start this cycle, and we need confidence to get that cycle going back up again, how many of those people driving those cabs or how many of those people that invested in that market are going to have enough confidence that they will get back into the market?

Take a look at some of these people. What is that guy named Henry Blodget or something from Merrill Lynch, and he went out there and on TV and in front of the public he said, this is the greatest stock since sliced bread; and then behind the scenes, he would write something, this stock stinks or what a real piece of rotten stock or this breakdown in that funnel of trust is significant, and we need to go after it.

I will tell you, it is amazing to me. Martha Stewart, is that what is next? How many more rocks out there that when we look under them we are going to find problems, we are going to find fraud? I hope not too many are left.

The only way to teach a lesson here is you have to have punishment. You have got to have consequences to their actions. You cannot reward chief executives, this Andy guy, Andrew down there at Enron or Ken down there at Enron or Bernie Ebbers or the lawyer that worked for Tyco or John Rigas of the cable company, whatever it is out there in California, you cannot allow these people to walk away, rewarded from malfeasance. These people have to pay the consequences, or the credibility of the system is damaged for a long, long time.

Let me summarize my words this evening. I really covered four areas.

First of all, I wanted to stress to my friends on the Democratic aisle, who in their comments this evening started
out by criticizing the Republicans, because this week and the remaining 2 days of this week we may not be able to bring a prescription care bill to the floor. My point was the reason we cannot bring it is we are not getting any Democratic support at all. We have had no Democrat over there, especially on the liberal side of the Democratic party, none of them have come across the aisle and been willing to help us. That is why we cannot bring the bill to the floor. All they want to do is kill it for political purposes.

So let us call an ace an ace. That is why we cannot. We want to bring it to the floor. We want bipartisan support. I urge the Democrats to help us.

I talked about the fires in Colorado and the characteristics, some characteristics of the fire, what we are concerned about. We have plenty of resources that we are putting out there in those fires. The Forest Service has done a tremendous job so far. The Bureau of Land Management, our local fire departments, our local volunteer fire departments have saved thousands, thousands of structures in Colorado around these communities that were burned.

It is a State that this year more than anyone probably next to New York State needs you to come and spend some of your money. Come to our Rockies baseball games, go see the Air Force Academy, go over to the Western slope, go enjoy the pool in the Glenwood Springs and the Colorado National Monument. See the Grand Canyon or up in Estes Park the Rocky Mountain National Park or the great sand dunes down near Alamosa.

We have a lot of areas open for you to come and enjoy. I hope you do.

And, of course, the final subject that I spoke about this evening was corporate greed. All of us, and I am urging the Democrats to join us, must fight this corporate greed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KERNS). Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 11 o’clock and 20 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

7648. A letter from the Congressional Review Conference and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Change in Disease Status of Estonia With Regard to Rinderpest and Foot-and-Mouth Disease [Docket No. 01-041-2] received May 31, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7649. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department’s report entitled ‘‘Virtual Military Health Institute: Promoting Excellence in Executive Skills for the Military Health System’’ as a requirement to the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act FY 2001, Section 760; to the Committee on Armed Services.

7650. A letter from the Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Prohibition Against Use of Interstate Branches Primarily for Deposit Production [Regulation H; Docket No. R-1099] (HIN: 3056-1AC36) received June 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.


7655. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Hazardous Waste Management Programs; Correction [MD062-3087a; FRL-7236-8] received June 21, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7656. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans: Maryland; Visible Emissions and Open Fire Amendments; Correction [MD066-0307a; FRL-7238-8] received June 21, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.


7658. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, South Coast Air Quality Management District [CA237-0052; FRL-7227-2] received June 21, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.


Defence, transmitting notification concerning the Department of the Navy’s proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance (LOA) to Bahrain for defence articles and services [Transmittal No. DTC 75-02], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(b); to the Committee on International Relations.

7654. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defence articles or defence services sold commercially under a contract for the export of defence articles [Transmittal No. DTC 74-01], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

7655. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defence articles to Pakistan [Transmittal No. DTC 75-02], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

7656. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defence articles to Pakistan [Transmittal No. DTC 61-02], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

7657. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defence articles to Pakistan [Transmittal No. DTC 78-02], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

7658. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defence articles to Pakistan [Transmittal No. DTC 03-02], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

7660. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a report on the temporary and permanent U.S. military presence in Afghanistan and a final report on the decision to recall contractors in Colombia involved in supporting Plan Colombia; to the Committee on International Relations.

7661. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Human Resources and Education, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

7662. A letter from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Transportation, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

7664. A letter from the Attorney/Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

7665. A letter from the Trial Attorney, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Signal and Train Control; Miscellaneous Amendments (FRA Docket No. RSSI-2; Notice No. 2) (RIN: 2130-AB06; 2130-AB05) received June 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7666. A letter from the Trial Attorney, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Signal and Train Control; Miscellaneous Amendments (FRA Docket No. RSSI-1; Notice No. 2) (RIN: 2130-AB06; 2130-AB05) received June 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7667. A letter from the Trial Attorney, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Drawbridge Operating Regulation; Mississippi River, Iowa and Illinois (CGD08-01-042) (RIN: 2115-AT97) received June 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7668. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Protection of Naval Vessels [LANT AREA-01-001] (RIN: 2115-A225) received June 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7669. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Drawbridge Operating Regulation; Mississippi River, Iowa and Illinois (CGD08-01-042) (RIN: 2115-AT97) received June 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7670. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Special Local Regulations for Marine Events; Chesapeake Bay near Annapolis, MD (CGD05-02-009) (RIN: 2115-AE36) received June 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7671. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Special Local Regulations for Marine Events; Chesapeake Bay near Annapolis, MD (CGD05-02-009) (RIN: 2115-AE36) received June 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7672. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Safety and Security Zone; Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Chesapeake Bay, Calvert County, Maryland (RIN: 2115-AA97) received June 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7673. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Safety and Security Zone; Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Chesapeake Bay, Calvert County, Maryland (RIN: 2115-AA97) received June 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7674. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Safety and Security Zone; Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Chesapeake Bay, Calvert County, Maryland (RIN: 2115-AA97) received June 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7675. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Safety and Security Zone; Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Chesapeake Bay, Calvert County, Maryland (RIN: 2115-AA97) received June 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7676. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Safety and Security Zone; Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Chesapeake Bay, Calvert County, Maryland (RIN: 2115-AA97) received June 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7677. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Safety and Security Zone; Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Chesapeake Bay, Calvert County, Maryland (RIN: 2115-AA97) received June 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

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7679. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Safety and Security Zone; Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Chesapeake Bay, Calvert County, Maryland (RIN: 2115-AA97) received June 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7680. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Safety and Security Zone; Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Chesapeake Bay, Calvert County, Maryland (RIN: 2115-AA97) received June 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7681. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Safety and Security Zone; Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Chesapeake Bay, Calvert County, Maryland (RIN: 2115-AA97) received June 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7682. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Safety and Security Zone; Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Chesapeake Bay, Calvert County, Maryland (RIN: 2115-AA97) received June 7, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.
the Secretary of Defense; jointly to the Committee on Armed Services and Government Reform.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. MYRICK: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 461. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5010) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes (Rept. 107–536). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mrs. MYRICK: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 462. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5011) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes (Rept. 107–537). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. LINDER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 463. Resolution providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules (Rept. 107–538). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. THOMAS: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 4984. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a Medicare+Choice competition program, and for other purposes (Rept. 107–540 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. TAUZIN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 4987. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve payments for home health services and for direct graduate medical education, and for other purposes (Rept. 107–541 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. TAUZIN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 4988. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish the Medicare Benefits Administration within the Department of Health and Human Services, and for other purposes (Rept. 107–542 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. TAUZIN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 4989. A bill to amend the Federal Food Drug, and Cosmetic Act to establish requirements with respect to the sale of, or the offer to sell, prescription drugs through the Internet and for other purposes (Rept. 107–545). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. TAUZIN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 4990. A bill to amend the Federal Food Drug, and Cosmetic Act to establish requirements with respect to the sale of, or the offer to sell, prescription drugs through the Internet and for other purposes (Rept. 107–546). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. TAUZIN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 4991. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to revise disproportionate share hospital payments under the Medicaid Program (Rept. 107–547). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. TAUZIN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 4992. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish health professions programs regarding practice of pharmacy (Rept. 107–548). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. TAUZIN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 4993. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve payments for physicians’ services and other outpatient services furnished under the Medicare Program, and for other purposes (Rept. 107–549 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. TAUZIN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 4994. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a Medicare prescription drug benefit (Rept. 107–551 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

TIME LIMITATION OF REFERRED BILL

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XII the following action was taken by the Speaker:

H.R. 4984. Referral to the Committee on Ways and Means extended for a period ending not later than June 28, 2002.

H.R. 4985. Referral to the Committee on Ways and Means extended for a period ending not later than June 28, 2002.

H.R. 4986. Referral to the Committee on Ways and Means extended for a period ending not later than June 28, 2002.
The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable Jack Reed, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island.

PRAYER

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

Almighty God, we cherish our freedom but remember that freedom is not free. This week, as we prepare for the Fourth of July celebration, we remember that freedom cost the signers of the Declaration of Independence a great deal. On that hallowed document, 56 men placed their names beneath the declaration and pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor. And they did, indeed, pay the price for freedom.

Of the 56 men, few were long in service: Five were captured and tortured before they died; twelve had their homes ransacked, looted, occupied by the enemy, or burned; two lost their sons in the Army; one had two sons captured; 9 of the 56 men died during the war from its hardships. They served in Congress without pay and were never reimbursed.

Thank You, Lord, for great leaders in every generation. We are grateful for the duties of the Chair.

The Honorable Jack Reed led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. Byrd).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule 1, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable Jack Reed, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island, to perform the duties of the Chair.

Robert C. Byrd,
President pro tempore.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

Mr. Reid. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 3971

Mr. Reid. Mr. President, I understand H.R. 3971 is at the desk and due for its second reading. The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator is correct.

Mr. Reid. I ask that H.R. 3971 be read for a second time, but then I would object to any further proceedings at this time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3971) to provide for an independent investigation of Forest Service firefighter deaths that are caused by wildfire entrapment or burnover.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection to further proceeding on the bill having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

SCHEDULE

Mr. Reid. Mr. President, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, which the Chair will announce shortly, with the first 30 minutes under the control of the majority leader, and our first speaker, Senator Kennedy, will be his designee, and the second 30 minutes under the control of the Republican leader. There will be additional time for morning business—probably 20, 25 minutes—and that will be equally divided in the usual form. At 11 a.m. the Senate will resume the Department of Defense authorization bill.

Last night the majority leader filed a cloture motion. Therefore, all first-degree amendments must be filed prior to 1 p.m. today. Any amendments that have already been filed do not need to be refiled.

The two managers of the bill have a number of amendments they hope to have approved, because they have been cleared on both sides, at or around 11 o’clock. At that time, the two managers will announce how they wish to proceed on the legislation.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the 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 11 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. Kennedy. Thank you, Mr. President.
HISPANIC EDUCATION

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, over the period of these past weeks, a number of us have tried to report to our Senate colleagues and to the American people about the state of education in the nation, and of our public school system. We had supported and passed a very important legislation, last year called Leave No Child Behind. That was a bipartisan effort.

We take a great deal of pride in working together to achieve what I think is most families’ number one concern. Some of these lurking questions in their minds are questions about terrorism, but if you go beyond that, if they are young couples, they are concerned about education. Perhaps if they are older, they are concerned about prescription drugs and the issue of health care. But the quality of education is something that is universal in terms of the concerns of families across this country.

Most parents want their children educated. They want their schools to teach. And the actions that were taken last year gave us a great opportunity to achieve this goal.

Over the period of the past weeks, we have tried to point out where we are on this road toward achieving quality education. We have tried to go over the various aspects of the legislation.

Our committee is now focused on implementation, and following the administration’s proposal as it is drafting the new legislation. We want to make sure they are going to be in accord with the law that passed. There is no reason to doubt that will be the case, but it takes careful review. Our constituents want us to make sure that is the case.

Secondly, as we saw during the course of the debate, money in and of itself is not going to provide reform. But reform without resources is no reform at all.

Last year we had education reform, and we had resources. But we are now in a situation, as we are looking forward to this fall—and it is not that far away; many children will go back to school in August; and we are almost to the end of July—that at the present time we have to ask ourselves, how did we end up last year, and what can we look forward to this coming year in terms of our public school system?

This morning I would like to talk about our challenge in the public school system to a very special group of children—Hispanic children—that are emerging as an enormously important force. Hispanics are already an important force in every aspect of American life.

Last week our Committee released "Keeping the Promise: Hispanic Education and America’s Future." When we talk about the words, "no child left behind," we mean no child left behind. No child being left behind.

This excellent report, which was co-authored by the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and our Democratic Hispanic Education Task Force, is an excellent report that is available to our colleagues in the Senate and also to the American people, to tell us about what is happening. The news is not good.

We are committed on our side of the aisle, and we hope we will be joined by others, to try and do something about it. Because if we are truly going to be committed to leaving no child left behind, we do not want to see Hispanic children being left behind. But that is what is happening.

We have legislation that has the title, “No Child Left Behind,” but it is irresponsible to not live up to our commitment. Look at what is happening in the schools across the country. When you look at the state of education, you’ll find that we are leaving Hispanic children behind.

The fact is, we have seen, over the period of the recent years, an important growth in terms of those Hispanic children.

The number of Hispanic school children has grown by 61 percent since 1990—a rate faster than any other community. If we look at those children in immigrant student population from 1970 to 1995, that population has grown from 3.5 million to 8.6 million. If we look at the growth in limited English proficient students, we see, again, the dramatic growth by 106 percent and those children are attaining a higher education and are attending our public schools. So, we have seen the growth in the numbers.

It is interesting, a great deal of that growth has been in different areas of the country. We have had an over 250 percent growth in the population of Hispanic children in Arkansas, Georgia, North Carolina, and Tennessee; a growth of over 140 percent in Iowa, Kentucky, Nebraska, Minnesota, Nevada, and South Carolina. Many of those school districts never had the opportunity of developing either bilingual or language support programs to help those children. They are developing the English and other academic skills. They need help and we can’t set them adrift.

As a result, we find many of these communities are not serving these populations. The results are coming in, and they are enormously distressing. Across the country, Hispanics—Hispanic children in the Nation’s largest Hispanic serving school districts—are trailing Anglo students in reading achievement by an average of 30 points. In math, they fall behind by an average of 27 points. We also have the rather startling statistics that on average across the country we are spending $1,000 less per student in economically disadvantaged schools than in schools with large concentrations of high-income students, in terms of investing in those children for education. Again, not that there is anything wrong, but we’re finding out that students are being shortchanged, not only in terms of investment, but in terms of qualified teachers instructing Hispanic students in many classrooms.

Those teachers who are working in some of the most difficult circumstances often need training and support to help those students, and not be qualified, not be given the technical training. We want to make sure they are going to get that training. But these are dedicated people working in very difficult circumstances. The fact is, they lack those kinds of professional qualifications. A large number of unqualified teachers working with Hispanic students in predominantly minority schools is twice the national average.

We have unqualified teachers, we are not investing in these children, and we are seeing the results.

The fact is, you can say there must be other circumstances contributing to it. Sure, there are circumstances. But the good news is, when you invest in these children, you find that they make progress towards meeting high standards. We have seen examples of that. In Miami, the gap in math between Hispanics and Anglos has been narrowed by 6.7 points since the progress made in the state of Florida.

In the most recent years Houston has narrowed their achievement gap in math by 6.5 points over Texas. The gap has been narrowed very significantly in recent years, and that is because we have invested in those programs, have invested in an infrastructure to serve Hispanic kids in those districts, and that has made a difference: extra academic assistance for those children; supplementary services; afterschool programs; upgrading the skills of their teachers; and reducing class size.

As a Nation, we are moving away from that. Instead of moving in the right direction, we are moving in the wrong direction.

We have a responsibility here. When we look at the budget submitted by the administration in key areas of investment in quality teachers, in recruitment of professional teachers and retention of teachers, we find there is an empty promise. We had a significant increase that was worked out by the Democrats and Republicans last year, some $742 million. The increase this year is effectively zero.

We have to ask ourselves: Don’t we need to invest in quality teachers? The answer is yes. Are there results if we do not? The answer is yes. How is it reflecting? By the deterioration in the quality of education that is reaching a major constituency.

We can ask: Does the administration understand what is happening out there in terms of children, in terms of students? Does the administration understand English as a second language? Immigrant children? Last year we had an increase of $219 million in programs to serve those children, empowering local communities to implement proven, effective programs to help in the successful transition of these children into American Society.

What do we have this year? Zero. Don’t we take into consideration the
results of what is happening across the country? Last year we saw a downpay-
ment. This year "no child left behind" ought to be a priority instead of some of the
tax breaks for the wealthiest in-
dividuals. That is the result. We have zero, and in terms of the qual-
ity of teachers, zero in terms of helping these children move into the education
system.

This is one of the most discouraging aspects of the President’s budget. Let’s look
at the dropout rate by ethnic group. What every educator will tell you, if these children are 20 to 30 points
behind in terms of a particular grade level and they slip one grade and per-
haps two, you can predict, as certain as we are standing here, that child is ready to drop out. One-third of His-
panic high school children are enrolled below grade level.

What has been happening in recent times? We find out we are not investing
in these children. We are not giving them the teachers, not getting the
smaller class sizes. What is the result? We see a dropout rate by ethnic group.
Over four million Hispanic immigrant children and migrant children. We made a commitment in that bill last
year to help States, as many of these children are moving among the States,
to assist the States in terms of fol-

lowing records and coordinating their academic efforts. Without that, what
happens: a 44 percent dropout rate for the children of immigrant stu-
dents.

Many of these are legitimate immi-
grants who come here whose children are Ameri-
can citizens. These are Ameri-
can citizens that are going to be a part
of the American dream. They are drop-
ning out at 44 percent, Hispanics at 28
percent, which is four times the rate of
Anglo students.

Our leader on this issue has been the
Senator from New Mexico, Jeff Binga-
MAN, who has made the most compell-
ing case about trying to develop a pro-
gram to identify the dropouts, to figure out who those children are, and then model programs that can assist school districts.

Last year we had a very modest pro-
gram. Unfortunately, this is one area
where we could not get the administra-
tion to agree. We did have inclusion of a
dropout prevention program—a very
modest program of $10 million. But this
year, zero. Here we go, with a 44-per-
cent dropout rate, and now we see how
we are going to respond to that. The
administration says zero. It is not im-
portant; it is not on our national prior-
ities.

This is going to mean, we all ought
to understand, when we are out here
making statements and speeches about the
classifications and what are the tests
and what others show, the challenges
out there in terms of Hispanic children,
they are going to slip and fall further and
further behind. Unless we are going to
address these issues, this promise
about no child left behind is an empty
promise.

I want to mention one of the most
disturbing and disturbing develop-
ments we have seen with the cutbacks
taking place. This is with regard to Los
Angeles County. They are reducing
their school year by 17 days because
they haven’t got the resources to hold
classes for 187,000 of the children just
in Los Angeles County. We have the
facts about communities that are un-
der a similar situation, and that
replicates this.

So, Mr. President, I think this is the
result of a really almost indifference
by the administration in terms of this
issue. We had a commitment from Ne-
vada who is also a key figure in the
whole issue on the dropout prevention.
He has spoken eloquently about this. I
am so grateful for his work. I hope he
will continue to take that interest in
this issue. We cannot let this continue
to fester.

Mr. REID. May I ask a question?
Mr. KENNEDY. Yes.

Mr. REID. The reason the Senator
has talked about dropouts is because
by keeping a child in school we save
our society money, time, and aggravation;
that is a fair statement?
Mr. KENNEDY. That is exactly cor-
rect. Mr. President. If we have a trou-
bled youth, for example, who is held in
Massachusetts inside route 128. It is
about $800,000 a year; it is anywhere
from $35,000 to $45,000 outside of route
128. We need to make sure we are going
to have programs that are going to en-
courage those children to stay in school,
but with them for supple-
mentary services and develop programs
that can be helpful to parents and
members of their family to keep them
motivated.

Mr. WELLSTONE. May I add 10 sec-
tions to what Senator KENNEDY said.
This would have to be confirmed. There
was a wonderful judge in Minnesota
who said to me there is a higher cor-
relation between high school dropouts
and incarceration than cigarette smok-
ing and lung cancer. Just think about
that.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, 87 percent
of the people in our prison system are
high school dropouts. I think that says
it all.

We have a number of Senators in the
Chamber. It is my understanding the
Democrats have approximately 15 min-
utes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tem-
pore. There is 12 minutes 40 seconds re-
maining.
Mr. REID. I know the Senator from
Minnesota wishes to speak for 5 min-
utes, and the Senator from Vermont
wants 10 minutes. I ask unanimous
consent, even though this will go over
into the Republican time for a couple
minutes, that the Senator from Min-
nesota be recognized for 5 minutes and
the Senator from Vermont be recog-
nized for 12 minutes.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, if I
am inconveniencing my colleague, I
will follow him if that is better.
Mr. JEFFORDS. No, that is fine.
Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent
that be the order.
say that on the floor of the Senate and say it in every possible way. I also think it is true that all parties have to be engaged. There is a role for European leadership and a role for Arab leadership.

Certainly, Israel and the United States have to be engaged, also. That is the good part of the President’s statement. I think there has to be active support from the U.S., the EU, and the Arab States in strengthening indigenous Palestinian pressure for reform, in addressing the corruption and control of these competing militias, and insisting on the transparency of government and judicial operations and on more effective leadership. Second, we have to attend to urgent humanitarian needs. Basic public services are breaking down. Power cuts are frequent and there are shortages in a range of products, from school books to critical medical supplies. Ordinary Palestinians are unable to get the medical treatment they need.

The Palestinian economy has to be allowed to develop. We have to rebuild the physical infrastructure and revitalize the economy as the Palestinian Authority is effectively bankrupt, and any semblance of a modern economy is disappearing. We need to understand that vital social, economic, and security functions have broken down. This is leaving an enormous vacuum. I fear that far more radical and more extremist groups would be eager to fill this vacuum.

I believe this was an important missing piece in what the President said. The conditions on the ground for the Palestinian people have to change if, in fact, the democracy that we call for and the reform we call for will lead to the election of what we would consider to be responsible leadership. We are going to have to be very engaged in this process. Israel is going to have to step up to the plate and be very engaged.

Yes, we need to be clear on the need to end the terror; yes, we need to be clear on the need for reform; but also, yes, we need to be clear in calling for the sustained and vigorous engagement of key actors—the United States, Israel, moderate Arab leadership, the European Union, and we must be clear that the conditions on the ground change.

All you have to do is read the paper every day and look at the conditions on the ground. You see a complete lack of hope among Palestinians. You see people not being able to move. People have no access to jobs or to schools. There is very little hope, and this is not the stuff of social stability. We need to address these issues if, in fact, we are to be able to get this crisis back on the political track, with some sort of political process that truly might lead to an end to this violence.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Vermont is recognized.

HISPANIC EDUCATION

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, first, I thank the Senator from Massachusetts for raising the issue of problems in our educational system. He referred to Hispanics. What makes that dramatically worse is that, as a whole, in the Nation we are in deep trouble with respect to competition, international competition, and the status of our educational system. When you realize how far behind the Hispanics are from a base that is far behind the rest of the world, it doubly amplifies the need for us to be very deeply concerned about our educational system.

POWERPLANT POLLUTION

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I wish to shift the talk now to pollution and spend a few moments talking about homeland security in relationship to that.

The citizens of this Nation have been hearing a great deal about the war on terrorism. They read daily in the papers about our troops overseas. I think often of our men and women overseas and pray for their safe return to their homes and families. I have the greatest respect for those who serve in the national armed services. I have fond memories of my time in the service myself. I learned about the world, about commitment, and about service during my years in the Navy. I would not have traded that time for anything.

There is a war on, and we all need to remember that we conduct the business of this Nation in accordance with that reality. This war continues to be a top priority for this administration. The administration indicates that we have the opportunity to protect hundreds of thousands and possibly tens of thousands of people by taking the right steps now to root out terror. In fact, this Congress passed a massive supplemental appropriations bill to support in those efforts. We are also debating a Defense Department authorization bill that adds to that cause.

Here in the Capitol, we have begun debating the need for increased security at home and the creation of a new homeland security agency. I fully support the President in his efforts to address these great challenges, and I agree with the efforts the President has put forth following the lead of Senator Lugar.

I think this Congress should move quickly and pass legislation creating the Department of Homeland Security. Let us all pause for a moment and consider what we are doing.

Over the last few months, we have listened carefully to the administration about their efforts to conduct this war both home and abroad. We can prevent the loss of life in the future, they say, by investing in homeland security and the weapons and I do not disagree with these efforts.

But if homeland security is about protecting our citizens from harm and even death, I have a suggestion for this administration that they may not like to hear.

I hope they are listening. It has to do with public health. It will not cost the Federal Treasury a penny. It will save thousands of lives. It will reduce hospital visits. It will save consumers money.

What is my grand idea? Well, it is not new. And it is something we can do today with long lasting results for every man, woman, and child in this Nation. Here it is. It is simple. Reduce powerplant emissions. Let me repeat that: Reduce powerplant emissions.

Studies show that 30,000 Americans die every year due to powerplant pollution—30,000 deaths from powerplant pollution alone. Incredible.

Let me work slow through a list of real, but depressing, statistics on powerplant pollution.

Powerplant pollution results in 20,000 hospitalizations each year, 600,000 asthma attacks, 5 million days of lost work due to pollution-related illness, and 18,000 cases of bronchitis.

Powerplant pollution has resulted in mercury advisories in 44 of the 50 States. In these 44 States, our citizens are asked not to eat the fish caught in the lakes and streams.

Because of powerplant pollution, 6 million American women and children are exposed to mercury levels well above those considered safe by Federal health authorities.

According to the CDC, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 10 percent of women in the United States have mercury levels above those considered protective of newborns. As a result, as many as 390,000 children are born each year at risk for neurological development problems due to exposure to mercury in the womb.

The March issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association found that millions of people who live in areas polluted by fine particles have about the same increased risk of dying from heart or lung disease or lung cancer as people who live with a cigarette smoker. Here is the problem. You can ask a smoker to go outside or to quit, but you cannot kick a dirty powerplant out of your backyard.

This is simply the beginning of my list regarding the impacts of powerplant pollution.

There is acid rain, smog, lung disease, heart disease, asthma, on and on. Actually, I would like to touch on asthma for one minute. I have a chart indicating what is happening because of these problems. Many of us know children who have contracted asthma. For asthmatics, like the boy in the picture beside me, it is a frustrating and dangerous condition that disrupts many lives.

As a result for every man and woman this year, a respected public health journal published the first study showing a direct connection between the onset of asthma in young, healthy children and their exposure to ozone.
The journal found that children exercising outdoors are more likely to contract asthma if they live in areas polluted with high ozone concentrations. This dangerous ozone is created by pollution from old power plants.

Just last week, the General Accounting Office issued a report saying that older power plants are responsible for up to 50 percent of the harmful air emissions released into the air today—50 percent from old power plants. According to the Energy Information Administration, there has been no change in the average coal-fired power plant efficiency in the last 40 years. Older powerplants emit about twice the amount of harmful pollutants for every increment of electricity generated than newer powerplants.

But even some of these issues pale in comparison to the impact that the release of carbon dioxide from power plants will have if we do not act soon. Carbon dioxide emissions have been proven to contribute to climate change, and this climate change will have a number of dramatic impacts on our nation.

Let me list a few. Heat-related deaths will increase 100 percent in cities such as New York, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Los Angeles, and others. In most of New England, the hardwood forest will vanish. In Delaware, a predicted 20-inch rise in sea level will flood 50 percent of Delaware Bay wetlands. Brine shrimp, which are a part of the food chains for other species, will become extinct.

Drought will be pervasive.

Coastal States, such as Alaska, will see a massive impact, including flooding of coastal villages, storm surges, and extensive infrastructure damage from temperature change, like the melting of the permafrost in northern regions.

Even the administration’s recent Climate Action Report recognizes the grave impact that climate change will have on our health, economy, and the environment.

What are we doing about this air pollution and global warming crisis?

What action is this administration taking to reduce harmful emissions from old polluting powerplants?

What is the Environmental Protection Agency doing to save lives and reduce the health impacts from power plant—related air pollution?

Let me answer this question. The answer is nothing. This administration is doing absolutely nothing to reduce pollution from old polluting powerplants like this one in the picture.

Why are they doing nothing? I ask that question often, but there does not seem to be an adequate answer.

They are doing something. Let me tell you what they are doing.

The administration just last week announced what could be the biggest rollback in the Clean Air Act in its history. The White House announced a proposal to allow these old polluting powerplants to live on forever, almost unregulated. Remember, these old powerplants are responsible for 50 percent of harmful air pollution.

The White House, along with EPA, has decided to exempt most of these old powerplants from further regulation. These are the same powerplants causing asthma in our Nation’s children. These are the same powerplants causing neurological problems in newborns. These are the same plants killing our forests and lakes. These are the same powerplants allowing tons of tons of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere. And they just got a ticket to pollute indefinitely.

What else is the administration doing? They have a policy paper, called Clear Skies, that outlines a proposal to reduce three of the four most harmful pollutants from old powerplants. I commend the President for directing the EPA to develop this policy paper. But what have they done to follow up on the announcement of the Clear Skies Initiative? Nothing.

They have not developed legislation. They have not produced supporting analysis on why their proposal works. They have not begun to negotiate with Members of the Senate or the House. They have been all but silent on the issue.

Why? Why are they letting this massive public health crisis continue? It is a great mystery.

Congress, led by the Senate, isn’t going to play the happy game any longer. This week, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee will pass the Clean Power Act.

The Jeffersons-Colllins-Lieberman-Snowe Clean Power Act sets real pollution targets. This bill will quickly reduce the harmful air emissions that result in sickness and death. We want to give these old polluting powerplants the tools and guidance to clean up and meet modern standards.

I hope the administration will embrace the Clean Power Act. I am skeptical, though, that they will. Why? they argue that it will cost too much.

But let’s look at the analysis. According to the Department of Energy, a four pollutant bill could lower Americans’ electric bills by $30 billion a year. That’s $30 billion each year. The DOE report outlines that the longer we wait to enact real powerplant pollution reductions, the more expensive it will be. The administration refuses to embrace real air pollution reductions is carbon. They are scared of regulating carbon.

Even though the President committed to controlling carbon emissions from old powerplant, today this administration can’t even discuss the issue. Even though the President finally admitted to controlling carbon emissions from old powerplants.

I personally think that was a mistake. We should reprocess, and I think eventually, regardless of the disposition of Yucca Mountain, that Yucca Mountain should be a retrievable depository. At some point in time, we get from nothing to something. I will make it my full-time job to convince the White House that protecting public health is equally as important as public safety. And I will support it.

We can save thousands of lives, and prevent lots of disease and environmental degradation if we act now to reduce powerplant pollution. I hope and pray the administration will see the light, if they can, through the smog.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, I have listened carefully to the Senator from Vermont, and I think how ironic it is that we are at this time contemplating the disposition of the nuclear industry in this State, a nuclear industry that does not emit pollution associated with air quality, an industry that supplies us with 20 to 21 percent of the total power generated in this country.

We have an obligation to do something about this air pollution that is harming our children, and that is causing neurological problems in newborns. These are the same powerplants causing asthma in our Nation’s children. These are the same powerplants killing our forests and lakes. These are the same powerplants allowing tons of tons of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere. And they just got a ticket to pollute indefinitely.

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Even though the President committed to controlling carbon emissions from old powerplant, today this administration can’t even discuss the issue. Even though the President finally acknowledged in his own report this month that global warming is a real problem. Even though the entire international community is working to implement the Kyoto Treaty to reduce carbon emissions.

What is this administration doing about carbon? Nothing. This doing nothing seems to be a pattern. I would like to ask the administration, how do we get from nothing to something?

I will make it my full-time job to convince the White House that protecting public health is equally as important as public safety. And I will support it.

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on procedures under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act for the pending consideration of the joint resolution on Yucca Mountain. Yesterday, we had some discussion. Following the procedures laid out in the nuclear Waste Act is contrary to some of the criticism that this is a break with Senate tradition or somehow it would set a precedent.

What we are doing is following the law that was established for the disposition of this particular matter, giving the State of Nevada an opportunity for a meaningful participation in the procedures for overriding that process by action of both the House and the Senate. As I have indicated, the House has acted.

The expedited procedures under discussion are set forth in the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982. One of the elements of the procedures is a specific provision that states once a resolution is on the Senate calendar, it shall be in order for any Member of the Senate to move to proceed to the consideration of the resolution.

We have heard the majority leader and others suggesting the provision is outside the Senate rules and turns the rules on their head. That is simply not true. It is the law. We are following the law.

I grant that the provision is unusual, but it is neither unique nor contrary to Senate rules. As a matter of fact, it is part of the Senate rules. The entire expedited procedure was adopted as part of the rules, and the Senate reserved its right to change the procedure. I want to quote from the statute because I think it is important every Member understand we are not setting precedent.

The provision enacted is:

A, as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate, and as such they are deemed a part of the rules of the Senate, but applicable only with respect to the procedure to be followed in the Senate in the case of resolutions of repository siting approval, and such provisions supersede other rules of the Senate only to the extent that they are inconsistent with other rules.

I grant you, it sounds as if it was written by a Philadelphia lawyer, and it probably was:

B, with full recognition of the constitutional right of the Senate to change the rules (so far as relating to the procedure of the Senate) at any time, in the same manner and to the same extent as in the case of any other rules of the Senate.

What that means is, obviously, the Senate can change its own rules. It is that simple. I do not know why they did not say it that way. Nevertheless, we have to live with what we have.

So let’s be clear. What we are doing on procedure is following the rules of the Senate that were agreed to in 1982 and that have been in place under both Republican and Democratic control of this body since that time. These were not last-minute additions, something that was slipped into the legislative conference in the wee hours of the morning. The expedited procedures included, one, the provision for any Member to move to the consideration of the resolution and, two, the provision that the procedures were adopted as an exercise of rulemaking in the Senate, and both were contained in the underlying legislation in 1982.

The provisions were not necessarily novel. In fact, they were almost identical to those considered in the previous Congress and that passed the Senate as part of S. 2189.

For historical information, S. 2189 passed the Senate in the 96th Congress in 1980 under Democrat leadership and was sponsored primarily by Senators Johnston of Louisiana and Jackson of Washington.

When the Senate changed hands in the 97th Congress, the identical provision was included in S. 1662 when it was introduced by the new chairman of the Energy Committee, Senator McClure of Idaho.

That measure was jointly referred to both the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Committee on Environment and Public Works. Both Committees reported the legislation favorably with substitute amendments and both substitutes contained the same expedited procedures as a rulemaking of the Senate.

This was not a surprise. The Senate was well aware of the provisions. The Nuclear Waste Policy Act was debated at length in the Senate in 1982 and no one ever objected to the expedited procedures on the language providing that “any Member” could make the motion to proceed.

So for those who are reflecting on the generalization somehow this was an arbitrary action and not thought out, I again refer to the history of this matter as it has been presented in this body. Let’s put that behind us.

It is fair everyone understood that the language was essential to any concept of review, whether the State had the obligation to carry the argument and obtain an affirmative vote as the authorization committees wanted or if the administration had the burden to obtain a Joint Resolution of approval as proposed by Congressmen Moakley—chairman of the House Rules Committee at that time—and eventually contained in the floor legislation.

The language was before the Senate during the initial debate and at least the initial passage in April of 1982, and again a final agreement was reached in December of 1982. All Members understood the heart of the process was that each House would have to vote—the House already voted; now it is our obligation and our charge, the only way to guarantee that was an expedited process where any Senator could make the motion to proceed.

We will have any Senator make that motion on the 9th or thereabouts but we will not have determined who that is.

Previously, the Senate understood the majority leader or the chairman might make that motion or they may not want to carry out the mandate of the statute, so it provided explicitly in the event the majority leader or the chairman of the committee of jurisdiction did not do so, and any Senator could bring this issue before the Senate. That is obviously what will happen.

We did it, however, with full knowledge of the Senate rules, and the Senate adopted it as an exercise in rulemaking.

Finally, the process is not the usual way, but it is part of the rule. Second, it is not a precedent and by its terms is limited only to this resolution. Senator George Mitchell characterized in 1982 when it was adopted, it was designed to eliminate any “dilatory or obstructionist’ provisions.

Therefore, I hope we can end the rhetoric on this that somehow we are not following the Senate rules, that this is some novel provision of which the Senate was not aware and we can focus on the substance of the joint resolution and move to its consideration as the Senate provided in 1982.

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, of which I have been a ranking member, former chairman, and now ranking member, has favorably reported the resolution, and we have a good report that I suggest my colleagues read. The report filed by our chairman, Senator Bingaman, hopefully without objection from the State of Nevada and reflects the committee’s considered recommendation. Our committee has discharged its responsibility. Now it is time for the full Senate to discharge its obligation.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

Mr. HAGEL. Madam President, I rise today to speak on the need to move forward with a permanent nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain, NV. Doing so is in the best interest of America’s national security, economy, energy policy, public safety, and environment.

Special interest groups and activists have capitalized on this issue—using scare tactics and doomsday scenarios to alarm the public. But as a member of the Senate Energy Committee, I have listened to both sides, reviewed the information presented by the experts and attended hearings. It makes sense to store our Nation’s high-level nuclear waste in a single, scientifically and environmentally sound, secure, and remote location.

Twenty years have passed since Congress called for the creation of a nuclear waste repository to contain and dispose of our Nation’s spent nuclear fuel—under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982. Senator MUKKOWSKI has referred to the history of that act. During that time, about $7 billion from U.S. electric consumers have been invested in finding the most suitable location for this project.

More than 45,000 metric tons of nuclear waste is currently stored at 131
sites in 30 States—including my State of Nebraska, with 650 metric tons of waste stored at its two nuclear power plants.

This nuclear waste is stored above ground in facilities built for temporary storage only. Many of these storage sites are near major cities and waterways.

Yucca Mountain represents two decades of the most comprehensive environmental and technical assessments ever made anywhere on the planet. The mountain is located in one of the most isolated and arid locations in the United States. Only 30 miles to the west lies Death Valley; to the north is the Department of Energy's nuclear test site where some 900 nuclear weapons have been tested.

The repository itself would be located about 1,000 feet underground in solid rock to keep its contents safe from significant impacts, including major earthquakes. The mountain's natural geological attributes would be reinforced with man-made barriers.

Some opponents of the repository have centered this debate on the transportation issue. They point out that there are risks involved. Of course there are, but we proceed, we do move, in a risk-free society. There is risk with everything we do. What is important is that the risk is acceptable in order to accomplish the objective. In this case, the risk is absolutely acceptable—because it is a risk we can control, we can manage, we can deal with.

Shipments of nuclear material have been taking place in the United States for the past three decades and will continue, with or without Yucca Mountain.

About 3,000 shipments of spent nuclear fuel have occurred since 1965—covering 1.7 million miles—with no injuries, no fatalities, and no environmental damage due to radioactive releases. Not one spent fuel container has ever been breached.

Spent nuclear fuel, which is nonexplosive and nonflammable, is shipped in specially designed and tested multilayered steel casks. These casks have been designed to withstand extreme heat, prolonged submersion in water, and severe impacts—such as being broadsided by a 120-ton locomotive traveling at 80 miles per hour. If the Yucca Mountain repository becomes a reality, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission must survey and approve all routes, and all shipments would be monitored 24 hours a day through a satellite tracking system—with the coordinated effort of local, State, and federal law enforcement agencies.

A "no" vote on Yucca would be devastating for the future of nuclear power in this country. While that is the objective of the activists, we cannot afford such a catastrophic loss.

Nuclear power accounts for 20 percent of the Nation's electric power. It powers 40 percent of our Navy's combat vessels. Experts in the fuel cell industry say that nuclear power plants are the only way to produce enough hydrogen if America is to ever become a country powered by fuel cells, instead of fossil fuels. This is all directly connected to Yucca Mountain.

We should not forget that there will be a bottom line if this project is rejected. The Federal Government will be in default of its obligations, and would owe utilities and contract holders as much as $100 billion. This is on top of the billions of dollars already already invested in the Yucca Mountain project.

The bottom line is that this problem is not going to disappear, and the world will not become any safer by deferring this problem. We either deal with this problem today—or we pass it onto future generations. Neither is an acceptable option. We do have an acceptable, safe and responsible option.

We must move forward with the Yucca Mountain repository. It is the right and responsible thing to do.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. ENSIGN. Madam President, we will save rebuttal of the comments of our colleague from Nevada for another time. We do want to talk about the Yucca Mountain project this morning. I want to talk about the procedure in the Senate on which people have been focusing.

In the modern history of the Senate, nobody other than the majority leader or his designee has successfully offered a motion to proceed. That is not the right because the process outlined in the Nuclear Waste Policy Act is supposedly unique.

The procedure in the Nuclear Waste Policy Act is not unique, nor is it required—it is merely permitted. That is not the right because the process outlined in the Nuclear Waste Policy Act is supposed to be unique.

The Nuclear Waste Policy Act does not make the resolution the pending business of the Senate, even though some laws—which the War Powers Resolution—do take away the prerogative of the majority leader by making a resolution the pending business without any motion to proceed being required. The Senate has not had that ability. If the Senate wishes to do that, it must pass the Nuclear Waste Policy Act.

The Nuclear Waste Policy Act does not make the resolution the pending business of the Senate, even though some laws—such as the War Powers Resolution—do take away the prerogative of the majority leader by making a resolution the pending business without any motion to proceed being required. The Senate has not had that ability. If the Senate wishes to do that, it must pass the Nuclear Waste Policy Act.

If a Senator other than the majority leader feels he or she has the right to call up privileged matters without deferring to the majority leader, then the Senate will have undergone a dramatic sea change in the way it operates.

The procedures in the Nuclear Waste Policy Act were put in place pursuant to the rulemaking power of the Senate, and there are no higher standing because they are written into law. There is no more fundamental prerogative that attaches to the majority leader than the right to set the Senate agenda.

I hope my colleagues on this side of the aisle will think long and hard before they challenge the historic role of the majority leader. The traditions of this institution deserve to be preserved.

Madam President, in the coming days leading up to the vote, we will be laying out some of the things my colleagues from Nebraska have asked. What
do we do if we do not build Yucca Mountain? There are many alternatives, and we will get into detail, why the alternatives to building Yucca Mountain are better for the United States of America. They are cheaper, they are safer, and they are better for national security. We will get into all detail, as we have in the past, exactly why our colleagues, we believe, should vote against proceeding with the Yucca Mountain project.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I was unable to listen to the full statements of the Senator from Nebraska and the Senator from Alaska, but I have been told by my staff some of the things they said.

I have to say basically the same thing I have been saying for a long time. The public has come to the realization that what the proponents of Yucca Mountain are saying is absolutely without foundation. For example, one of the issues they talk about is moving the nuclear waste out of the many sites where it sits now and put it into one site. Isn’t that the best thing to do?

Of course, but we have had articles in newspapers all across America showing that it is a sham because you can never get rid of the waste where it is being generated. They will have to move 3,000 tons a year. They have 46,000 tons stored now. They generate 2,000 tons. When you take a spent fuel rod out of a nuclear generator, you have to put it in a cooling pond for 5 years because it is so hot and so radioactive. They only use 5 percent of the power and radioactivity in one of those rods. After 5 percent is used, they have to take it out and cool it. They can’t move it for 5 years. For anyone to suggest there is going to be one place where all the waste will be, someplace in the western part of the United States is foolishness.

This is not the Senator from Nevada talking. It is in newspapers and scientific journals all over America.

For over 20 years, the nuclear waste issue centered on the science of Yucca Mountain. I could lay out a picture to the Chair for the people of Michigan or any other State showing how science at Yucca Mountain is very bad. But that doesn’t matter any more. It is the realization that is the question. The question is, How are we going to get the waste to Yucca Mountain? You can do it three ways: highways, railroad, and barges on the water. That is all you can do. Nuclear waste is radioactive and travels through 43 or 45 different States.

There is a Web site that has been developed, Mapscience.com. Pull it up, and it shows any address in America and how near the nuclear waste will travel to your home, or to your school, or to the playground, or to your business. This site has alerted many people to the dangers of the transportation of nuclear waste. Since that site was put up 2 years ago, it has won over 200,000 hits. People want to find out from where the waste will go. What they find out is not good, so these people have been sending letters to their Senators and talking to their neighbors.

The transportation of nuclear waste is wrong. My friend from Nebraska said the risk is acceptable. Acceptable to whom? The Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, when asked last week about what would happen if Yucca Mountain didn’t go through right now, said “nothing.” There is room to store waste onsite at every reactor in America. There are power generators now that are storing nuclear waste on site in canisters. That is what a large segment of the scientific community said we should do. It is safer than trying to move it.

To transport this is unacceptable. We are talking about 100,000 truckloads of nuclear waste, 20,000 trainloads, and thousands of barges full of nuclear waste.

Recently, there were editorials in the Denver Post and in the St. Petersburg Times in Florida and the largest newspaper in Colorado, criticizing the program—and in places all over the country; places where the nuclear power industry has spent tens of millions of dollars in campaign contributions; there are articles describing the trips sponsored by the nuclear power industry. They take people to Las Vegas and wine and dine them so they can show them Yucca Mountain. They spend 2 hours at Yucca Mountain and several days in one of the fine hotels in Las Vegas. Congressional staff have been taken back out there on numerous occasions. Lobbying activities are intense.

For example, for the first time in the history of electric utilities, there have to pay for this. Why? Because the nuclear industry has bought Washington, DC.

So I appeal to the Nuclear Energy Institute. It is powerful, and I understand that. But I also understand the American people, and they—now—since September 11—realize every truckload, every trainload, every barge is a target of opportunity for terrorists.

No matter what the problems may be where these nuclear generators are located, the problems are amplified by trying to move nuclear waste. We would have, around the canyons, the Arizona-Mexico border, not those “dirty” bombs, but hundreds and thousands of “dirty” bombs. How are you going to transport nuclear waste safely? You cannot. We know a shoulder-fired weapon will pierce one of these containers. We know that if you leave them on site and cover them with cement, it will be very safe.

So, Madam President, I try to be as quiet and nonresponsive as I can be. But today I had to respond because I think it simply was out of line for someone to say the risk is acceptable. It is not acceptable. It is not acceptable at all.

We are going to have, probably, sometime shortly after the Fourth of July recess, an opportunity to vote on the procedure, which violates what we do around here. The majority leader does not want this to come forward. We are going to see how people will vote on that because my friends in the minority have to understand someday they will be in the majority. I am sorry to say, and when they are in the majority, the same rules will apply to them. You have to be very careful who brings matters to the floor. I have the greatest respect for the junior Senator from Alaska. He is my friend. I have worked with him on many different issues. On this, we have a basic disagreement in philosophy.

My friend, the senior Senator from Nebraska, is a fine man, certainly an American patriot. But for him to come to the floor and say the risk is acceptable is something I cannot let go without a response. It is simply wrong, and I want him to know I believe he is wrong.

I suggest the absence of a quorum. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CRAIG. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CRAIG. Madam President, let me take that 4 minutes because I know my colleagues want to move forward with Dodd authorization.

THE TRAGEDY OUT WEST

Mr. CRAIG. Madam President, I come to the floor one more time this week to speak about the tragedies in the West as they play out. While my time is limited this morning, I thought it was important that I talk about the human side of this tragedy.

Let me read this wire story about Jackie Nelson of Globe, AZ, driving her pickup into a makeshift shelter yesterday morning to try to find food for a 7-month-old granddaughter of hers. She lives near home on a hillside in Arizona to burn in the wildfires that play out there. She does not know whether she will go home to that home or whether
she will literally be adrift and have to seek shelter from public sources.

The article goes on to say:

That lament resounded across the West today, as 18 large blazes burned in six states, consuming acreage at a pace roughly double the 10-year average.

The reason I want to talk about that very briefly, as I did yesterday morning, is that today in the West over 2.5 million acres of public land have now been charred into a smoldering rubble—homes, beautiful wildlife habitat, timbered acres—that simply we forgot because the public policy of this country said, over a decade ago: Leave the land to Mother Nature and walk away. And in our walking away, in the pursuit of the environment, Mother Nature took charge.

Today, Mother Nature rules the West, and her mode of operation is a monstrous wildfire consuming the public timber reserves of the West, the wildlife habitat, and the watershed.

To put in context 2.5 million acres having burned currently, on the same date in 2000—a year when we burned over 7.3 million acres, in 2000—at this point in time, we had only burned 1.2 million acres. So today we have already burned double what we burned by this time in 2000. And 2000 was the worst in recorded history of fires on public lands.

Why is this happening? Again, neglect. Again, an irresponsible public policy that took people off the land and did not allow us to manage it in wise and responsible ways for all of the multiple-use values we hold dear to our public lands.

It is a tragedy of nature. It is a tragedy we have made. It is a tragedy we can solve. We well ought to solve it by a much more prudent public policy. But it will take decades now to begin to reverse what we have allowed to happen.

Where there were once 150 trees per acre in the public forests, today there are 400 or 500 trees per acre, oftentimes growing like weeds, and resulting in equivalent Btu’s of 10,000 to 15,000 to 20,000 gallons of gasoline per acre. And when the temperature is right, and the humidity is right, and the drought is running rampant across the Southwest, as it is today, we set in motion the “perfect storm,” only in this case it is the perfect firestorm that has now consumed nearly 500 homes in Colorado, in Arizona, and in Nef 25, Mexico. And our summer, our fire summer—the long hot summer in the West—has just begun.

I yield the floor.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. EDWARDS). Morning is business closed.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. 2514, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2514) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2003 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces in accordance with national security priorities of the President—

AMENDMENT NO. 4007

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I will await the distinguished chairman, but it is my anticipation that we will move to the issue pending; that is, missile defense. I will send to the desk at this time an amendment on my behalf and that of the Senator from Georgia, Mr. MILLER.

I will not ask it to be the pending business, as a courtesy to my chairman, until he arrives. I anticipate upon his arrival that we will work out a procedure by which a second degree will be added. As a courtesy, I will wait until he arrives.

Mr. REID. If the Senator will yield, it is my understanding he will send his amendment to the desk but not call it up.

Mr. WARNER. That is correct. I will call it up, but I would prefer, as a courtesy, to allow Mr. LEVIN to examine it and then hopefully we can agree upon a procedure whereby he would then file a second degree, and then we can have hopefully the Senate address the two issues.

Mr. REID. I think if we want this to be the pending business, what we should do is have the amendment called up. I ask unanimous consent, because we have talked about this for some time, that Senator LEVIN or someone on his behalf would have the right to second the amendment.

Mr. WARNER. I am perfectly willing to agree to that at this point and ask that it be the pending business, if that is the guidance you wish.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent then, in keeping with the statement of the Senator from Virginia, that Senator LEVIN or his designee would be allowed to offer a second-degree amendment and no one would have a right to offer one prior to him.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask that my amendment be the pending amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is the Senator objecting?

Mr. WARNER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WARNER. Given that the chairman will arrive in a few minutes, I am happy to yield to the floor to my colleague for such purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Virginia [Mr. WARNER], for himself, Mr. MILLER, Mr. LOTT, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. KYL, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. BURBANK, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. HutchINson, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. HELMS, Mr. McCaIN, Mr. NickLES, and Mr. Hagel, proposes an amendment numbered 4007.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To provide an additional amount for ballistic missile defense or combating terrorism in accordance with national security priorities of the President)

On page 217, between lines 13 and 14, insert the following:

SEC. 1010. ADDITIONAL AMOUNT FOR BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE OR COMBATING TERRORISM IN ACCORDANCE WITH NATIONAL SECURITY PRIORITIES OF THE PRESIDENT.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to other amounts authorized to be appropriated by other provisions of this division, there is hereby authorized to be appropriated for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2003, $814,300,000 to reflect the additional amount is necessary in the national security interests of the United States:

(1) Research, development, test, and evaluation for ballistic missile defense programs of the Department of Defense.

(2) Activities of the Department of Defense for combating terrorism at home and abroad.

(b) OFFSET.—The total amount authorized to be appropriated under the other provisions of this division is hereby reduced by $814,300,000 to reflect the amounts that the Secretary determines unnecessary by reason of a revision of assumptions regarding inflation that are applied by the midsession review of the budget conducted by the Office of Management and Budget during the spring and early summer of 2002.

AMENDMENT NO. 4009

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, if I could have the attention of Senator WARNER for one moment, it is my understanding the amendment which I will send to the desk very shortly has been approved on both sides. It is co-sponsored by Senators BIDEN, LUGAR, LANDRIEU, HagEL, BINGMAN, MURKOWSKI, CARNAHAN, LINCOLN, and MIKULSKI.

I send the amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration. I assume I have to ask that the pending amendment be laid aside.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

Is there objection to laying aside the pending amendment?

Mr. REID. Objection.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I will ask my good friend if he will allow the two managers to have a chance to consult on this. It is my understanding
that the amendment is cleared on both sides.

Mr. DOMENICI. I wouldn’t have come here unless it had.

Mr. WARNER. I am certain of that. Our attention was diverted by other matters this morning. If you will just forebear for a brief period, we will see if we can’t accommodate the Senator.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I would like to speak for a few moments on the subject they will clear shortly, the amendment to which I referred and listed the cosponsors, to whom I am extremely gratified for their support. Senator BIDEN is my principal cosponsor. We hope that this bill will move along and be known as the Domenici-Biden nonproliferation amendment.

This amendment supports the nonproliferation program proposed in a bipartisan manner. The Nuclear Nonproliferation Act of 2002. Today, Senators BIDEN, LUGAR, LANDRIEU, HAGEL, BINGAMAN, MUKRASKI, CARNANIL, LINCOLN, and MIKULSKI are cosponsoring this amendment.

The end of the Soviet Union in 1991 started a chain of events, which in the long term can lead to vastly improved global stability. Concerns about global confrontations were greatly reduced after that event.

But with that event, the Soviet system of guns, guns, and a highly regimented society that had effectively controlled their weapons of mass destruction, along with the materials and expertise to create them, was significantly weakened. Even today, with Russia’s economy well on the road to recovery, there’s still plenty of room for concerns about the security of these Russian assets.

The tragic events of September 11 brought the United States into the world of international terrorism, a world from which we had been very sheltered. Even with the successes of the subsequent war on terrorism, there’s still ample reason for concern that the forces of al-Qaeda and other international terrorists are seeking other avenues to disrupt peaceful societies around the world.

In some sense, the events of September 11 set a new gruesome standard against which terrorists may measure their successes. There should be no question that these groups would use weapons of mass destruction if they could acquire them and deliver them here or to countless other international locations.

One of our strongest allies in the current war on terrorism has been the Russian Federation. Assistance from the Russians and other States of the former Soviet Union has been vital in many aspects of the conflict in Afghanistan.

President Putin and President Bush have forged a strong working relationship, and the summit meeting was another measure of interest in increased cooperation. As this amendment seeks to strengthen our nonproliferation programs, it provides many options for actions to be conducted through joint partnerships between the Russian Federation and the United States that might become available to terrorists. They established a framework for cooperative progress that has served our Nation and the world very well. But despite their successes, accomplished in the face of some enormous challenges, there remain actions that should be taken to further reduce these threats.

This amendment would expand the current nonproliferation programs of the Department of Energy, most of which trace their origins to those original Nunn-Lugar and Nunn-Lugar-Domenici bills. Before I discuss this amendment, I would like to review some our progress to date.

For example, the Nuclear Materials Protection, Control and Accounting program has improved the security of at least one-third of the fissile materials in the former Soviet Union. Comprehensive upgrades have been largely completed on the Russian Navy’s stocks of weapons usable materials, with work completed at 10 of their 11 storage sites.

Border security is being improved through the Second Line of Defense program. I recall when I participated in the initial ribbon-cutting of this system at Moscow’s main airport in 1998. Now this equipment is at over 20 sites in Russia and the Ukraine.

Programs to counter “brain drain” have moved ahead. The Initiatives for Proliferation Prevention of IPP program has shown excellent progress in recent years in the daunting task of creating commercial opportunities for weapons scientists throughout the former Soviet Union. To date, over $50 million of venture capital has been attracted to several major projects and more than 10,000 technical personnel have been engaged since the program began.

Under IPP, about 100 American businesses are working in Russia, and they’ve contributed over $100 million of their own funds in support of efforts in which our Government has invested about $70 million. About 400 projects are currently in progress with 100 of those in the closed nuclear cities. American businesses are sharing costs on 132 of those projects.

The Nuclear Cities Initiative has one of the most challenging tasks of all the programs—to work cooperatively with the Russians to down-size their vast nuclear weapons complex. The closed nuclear cities that make up this complex have immense technical capabilities, but they have to be, at least in the past, one of the most business-unfriendly places in the world.

In 1998, I visited Sarov, the Russian version of Los Alamos. It was a fascinating place where the hospitality of my hosts was most impressive. I still remember visiting their weapons museum and standing beside a 60-megaton bomb that was once destined for our shores. Despite that, we displayed significant interest in shifting their weapons focus to commercial interests.

Today, there’s been real progress in Sarov. For example, there is a signed agreement that with the President, we will terminate all weapons construction work at Sarov by 2003. Many commercial ventures are now underway including an Open Computing Center, which provides employment opportunities for former weapons scientists through software development and computer modeling.

The HSB deal has largely remained on track, although it’s required some help from Congress to keep from derailment. That program has the goal of rendering 500 tons of weapons grade highly enriched uranium un usable for weapons by converting it into ordinary reactor fuel. To date, 146 tons have been converted, enough for about 6,000 weapons.

Despite the successes of the Nunn-Lugar and Nunn-Lugar-Domenici legislation, there remain many actions that should be taken to further reduce these threats. This new amendment expands and strengthens the programs established earlier, to further reduce threats to global peace.

It addresses one of the most important realizations from September 11—that the forces of terrorism span the globe. It’s now clear that our nuclear nonproliferation programs should extend far beyond the states of the former Soviet Union.

This amendment expands the scope of several programs to world-wide coverage. It focuses on a nuclear or radiological type, which largely fall within the expertise of the National Nuclear Security Administration.

Just today, the National Research Council released their major report on “The Role of Science and Technology in Countering Terrorism.” They present a number of critical recommendations to address threats of nuclear and radiological terrorism. I’m very pleased that the legislative basis for most of their suggestions is in this amendment.

This amendment expands programs to include the safety and security of nuclear facilities and radioactive materials around the world, wherever countries are willing to enter into cooperation arrangements for threat reduction. It recognizes that devices that disperse radioactive materials, so called “dirty bombs,” can represent a real threat to modern societies. This is one of the key recommendations of the National Research Council.

Dirty bombs could be used as weapons of mass terror, property contamination, and economic disaster. We need...
better detection systems for the presence of dirty bombs that are appropriate to the wide range of delivery systems for such a weapon, from trucks to boats to containers. And we need to be far better prepared to deal with the consequences of a terrorist attack.

The new legislation includes provisions to accelerate and expand existing programs for disposition of fissile materials. These materials, of course, represent not only a concern with dirty bombs, but also the even larger threat of use by rogue nations.

It includes a program to accelerate the conversion of highly enriched uranium into forms unusable for weapons. It addresses one of the major concerns associated with this material that, many years ago, both the United States and the Soviet Union provided HEU to many countries as fuel for research reactors. That fuel represents a proliferation risk today. This accelerated conversion is another of the prime recommendations of the National Research Council.

It authorizes new programs for global management of nuclear materials, in cooperation with other nations and with the International Atomic Energy Agency — that modern societies use radioactive materials as essential tools in many ways, and offers assistance in providing new controls on the most dangerous of these materials.

It suggests that many of the program elements involved in international cooperation with the Russian Federation and with other nations. In fact, it recognizes that the global nature of the current threats requires such cooperation, and provides authorizations for the Secretary of Energy to assist the Secretary of State in offering significant help to other nations. We cannot accomplish these programs without such cooperation.

This amendment includes provisions extending the First Responder training programs, originally created under Nunn-Lugar-Domenici. These programs have already made real contributions. In fact, the training provided under this program in New York City helped mitigate the catastrophe there on September 11. That program was authorized for only 5 years in the original legislation, this bill extends that authorization for another 10 years.

The amendment requires annual reports demonstrating that all U.S. nonproliferation programs are well coordinated and integrated. The original call for this coordination was in the Nunn-Lugar-Domenici legislation.

The report must disclose the extent of coordination and integration between program funds and private activities. That is very important, because of the excellent work being done by private organizations, like the Nuclear Threat Initiative, that are providing critical assistance toward similar nonproliferation goals.

With this amendment, our programs to counter threats of nuclear and radiological terrorism will be significantly strengthened and risks to the United States and our international partners greatly reduced.

The amendment authorizes $15M for a new R&D and demonstration program to address nuclear or radiological terrorism. It authorizes new responsibilities in First Responders program. Includes a partnership with Russia and extends assistance to any country in dealing with either straay radioactive sources or with a dirty bomb (Section 3156);

Extends the expired authorization for training of First Responders. (Section 3155);

Authorizes $40 million, to accelerate the “blend-down” of Highly Enriched Uranium. Authorizes new approaches, in addition to the HEU Deal, to increase the rate at which HEU is modified to render it incapable of weapons use. Extends an option to all nations with HEU to receive compensation in return for providing their stocks of HEU now. (Section 3158);

Authorizes $5 million to extend MPC&A to the international community and develop options, working jointly with Russia, to accelerate conversion of reactors fueled with HEU. (Section 3157);

Encourages the Secretary to finalize an agreement with Russia for plutonium disposition that meets specific criteria. (Section 3159A);

Authorizes $20 million for the Department to work with the international community to develop options for a global program for international safeguards, nuclear safety and proliferation-resistant nuclear technologies. Amount includes $5 million for the Department to increase nuclear safety work related to sabotage protection for nuclear power plants and other nuclear facilities overseas and $10 million, led by DOE/NE, for advanced, proliferation-resistant fuel cycles. (Section 3159B);

Authorizes $15 million to expand programs supporting IAEA in strengthening international nuclear safeguards. (Section 3159B);

Authorizes $5 million for assisting nations develop stronger export controls. (Section 3159C);

Requires development of a comprehensive ten year plan to develop a sustainable approach to MPC&A in the Russian Federation. (Section 3159D);

Requires annual report on coordination and implementation of all U.S. non-proliferation activities describing programs, synergies, coordination including with private efforts, opportunities for new joint cooperative programs with foreign countries, and funding requests integrated across all federal agencies. (Section 3159E); and

Streamlines contracting by other agencies with DOE labs for anti-terrorism and other federal goals. (Section 3159F).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, we simply need a little time on this side to give it consideration. The chairman and I have just commenced a discussion on a vital issue, and I believe it's critical that we see it today. I would hope in due course we can indicate to the Senator that it will be accepted on both sides.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I have already sent the bill to the desk. It obviously will not be referred to committee until it is cleared by the managers pursuant to the conversation we have had. I would ask that we follow the course I have just indicated.

I yield the floor.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, does the Senate have a copy of the amendment handy?

Mr. DOMENICI. Surely. I will provide it to the Senator.

Mr. LEVIN. We are pretty sure this is the one we already have.

Mr. DOMENICI. Yes, it is.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, we support the amendment on this side. We have cleared it. We are willing to see it adopted by voice vote.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, we now have clearance on our side. I thank the chairman. We are ready to move forward on the amendment.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the pending amendment be laid aside and the Domenici-Biden amendment be the pending business.

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

The pending amendment is laid aside. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New Mexico [Mr. DOMENICI], for himself and Mr. BIDEN, Mr. LUGAR, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. HAGEL, Mrs. CARNAHAN, Mr. MUKROWSKI, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. LINCOLN, and Ms. MIKULSKI, proposes an amendment numbered 4009.

The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments."

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I am pleased to join today my good friend and colleague, Senator DOMENICI, in co-sponsoring a vital amendment to the Department of Defense authorization bill to reduce the odds that terrorists or rogue states will acquire the necessary ingredients overseas for nuclear and radiological terrorism. This amendment takes important steps to ensure the legal mandate for the U.S. nuclear nonproliferation programs and lays down a marker on the necessary funding levels.
We have every expectation that, before this bill emerges from conference, the additional money will indeed be made available through both the supplemental fiscal year 2002 appropriations and regular fiscal year 2003 appropriations. Senator Domoinici, to the both recommended and supported for drafting this amendment, and the underlying bill, S. 2545, from which it is derived.

This amendment will lead to greater levels of effort and, I believe, greater levels of commitment in U.S. nuclear nonproliferation programs. For example, it authorizes $40 million to accelerate and expand current international programs to blend down highly enriched uranium (HEU) needed to make nuclear bombs, making it less likely that terrorists or rogue states will get their hands on lethal nuclear material.

It authorizes $35 million to develop options for a global program for international and proliferation-resistant technologies to ensure that civilian nuclear reactors in other nations are not illicitly producing significant quantities of weapons-grade material or are vulnerable to terrorist assault.

This amendment also allocates $30 million in funding for a new research, development, and demonstration program to help respond to nuclear or radiological terrorism. For example, the program would fund expanded research into monitors and gauges capable of detecting nuclear and/or radiological materials, for use at border crossings and ports of entry. It will help identify and account for radioactive sources located abroad. And all of these efforts will be carried out in cooperation with Russia and the rest of the international community.

On May 8 Jose Padilla, an American citizen working with al-Qaeda, was arrested in Chicago in an attempt to attack the United States with a Radiological Dispersion Device, more commonly called a “dirty bomb.”

Padilla is only the first person associated with a major terrorist group to have been caught plotting an attack using a radiological weapon. It would be folly to think that he will be either the last or the most competent and successful.

The fact that radiological terror is real and a threat to the nation will come as no great surprise to the Senate. On March 6 the Foreign Relations Committee held a public hearing on the twin threats of nuclear and radiological terrorism. On March 5 we held a public hearing on this subject.

We assembled the finest scientists from government, the nuclear weapons laboratories, public interest groups and academia to speak of the dangers of dirty bombs. Without exception they told us that there was a real possibility that terrorists could obtain radioactive material and blow it up with a conventional bomb, spreading the material for miles. But they also discussed the likely consequences of a radiation attack on an American city.

Despite Attorney General John Ashcroft’s statement from Moscow on June 10 that a dirty bomb could “cause mass death and injury,” the facts are very different. The Foreign Relations Committee learned that even the worst credible attack would not be catastrophic. Few, if any, Americans will die from the radiation or even experience the symptoms of radiation poisoning. Most, if not all, of the casualties will come from the conventional explosive used to spread the radioactive material.

The bottom line on casualties is: A dirty bomb won’t kill very many people.

But a dirty bomb could still be an economic crime of the first magnitude. We could not easily recover from.

We must begin to examine the radiation protection rules in the light of homeland security in the event of an attack instead of just applying the strict environmental guidelines appropriate to peacetime.

Our witnesses estimated that if a small device, containing only a few curies of cobalt-60 or cesium-137, had been detonated in lower Manhattan on September 10, 2001, if existing EPA rules were applied to the clean-up, more buildings would have had to be evacuated and a large area devoid of people would have been set aside. If the EPA had been responsible, it would have cost the city $10 billion and taken a decade to recover.

We know that a large building, in a city such as Washington or Wilmington at a cost of a few million dollars per city.

Such sensors might provide early warning of smuggled material on the roads and information on affected areas if somebody brings radiological terror to our cities.

Avoiding panic among the American people will be an important goal of responders, and that will require education. Claims of probable mass casualties from a radiological attack do an injustice to the American people. If repeated over and over again this doomsaying will be a self-fulfilling prophecy spreading panic if an attack actually does happen.

Should we be attacked by radiological terrorists, there are very simple things those who have been exposed can do to reduce their chances of being a casualty to nearly zero.

The first is to remain calm.

The next is to stay near the point of exposure long enough for nuclear response crews to check for radioactive contamination.

And the last, the easiest, is to put your clothes in a plastic bag and then take a good shower and shampoo. Radiological dust washed off the body is radioactive dust no longer available to do harm.

We need to look to the radioactive material itself. Radioactive sources must be kept in responsible hands; but that is difficult because they are used throughout industry, for example, to take x-ray pictures of oil pipelines, and even to tell if a can of soda is properly filled.

Radioactive sources are indispensable to modern medicine, where they are used to treat cancer or to perform crucial diagnostic tests. We should not eliminate these sources from our society.

We can, however, provide greater protection for such sources.

Before September 11, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission focused its efforts on safety. It assumed that licensed users were responsible users. Since September 11, the Commission has begun to reexamine its rules with the added assumption that some folks might seek licenses in order to gain access to the material as part of a plot to attack this country or its allies.

We need tighter rules, and we also need a bigger Federal effort to track down and secure missing radioactive sources. The fact is that sometimes sources just go astray; they are “ orphaned,” in the jargon of that business.

There are very few places where companies can safely dispose of sources they no longer need.

The Department of Energy’s “Off-Site Source Recovery Program” is supposed to take charge of excess sources. But the administration has cut this vital program from $5.7 million in fiscal year 2001 to a paltry $2.2 million requested for fiscal year 2003. Congress should fix that.

Overseas, the greatest threat is likely to come from the poorly guarded radioactive materials from the former Soviet Union.
Late in 2001, two containers containing enormous amounts of radioactive strontium-90 were found by hunters in the woods of the Republic of Georgia. The sources were so hot that they melted the snow for yards around, leading some who found them off to warm their tent. By the next morning all were sick with radiation poisoning, including severe burns where they had touched the containers.

Those two radioactive sources were left over from a Soviet program to build electrical generators, and very portable electrical generators for use in remote areas. Nobody knows where all of the Soviet-produced generators wound up, but wherever they are, they are very dangerous.

Other countries, including Brazil and Mexico, have seen old sources stolen, broken into, melted down to make reinforcing bars and patio furniture, with resulting injuries and deaths to some of their citizens.

The United States must work through the International Atomic Energy Agency to ensure the physical protection and accountability of significant radioactive sources throughout the globe. This will require additional non-proliferation assistance to the IAEA and may also require additional non-proliferation assistance to the states of the former Soviet Union. After all, that is where the majority of the unaccounted for hot sources are thought to have been made.

I commend the administration for yesterday’s announcement of a new joint United States-Russian program to spend $20 million this year to secure and safeguard radiological materials in the former Soviet Union. The program would focus on the radioactive power generators I mentioned earlier, as well as a dozen poorly guarded storage areas for radiological materials. Of course, the former Soviet Union is not the sole overseer of a repository of radioactive sources attractive to terrorists. But this program may serve as a model for future efforts.

So there is plenty for us to do to lessen the risk and the impact of radiological terrorism. The United States has begun to contribute to the IAEA’s Program Against Nuclear Terrorism. Today’s amendment is a good step in increasing U.S. assistance in this area.

But I worry far more about something than radiological terrorism. I worry about terrorists building or stealing a real atomic bomb. Our committee learned in chilling detail, in classified session, just how easy it is to make a bomb, given only a comparatively small amount of highly enriched uranium-235. In those sessions Senators were able to see and handle a full-scale mockup, complete in almost every detail, but using inert material instead of uranium.

I won’t reveal the design; I don’t want to give away any information that could be used against us. But building that device is easy. It could be done in a machine shop with ordinary lathes and drills and mills without any need for computer-controlled and export-controlled dual-use equipment.

And it would fit in the trunk of a compact car or the back end of a pick-up.

Those who attended the briefing also saw a small tactical nuclear weapon, again a full-scale mockup of a real one once in the U.S. inventory. With one of those you don’t need a fancy brief-case bomb; you can lift it with one hand.

I am not worried about American nuclear weapons going missing, but I am very worried about the tens of thousands built by the Soviet Union. Their tactical nuclear weapons are not bigger than ours, and unless Russia’s security for those weapons is a lot better than for its chemical weapons, our colleagues in the Russian Duma should be as worried as I am.

Terrorists with an improvised nuclear device or a stolen weapon could kill tens or hundreds of thousands of people, not a mere handful. A crude nuclear weapon set off at Metro Center would likely kill people near the Capitol complex. A Hiroshima-sized bomb detonated near the White House would leave the Capitol in ruins.

And, today, a dirty bomb, a small nuclear blast at ground level would spew out hundreds or thousands of times more radioactive material than the biggest dirty bomb imaginable. That much fallout would kill Americans.

We must invest in new technologies to detect bomb-grade uranium and plutonium. That is not an easy task. Neither material is particularly radioactive, at least not compared to cesium-137, cobalt-60, strontium-90 and iridium-192, the isotopes of choice for a dirty bomb. Frankly, we do not know how to detect most bomb-grade fissile material today; certainly not if the weapon is shielded a bit, concealed in a car or even being whisked through our ports or stashed in the hold of a freight aircraft.

None of us knows how long we have to prepare for nuclear terrorism, but we know for sure that the terrorists are shaping their own plans. We, this body, must act sooner rather than later: to provide our responders the tools they need; to secure radioactive and fissile material, both here and abroad, to the greatest extent possible; and to make sure our borders and smugglers who would literally flatten our cities.

The Baker-Cutler report card on Department of Energy non-proliferation programs with Russia proposed spending about $50 billion over 8 to 10 years to secure Russia’s excess plutonium and bomb-grade uranium, improve security controls on its nuclear materials, and downsize its nuclear complex without leaving its weapons scientists prey to offers from rogue states or terrorists.

Senator Baker and Mr. Cutler called this “the most urgent unmet national security threat to the United States today.” In my view, they were absolutely right. Indeed, we must build on their recommendations: by adding support for programs to secure radioactive sources; and by securing any weapons-grade material in nuclear reactors around the world.

This amendment Senator DOMENICI, I, and our fellow co-sponsors are introducing today takes some sensible steps toward these goals. For example, the new research, development, and demonstration program that I mentioned earlier will help fund efforts to assist other nations in developing means for the safe disposal of radioactive materials and a proper regulatory framework for licensing control of radioactive sources.

But we all must recognize that this amendment is only a first step to address a threat of this urgency and magnitude.

Today we spend $7 or $8 billion a year to guard against the unlikely event of Iran, Iraq, or North Korea putting a nuclear weapon on an intercontinental ballistic missile with a return address, and firing it at us despite the assurance of overwhelming retaliation. We need to show the same sense of urgency in combating the more immediate risk of a more anonymous nuclear weapon without that missile.

In the wake of the World Trade Center attacks, committees of the House and Senate are rightly asking whether more could have been done to detect and prevent that attack and how we can do a better job in the future.

What sort of investigation will we have? How will we rebuild our people’s trust in government? And what will we tell our children and grandchildren, if we fail to do everything we can to prevent terrorists from doing a hundred times more harm?

Mrs. CARNAHAN, Mr. President, I am pleased to support amendment No. 4009 to the Defense Authorization Act introduced by my colleague from New Mexico.

This legislation is a significant step forward in the protection of our Nation from weapons of mass destruction.

Since the end of the cold war, the United States has taken considerable steps to reduce the spread of these weapons.

Senators Domenici and Lugar, along with former Senator Nunn, have been true visionaries in this field.

Because of their efforts, we face less of a threat from the Soviet Union’s nuclear legacy than we would have otherwise.

The Department of Defense’s Cooperative Threat Reduction Program and the related programs at the Department of Energy are truly “defense by other means.”

While these far-sighted programs have been very successful, they were not designed to address some of the terrorist threats we now face.

To address these shortcomings, I introduced the Global Nuclear Security Act. This legislation attacks the problem in three ways.
First, it calls on the Departments of Energy, State, and Defense, to develop a plan to encourage countries to adhere to the highest security standards for all nuclear material.

Second, it requires the DOE to develop a systematic approach to secure radioactive materials outside the United States that could be used to create a so-called “dirty bomb.”

Third, it directs the DOE, in consultation with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the International Atomic Energy Agency, to develop plans for reducing the threat of terrorist attacks on nuclear power plants outside the United States.

I was pleased to work with Senators LANDRIEU, ROBERTS, LEVIN, and WARRER to incorporate this legislation into the Defense Authorization bill.

Now, I am pleased to join Senator DOMENICI, and many other colleagues in supporting legislation that will build on the accomplishments of our threat reduction programs and the Global Nuclear Security Act.

This amendment would broaden and extend several existing threat reduction programs.

Among its many provisions, it calls for the International Nuclear Security Administration to increase research efforts to identify technologies directed at protecting us from weapons of mass destruction.

It echoes my call for the NNSA to produce copper wire and to move quickly on that plan, for expanding the nuclear material protection and control program outside of the former Soviet Union, and focusing on protection and control of material that could be used to create “dirty bombs.”

This amendment also seeks to accelerate the disposal of highly enriched uranium and plutonium found around the world through a variety of methods.

Senator DOMENICI’s amendment greatly complements the Global Nuclear Security Act.

And the combination of these two pieces of legislation makes this Defense Authorization bill stronger. Not only are we authorizing the Administration to develop strategies for curbing the spread of dangerous materials, but we are mandating swift action to implement these plans.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate on the amendment?

The question is on agreeing to the amendment of the Senator from New Mexico.

The amendment (No. 4009) was agreed to.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I thank the chairman and ranking member. I believe the cross section of Senators cosponsoring the amendment indicates the broad support for it. It is the case in this area, just as it is in other areas, that simply throwing money hoping some of it will stick will not necessarily improve this country’s defense.

I have in recent months visited, as some of my colleagues have, our men and women in the Armed Forces who serve in central Asia. I have been to a former Soviet airbase in Uzbekistan. I have been to Baghram airbase in Afghanistan, I have been to see the tanks in other of the countries surrounding that area of central Asia.

I have visited many defense installations during my time as a member of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, but I have never before seen any kind of American military equipment that I think we do not serve the taxpayers very well in that circumstance. That brings me to the question of national missile defense.

I know there is disagreement about that subject. For some time there has been an appetite in the Senate to dramatically increase funds for national missile defense so we can deploy very quickly a national missile defense system.

Mr. President, from time to time I have shown my colleagues some items that I keep here in my desk. The items around that area of central Asia that I have visitors from home.

It is the case in this area, just as it is in other areas, that simply throwing money hoping some of it will stick will not necessarily improve this country’s defense. So if there are areas where we just cast money about hoping enough of it makes some kind of a difference so we can say we made a difference, I think we do not serve the taxpayers very well in that circumstance. That brings me to the question of national missile defense.

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former Soviet Union actually destroy there excess weapons because they could not afford to do so themselves. Because of the Nunn-Lugar program there is not one missile with a nuclear warhead left in the Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Belarus, and there are lots fewer in Russia.

In Russia, and in the old Soviet Union, we have large circular metal saws cutting the wings off Backfire bombers to shoot them down. We just sawed the wings off, and we paid for it because we were destroying the weapons of a former adversary and reducing nuclear weapons and reducing delivery systems.

That is one way to defend this country: Get rid of nuclear weapons and delivery systems around the world, reduce the stockpile of weapons that threatened this country—the missiles with nuclear warheads that used to be targeting new weapons systems, most of which I support. Take the F–22 fighter, for example. We now know with respect to other countries. We lived for 40 years with the Soviet Union having literally thousands of missiles with nuclear warheads aimed at America. The silos are now simply dirt with sunflowers. The silo is gone. It is destroyed. The missile is gone. It is destroyed. And the nuclear weapon is dismantled. That makes good sense. That is a defense program that has given us enormous rewards.

That is one part of defending our country: working on arms control and arms reductions agreements and on threat reduction programs that help pay for the destruction of delivery systems and nuclear weapons. That has been enormously successful.

Another approach is developing and building new weapons systems, most of which I support. Take the F–22 fighter, for example. We now know with respect to the gulf war a decade ago and with respect to the war in Afghanistan against the Taliban and the al-Qaida terrorist group, if you control the skies, you can control virtually everything.

The F–22, for example, is expensive, but it is the next generation of fighters that will allow us to control the skies, and I support it. I think it makes sense. We must develop and fund those advanced systems that allow us anywhere in the world to defend liberty and give our Armed Forces the latest weapons technology in defense of America. This brings me to the question of national missile defense.

Missile defense has been a desire by many for a long while. Would we like to have kind of a catcher’s mitt of technology we have spent billions of dollars trying to develop, but it does not yet exist. Some say let’s keep throwing money after it as quickly as we can possibly throw money at it. I say, no, let’s invest substantial amounts of money in research and development, but lets not spend more than is justified.

The Senate appropriations committee authorizes $6.8 billion in this authorization bill—that is “billion” with a “b”—to continue the activities on national missile defense. That is roughly $800 million short of what the administration asked for. That is what the Senate is now debating.

It seems to me, when we take a look at the threats to this country, we should get ourselves a meter. What is the threat meter? With what are we threatened? One threat is that a terrorist, a rogue state, or a terrorist group would get access to an intercontinental ballistic missile, put a nuclear warhead on it, and shoot it at America.

We have had that threat for a long while with respect to other countries. We lived for 40 years with the Soviet Union having literally thousands of missiles with nuclear warheads aimed at America. The SS–20 missile that was aimed at an SS–20 missile that was aimed at an SS–20 missile that was aimed at America. It is now simply dirt with sunflowers. The silo is gone. It is destroyed. The missile is gone. It is destroyed. And the nuclear weapon is dismantled. That makes good sense. That is a defense program that has given us enormous rewards.

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this container, picked one at random out of the ship, I said, what is in that container? They opened the door for me and they said that is frozen broccoli from Poland.

I said, that is interesting. Do you know what it is about what is in that frozen broccoli? We see bags in the back. Do we know what is in the middle of this truck or this container?

Well no.

Do we know the conditions under which it was grown?

No.

Do we know much about it?

No.

That was one container with frozen broccoli from Poland. We get 5.7 million containers coming into this country's ports every year, and 5.6 million are not inspected. When they pull up to the dock of an American port, they are pulling up at 2 to 3 miles an hour with a big ship. That is a much more likely delivery vehicle for a weapon of mass destruction than a terrorist getting ahold of an ICBM and putting a nuclear tip on the top of it.

So what are we doing about that? Is there anyone who suggests we ought to spend the money so we have some satisfaction and some feeling that we are going to protect ourselves against a weapon of mass destruction in a container on a container that comes up to a dock in Los Angeles or New Jersey or some other port in this country at 2 miles an hour, and then is loaded on a bank of tires and is pulled by a truck 100 yards and then sits in a lot somewhere outside a factory or outside a key installation, perhaps a nuclear power plant?

Is anybody going to do anything about that?

How much money are we going to spend on that? We are told we do not have enough money to solve that problem. So now we are debating $800 million on the issue of national missile defense. Our authorization committee says let's spend $6.8 billion, and others, including the President, say no we need to boost that by $800 million.

I look at the threat meter and I say, is there anyone who suggests we ought to spend the money so we have some satisfaction and some feeling that we are going to protect ourselves against a weapon of mass destruction in a container on a container that comes up to a dock in Los Angeles or New Jersey or some other port in this country at 2 miles an hour, and then is loaded on a bank of tires and is pulled by a truck 100 yards and then sits in a lot somewhere outside a factory or outside a key installation, perhaps a nuclear power plant?

Is anybody going to do anything about that?

We need to do the world's leader, try to stop the spread of nuclear weapons. And we need to be the world's leader in trying to achieve meaningful reductions in nuclear weapons and delivery vehicles.

Frankly, agreements just to put weapons in storage do not reduce the threat. There are over 30,000 nuclear weapons in this world, and if one nuclear weapon is missing, just one, we have a very serious problem. If just one nuclear weapon gets in the wrong hands, we have a very serious problem. If just one additional country becomes a country that is part of the club that has nuclear weapons, this country is less safe and this world is less safe. It is our responsibility, this country's responsibility, to lead in the area of arms control and arms reductions.

We need to do two things. I spoke about one today—and I compliment Senator WARNER and Senator LEVIN on needing funding for national defense. But we need to do that in the right way that produces muscle and strength for this country. That is one area.

Second, it is just as important we be as aggressive in this country in pursuit of a world leadership role because it is our job and our role to reduce the spread of nuclear weapons, stop the spread of nuclear weapons, and reduce the number of nuclear weapons in this world. If September 11 tells us anything, it ought to tell us that.

Mr. President, the murder of thousands of innocent Americans by terrorists who want to do maximum harm to this country should alert everyone once again that we must be a world leader in stopping the spread of nuclear weapons. That means we must be the world leader in not just mothballing or warehousing weapons, but also in reducing the stockpiles of nuclear weapons.

As we work our way through these discussions about defense, national missile defense, arms reductions and arms control, I want to be clear this country understands its special obligation and also its opportunity to be a leader in something that will make a big difference for this country's future and for the future of the world.

I yield the floor.

Mr. WARNER. I inquire of the distinguished majority whip, in the period of time until the chairman and I have a consensus as to how to proceed, could Senator LEVIN be recognized for the purpose of just debate on the question related to this bill?

Mr. REID. I say to my friend from Virginia, I had a long conversation with the manager of the bill, the chairman of the subcommittee about 12:30 we would be ready to offer the second-degree amendments. Staff is working as we speak.

It is my understanding that the two managers of the bill have a number of amendments that could be cleared. If we have the unanimous consent of the Senate, it would be appropriate to do that if at all possible. The more time that goes by, the more difficult it is.
time when we face greater national security challenges than at any time in a generation, so few Americans, particularly young Americans, have served our country in uniform.

Senator MCCAIN and I would like to change this by opening up greater avenues for Americans to serve in the military to protect this country, to attract America's best and brightest to military service. There are provisions in this bill that will do exactly that.

Specifically, we establish a shorter track for military service: 15 months of active duty following basic training with the balance of the service to be served in other capacities. In exchange for this, we will relieve up to $38,000 of student loans for each man or woman who has served in the military and goes on to higher education or has studied in higher education previously. In addition, we provide full 1-year GI benefits following leaving the military and two-thirds of GI benefits for up to 36 months following leaving active service.

This, colleagues, will serve as a powerful incentive for those in our society who want to get a higher education to first or subsequently serve in the U.S. military and the cause of protecting America.

At a time when a college degree is so important to success in the private sector, we believe it is equally important not only for our society as a whole but for the military particularly to attract more men and women with a background in college and higher education in the defense of our Nation. These provisions will accomplish exactly that.

In addition, I am hopeful we can use the national service provisions included in this bill as an additional motivation and incentive to attract more Americans to serving our country in civilian capacities as well.

The amendment of Senator MCCAIN and I will accomplish exactly that. We will extend the AmeriCorps provisions a full fivefold, from 50,000 to 250,000 Americans each and every year, so that every 4-year period 1 million of our citizens, particularly young people, will have served our Nation in capacities that are important, and half of those new AmeriCorps members will be serving America in a homeland defense capacity.

At a time when we need to secure our infrastructure, ports, airways, and railways, at a time when we need to protect our country against biological and other threats, it is important we do so to the extent we can use highly trained and motivated volunteers. It will not only help to instill the ethic of service and protect our country in tangible ways in a manner that is most cost effective.

We seek to reach out and enlist more senior citizens in the cause of putting something back in our society. On the cusp of the baby boom generation beginning their retirement, we will have more Americans living longer, healthier lives than ever before, with more energy and resources to put back into this country. We think senior citizens have a lot to offer America and will seize this opportunity to serve our country if we give it to them, as I believe we must.

We seek to challenge young people involved in our work/study programs to give back to the country that has made their higher education possible. Currently, only 7 percent of those involved in work/study are required to be involved in public service. Senator MCCAIN and I seek to expand that to a full 25 percent over the course of the next 9 years, ensuring a corps of young Americans who are not only getting a higher education but, in the process, building and rebuilding the country that has helped to make that higher education possible.

In all these capacities, we seek to harness the good intentions that have arisen from 9-11—the surge in patriotism, the desire to put something back into this country, to harness those intentions and to channel them into concrete action that will improve America for generations to come. This Defense Authorization Act will do that in terms of encouraging more young Americans to serve in uniform in ways that will tangibly protect this country from military aggression.

At the same time, we seek to enact the Call To Service Act, to channel more energy into civil service as well, to harness those intentions and to channel them into concrete action that will improve America for generations to come. This Defense Authorization Act will do that in terms of encouraging more young Americans to serve in uniform in ways that will tangibly protect this country from military aggression.

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This spirit of national service could not be more timely, colleagues. The world is upon us today, and they are asking: Does this generation of Americans have what it takes to sacrifice, even for a moment, even in part, the ease and comfort to which we have been accustomed, in the cause of championing and protecting the ideals we claim to cherish? I believe we can. I believe we must.

I thank Senators Warner and Levin for including the military components of our service legislation within this authorization act. I think it will do a lot to strengthen the military in years to come and will strengthen the fabric of society as more Americans, and particularly young Americans, have had the experience of serving in uniform, with all that that means in forming their own citizenship in future years. At the same time, I urge my colleagues to carefully consider and support our Call To Service Act, which would do exactly the same in the civilian sector, strengthening America in ways that are beyond measure.

I thank my colleagues and yield the floor.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

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

Mr. MILLER. Mr. President, recently, ABC canceled country music singer Toby Keith from its July Fourth TV special. They did not want him to sing his song about September 11 attacks. "Courtesy of the Red, White & Blue (The Angry American)."

Earlier, a similar thing happened with PBS and Charlie Daniels.

This is a disgrace and the rankest kind of hypocrisy from these advocates of free speech.

I therefore ask unanimous consent that the lyrics of these two patriotic songs by Toby Keith and Charlie Daniels be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

I seek to include the lyrics of another great patriotic country song from my generation, "Fightin' Side of Me," by Merle Haggard.

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

(COURTESY OF THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE (ANGRY AMERICAN) (By Toby Keith)
American girls and Americans guys
Will always stand up and salute
Will always recognize
When we see Old Glory flying
There's a lot of men dead
So we can sleep in peace at night
When we lay down our head
My Daddy served in the army
Where he lost his right eye
But he flew a flag out in our yard
Till the day that he died
He wanted my Mother, my Brother,
My Sister and me
To grow up and live happy
In the land of the free
Now this nation that I love
Is falling under attack
A mighty sucker punch came flying in
From somewhere in the back
As soon as we could see clearly
Through our big black eye
Man we lit up your world
Hey, Uncle Sam put your name
On the plaque with all the others
When you hear Mother Freedom

S6065

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

June 26, 2002

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As soon as we could see clearly
Through our big black eye
Man we lit up your world
Hey, Uncle Sam put your name
On the plaque with all the others
When you hear Mother Freedom
They’re walkin’ on the fightin’ side of me.
An’ standin’ up for things they believe in.
An’ I don’t mind ‘em switchin’ sides,
An’ gripin’ ‘bout the way things oughta be.

God help us do our best we will not slack nor
God help us do our best we will not slack or
And we will follow you until we win the final
We’ll pay whatever price
Make any sacrifice
This is a righteous cause so without doubt or
Chorus:

They never reached their target on the
In the skies of Pennsylvania on a plane
Leaving flames and death and chaos in our
Of my Red, White and Blue
Of the Red, White and Blue
Chorus:

You’re walkin’ on the fightin’ side of me.
Runnin’ down the way of life,
Our fightin’ men have fought and died to
If you don’t love it, leave it:
Our fightin’ men have fought and died to
Runnin’ down the way of life,

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.
The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. CARNahan). Without objection, it is so ordered.

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

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I thank the chairman for providing this amendment at this time, precisely at the stroke of 12:30. We will have the opportunity to examine it.

You have basically reached the point where you are saying that the President wants to follow the law. And if this were adopted, it is my understanding that is not the intention of the second-degree amendment, the proposers of it, to in any way abrogate the President from spending additional funds on missile defense should he determine that is a higher priority. This amendment does not preclude the President from reaching that judgment. It expresses our judgment that, of those two specified purposes in the underlying amendment, combating terrorism is the top priority to protect the American people at home and abroad.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

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You have basically reached the point where you are saying that the President wants to follow the law. And if this were adopted, it is my understanding that is not the intention of the second-degree amendment, the proposers of it, to in any way abrogate the President from spending additional funds on missile defense should he determine that is a higher priority. This amendment does not preclude the President from reaching that judgment. It expresses our judgment that, of those two specified purposes in the underlying amendment, combating terrorism is the top priority to protect the American people at home and abroad.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

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I yield the floor.
spending this additional money on missile defense should be his determination. It does both of those things. It does not preclude the President from spending the money on missile defense should he reach the judgment that is a higher priority than combating terrorism. In addition, adding new dollars above the $7.6 billion on missile defense is a higher priority than combating terrorism. This amendment would not preclude him from doing that, but the heart of this amendment remains as it was two days ago—a redefinition—that is, between these two specified purposes in the underlying amendment—that the top priority is combating terrorism at home and abroad.

The majority leader is in the Chamber.

Mr. WARNER. If I could add further, that is the proportions of the allocation—it is implicit in there—he can make the allocation in such proportions to the two accounts as he deems appropriate.

Mr. LEVIN. The President is not precluded by this language from reaching a different conclusion and allocating as he chooses. It is pretty clear what our judgment is as to the top priority. That is reflected in the language of this amendment.

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I thank my colleague. We will examine this amendment. Yesterday, at one point we were willing to accept the second degree. Let’s see whether or not that will be pursued in the near future. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, let me compliment the distinguished Senator from Michigan for his work in accommodating the dual priorities our two managers have attempted to address over the course of the last couple of days as we consider the issue of missile defense with billions of dollars. In fact, I have concerns that a huge missile defense program could crowd out funding for more important security programs such as counterproliferation and homeland defense. The underlying bill already provides missile defense with $6.8 billion, easily making it the largest acquisition program in the Pentagon’s entire budget.

And, if this body adopts both the Warner and Levin amendments, it will be possible for missile defense to receive additional resources if they become available.

Nor is this debate about the proper timetable for deploying missile defense. Although I have strong reservations about the President’s rush to deployment, it is possible that the Administration’s rush could have some negative ramifications for our security, the underlying bill does nothing that would affect the President’s timetable for deploying missile defense.

In short, this debate is not about who supports missile defense. In fact, where one stands on these amendments bears no relation to how one feels about missile defense. I strongly support a substantial missile defense program and the President who believes there is something inconsistent about this should read the underlying bill and the amendments before us.

Rather, the pending amendments raise a larger, more fundamental question. In particular, what is the most immediate action we can take to make America more secure? Providing the funds that will help us dismantle Al-Qaeda and prevent acts of terrorism, or providing funds beyond the $6.8 billion already in this bill to help us deploy a missile defense system? Those are the two points I ask the body to consider.

We should all be able to agree that terrorism is a threat that confronts us here and now. Therefore, I hope my colleagues will make fighting terrorism their first priority.

I support the Levin amendment. I congratulate him on drafting it. I urge our colleagues to support it as well.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I listened very carefully to the distinguished majority leader’s comments. I am not so certain we have any major differences. I assure you, this administration and, indeed, the Senate as a whole is focused, as it should be, on homeland defense and taking those measures to protect the American people here at home and, indeed, abroad. There is no lack of emphasis I can find in the overall framework of legislative proposals now in law and hopefully to be enacted in law, making it very clear that homeland defense is the first priority of this administration.

In this particular bill, as it relates to missile defense, we are looking to the future. There are many signs that clearly justify actions being taken, hopefully by this legislation, and to begin to take those steps to put in place such defenses as our technology can devise, and promptly, which would enable us to provide a limited system—not some giant umbrella but a limited system of defenses against a limited attack of missiles.

So we are looking to the future. I share with the distinguished leader the fact that we have to forearm our citizens today with regard to the weaponry available, whether it is biological, chemical, or possibly some mocked-up type of nuclear weapon by a rogue nation or some terrorist organization. I think we are all pulling together in the same direction.

I hope we can address these amendments very promptly. I ask for a reasonable period of time within which to address the second-degree amendment.

I thank the majority leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island is recognized.

Mr. REED. Madam President, I rise to speak about the amendment proposed by the Senator from Virginia and the second-degree amendment proposed by the Senator from Michigan.

As I understand the amendment of the Senator from Virginia, it does several things. First, it assumes there will be limited savings because of the inflation figures. Then it sets up two categories of funding that this extra money, if found, is
to be used for: missile defense or counterterrorism activities. But then at the end of the amendment, it proposes to set the priorities for allocating scarce resources. As I read the priority, it is everything that the Department of Defense does, because the priority would be activities for combating terrorism and protecting the American people at home and abroad.

I suggest—and I doubt anyone would argue—that the crew of an American nuclear submarine patrolling the depths of the Atlantic or the Pacific are protecting Americans at home and abroad. I argue that Marine guards in embassies throughout the world are protecting Americans. I argue that troops that are training for possible deployments overseas are protecting Americans at home and abroad.

The fact is that this priority is no priority at all. The fact is, this debate is a debate about whether we will use extra resources to fight terrorism or for a missile defense shield. If you ask any American, their answer would be obvious and automatic: Protect us from terrorism. Why? I don’t know if they have read the national intelligence estimate of December 2001. It says:

In fact, U.S. territory is more likely to be attacked with (weapons of mass destruction) from non-missile delivery means—most likely from terrorists—than by missiles, primarily because non-missile delivery means are less costly, easier to acquire, more reliable and accurate. They can also be used without attribution.

They might not have read in detail the national intelligence estimate, but that is what our intelligence officials are telling us: The most likely and immediate threat is terrorists attacking us, and perhaps with weapons of mass destruction, but not an intercontinental ballistic missile attack on the United States.

On September 23, 2001, a few days after September 11, the Federal Aviation Administration grounded crop duster aircraft nationwide because of concerns that they might be used in chemical or biological terrorist attacks. This marks the third time since the September 11 terrorist attacks that crop duster aircraft have been grounded. The other two groundings were from September 11 through September 14, and from September 16 through September 17.

Again, ask yourself, is that a threat that national missile defense can prepare for? I should add that, as the Senator from Virginia said, we are concerned about the future; but this authorization is for next year. This issue is what funds will be spent next year—the extra funds that will be available. This year and next year, the American people will say unhesitatingly: Protect us from terrorism. That was September 23, 2001.

October 11, 2001: The Federal Bureau of Investigation issues a warning that there may be additional terrorist attacks in the United States and against U.S. interests overseas in the next several days.

I do not suspect that any of those warnings were tied into the use of an interceptional ballistic missile to attack.

October 29: The Federal Bureau of Investigation issues a warning that there may be additional terrorist attacks in the United States and against U.S. interests overseas in the next several days. And that Americans and police should be on the highest alert.

Again, that is not coupled with any specific indication that an interceptional ballistic missile would be involved.

December 3, 2001: Director of the Office of Homeland Security Tom Ridge at a White House press briefing said: "... the quantity and level of threats are above the norm and have reached a threshold where we should once again place the terrorist alert, just as we have done on two previous occasions since September 11th."

December 22: Flight attendants and passenger subdued a man reportedly trying to set his shoes on fire on American Airlines Flight 63 from Paris to Miami carrying 185 passengers and 12 crew members. The plane is diverted to Boston’s Logan International Airport, escorted by two U.S. Air Force F-15 fighter jets. Boston Airport authorities say the man appears to have been carrying a powerful plastic explosive in his shoes. The suspect is identified as Richard C. Reid on his British passport.

Once again, ask yourself, if you are allocating money, do you allocate it to screening passengers better, or to x-ray baggage better, or to doing things for a national missile defense?

January 29, 2001: In his State of the Union Address before Congress, President George W. Bush says U.S. forces in Afghanistan found diagrams of American nuclear power plants and public water facilities, detailed instructions for making chemical weapons, surveillance maps of American cities, and thorough descriptions of landmarks in America and throughout the world. "Warning that "thousands of dangerous killers... often supported by outlaw regimes, are now spread throughout the world." The President promises to continue the war on terrorism at home and abroad.

Were those plans and diagrams used to target an ICBM, or were they used to infiltrate terrorists into the U.S. to attack those facilities?


May 20: FBI Director Robert Mueller tells a gathering of the National District Attorneys Association that walk-in suicide bombings, such as those that have taken place in Israel, are likely to occur here in the U.S. The Director says, “We see that in the future. I think it is inevitable.”

News sources report that the FBI has issued informal warnings that terrorists might rent apartments at large apartment complexes, park the apartments with explosives, and detonate them.

Ask yourself: How much will a missile defense system protect us against a suicide bomber walking in and exploding an apartment building?

May 21: The FBI issues a terrorist threat warning to New York law enforcement agencies that it has received "unsubstantiated and uncorroborated information that terrorists are considering attacks against landmarks in New York City."

May 28: Hans Beth, director of the anti-terrorist and organized crime division at Germany’s BND foreign intelligence service, says at a conference in Bonn, Germany, that the al-Qaida terrorist network is active, regrouping, and recruiting new members, according to the Associated Press. The director says: "We believe that bin Laden himself and several of his confidants are still around to give the impulses for attacks.

May 29: Customs Commissioner Robert Bonner, in an Associated Press interview, says that every Customs Inspector will be equipped by January 2003 with a pocket-size radiation detector, and that Customs is working with
other countries to screen cargo containers before they are shipped to the United States. The Commissioner cautions, however, that "there are no guarantees" that improved border security will prevent a terrorist from smuggling a nuclear weapon into the United States.

Again, this is not something with which a national missile defense system could cope and for which it is not even designed.

May 31: New sources report that the Federal Bureau of Investigation issued an alert on May 22, 2002, to Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies warning that al-Qaeda terrorists may be trying to target commercial aircraft by using shoulder-fired anti-aircraft missiles. Reportedly, the warning was issued after U.S. military personnel found a spent portable missile tube outside the Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia earlier in May 2002.

June 7: Reuters News Service reports that CDR Jim McPherson, a U.S. Coast Guard spokesman, says the Coast Guard is using "a millimeter wave—during a raid in the northeastern United States—some rigged with batteries and at the surface-to-air missiles or U.S. Stinger antiaircraft missiles into the United States.

June 10: Attorney General John Ashcroft announces the suspension of "an unfolding terrorist plot to attack the United States by exploding a radioactive 'dirty bomb.'"

June 12: CBS News reports the Immigration and Naturalization Service issued a June 6, 2002, security alert instructing INS agents at U.S. airports, borders, and ports to do "[a] complete and thorough search of all baggage carried by Yemeni travelers, except those carrying diplomatic passports, and make "an inventory of all effects." The order was reportedly prompted by the discovery of several thermos bottles—some rigged with batteries and wire—during a raid in the northeastern United States at an apartment building that housed several Yemeni nationals. The alert instructed agents to look for "large sums of currency, night vision goggles, or devices." It also warned against agents opening any thermos bottles.

June 14: A suicide bomber drives a car filled with explosives into a guard post outside the U.S. Consulate in Karachi, Pakistan, killing 11 Pakistanis and injuring at least 45 people, including one U.S. mariner who was slightly wounded by flying debris.

June 16: The Washington Post reports that three Saudis seized in Morocco told interrogators that they fled Afghanistan and came to Morocco on a mission to use bomb-laden speedboats for suicide attacks on U.S. and British warships in the Strait of Gibraltar. The three Saudi men were captured in May 2002 in a joint Moroccan-Central Intelligence Agency operation.

June 21: The Federal Bureau of Investigation issues a terrorist threat alert warning that terrorists might be plotting to use fuel tankers to attack undeveloped Jewish neighborhoods and synagogues, according to the Associated Press.

June 25: The New York Times reports that, according to congressional officials, Capitol Police in Washington, DC, are stopping up to 25,000 per day to use masks to protect tourists, lawmakers, and their staffs in case of a terrorist attack.

If you ask the American people how this money should be prioritized, the answer is clear and irrefutable. The highest priority should be the war against terrorism, certainly at this moment and certainly in this next fiscal year. As a result, I believe that Senator Levin's amendment is not only crucial but essential so that the direction, at least the sense of this Congress, is clear. I hope we will support this second degree amendment.

In addition, I should point out again that we are funding missile defense activities. We have done that. Our proposal is $6.8 billion for fiscal year 2003. We expect an additional $4 billion to be available since it was not spent last year. This gives us in the Air Force enough money to fund over $263 million for improvements to national missile defense—theater missile programs, national missile programs, boost phase, midcourse phase, terminal phase, the latest system which this administration is pursuing. That is inadequate in our view, but in addition, as Senator Levin pointed out, recognizing the top priority of terrorism, the language still would allow, even as amended, some resources to be devoted to additional national missile defense activity, if the President determines that.

Having listened to this litany of warning emanating from the administration itself, it is hard to think that there is a higher priority at this moment and next year than counterterrorism.

We have supported robust activities to test and deploy missile defense systems. There is full support for the Navy system. There is full support for research, experimentation, and testing. In fact, we have added money to these categories.

We have added money for the Arrow missile, an important theater missile system we are developing jointly with the Israelis.

We have added money for radars for Navy sea-based systems.

What we have cut are those ill-defined duplicative programs that are not going to advance, we feel, the development of this missile system, and we are looking to the future.

A $10 billion investment next year, a combination of our authorization and residual funds, is an important downpayment, a substantial, robust downpayment on a future system that will counter future threats.

The amendment we are suggesting in this bill is that when you look closely at the suggestions and recommendations of the Department of Defense with respect to terrorism operations and contingencies, there is a long list of items not funded. Senator Levin's priorities and my priority would be to fund these counterterrorism activities.

There is, for example, $871 million for improved security on the list of unfunded priorities by the services. The Special Operations Command found an additional shortfall of $42 million in items that they could not provide to protect units fully, from their perspective, against terrorism on their installations.

The second item, for example, on the Air Force list of unfunded items is $149 million for improved physical security at its bases.

The Navy's list included an additional $309 million for improvements to Navy installations.

The Army identified $110 million of unfunded force protection needs.

These funds will be used to protect military installations, naval stations, shipyards, fencing off installations, airfields, and keeping intruders away. All of them are very necessary. But because we were making difficult judgments about priorities—and that is our job—there is a need to fund these compelling needs. I suggest if there are inflation savings, that is where they should go, and that is what the Levin amendment will direct, suggest, at least make as the policy of this Congress: That our highest priority is counterterrorism.

In addition to this $914 million of unfunded force protection requirements, the services and Special Operations Command identified Levin's priority unfunded priorities for defending against and managing the consequences of attacks using weapons of mass destruction.

As a national intelligence estimate suggests, if such an attack takes place within the foreseeable future, it will not be as a result of a missile strike, but terrorists detonating some type of weapon of mass destruction in the United States. Our services are asking for, and need, $27 million to defend against, and manage the consequences of such an attack. The Marine Corps, for example, identified over $27 million in shortages for their chemical and biological incident response force. The Air Force had an unfunded priority of $92 million for equipping installation first responders to manage WMD attacks.

The Navy had a $20 million unfunded priority of this same line, the first responders within the services to respond to a weapons of mass destruction attack. The Air Force also had a $33 million unfunded requirement for bolstering the defenses of their personnel.
against weapons of mass destruction attack, and Special Operations Command had a $12 million shortfall for counterterrorism activities. If we add the $914 million of unfunded priorities related to protecting the Armed Forces by adding an additional $3 billion, the total of unfunded priorities related to defeating and managing WMD attacks, we reach a total of over $1 billion.

So it is clear that the Special Operations Command have urgent, indeed critical, defense needs.

And so, when we pass legislation that says there are two categories of spending for additional resources made available through inflation savings, one is missile defense, and one is combating terrorism, I think we need the Levin amendment to say our highest priority is combating terrorism, equipping our military forces to protect themselves and to protect us, at a minimum. But we also understand, even if we are able to provide these resources to our Department of Defense, where are the additional resources for the Department of Commerce to make sure that all of their activities complement and supplement the activities of the Department of Defense?

We have the opportunity today to make it clear that if these resources are available, they will be going to the most immediate, the most dire, threat we face, based upon our intelligence estimates, based upon the numerous statements by the administration, and we should do that confident we are providing a robust funding source for national missile defense development in every phase of their multilayered operation.

I hope my colleagues will support enthusiastically the Levin amendment. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CORZINE). The Senator from Alabama. Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I sometimes think we are like ships in the night as we discuss this issue and what the priorities of this country ought to be. I know Senator REED is an esteemed colleague and a capable advocate, but I would like to talk about a few of the things he said that I think really do not give us the right perspective.

Of course, terrorism is the No. 1 issue. We voted on a $40 billion FY91 supplemental budget. We have an FY92 supplemental in conference. A huge part of what we are spending in defense, transportation, and in all agencies of our Government, from the FBI to the CIA, is focused on securing this homeland. The arguments the Senator from Alabama and others make that suggests any other expenditure is not as valuable as homeland defense and that we can spend on nothing else apparently but homeland defense I do not believe are sound.

In other words, are we going to stop all R&D for missile defense? Are we going to stop developing the future combat system we have been working on for a decade and be an instant expert in development? Are we just going to stop because we have an immediate threat? The Navy’s DD(X) program or other weapons systems we are developing, the new and super efficiently precision guided munitions on the horizon, how are they going to develop them? Well, of course we should.

We cannot stop all because we are into this war on terrorism. We need to fund every dime that is needed on homeland defense. As a matter of fact, I just left a hearing in Judiciary where we heard from Governor Ridge as he laid out the proposal to completely reorganize our Government, one of the biggest reorganizations in the history of the U.S. Government. The homeland security Cabinet agency that is being proposed by President Bush would be an unprecedented move to focus a host of existing Federal agencies on one thing: Making sure their top priority is defending America.

Back in 1999, a study done by a commission authorized by Congress came back and unanimously concluded we are under a growing threat from nations around the world, that 16 nations now have missile capability—many of them are developing long-range capability—and that by 2005 this nation will be faced with and vulnerable to a missile attack. That is a reality with which we are faced.

We voted in this Senate 97 to 3—and I quote—to deploy a national missile defense system as soon as technologically feasible. President Clinton signed that and supported it. Vice President Gore supported it during the past campaign. Senator Jon LIEBERMAN, now a candidate, has been a champion of establishing a national missile defense system. President Bush made it a priority in his campaign, and he spoke openly about it. I submit this past election by the American people affirmed that commitment.

So the President proposed a larger budget. Last year, he proposed $7.8 billion for national missile defense, $2.5 billion more than President Clinton had proposed over his $5.3 billion budget.

This year, he is proposing roughly $200 million less for national missile defense, but fundamentally the President has laid out a sophisticated, long-term plan that will be issued early by the rapidly approaching time when we will be vulnerable to a potential missile attack.

I know one of my colleagues quoted from the National Intelligence Estimate by the CIA on foreign missile defense programs this year, and some other things in that report that I think are noteworthy. This is what the report says:

The probability that a missile with a weapon of mass destruction will be used against the United States forces or interests is higher today than during most of the cold war.

That was when we were facing the Russians and their deployment of mass destruction.

And it will continue to grow as the capabilities of our potential adversaries mature.

Is there anybody in this body who is sorry we invested money in precision guided munitions? Are they sorry we invested money in developing satellites that have key to our communications and our military capabilities in Afghanistan? Are they sorry we developed bombers capable of delivering those things in the past, recognizing it would be necessary in the future? So that is what we are talking about: How do we get ready for this?

The report adds further comments:

Some of the states—these are countries—armed with missiles have exhibited a willingness to use chemical weapons with other delivery means. In addition, some non-state entities are seeking chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials and would be willing to use them. The answer to employing them is less costly, easier to acquire and more reliable and accurate. They can be used without attribution. Nevertheless, the missile threat will continue to grow, in part because missiles have become important regional weapons in the arsenals of numerous countries. Moreover, missile systems provide prestige, coercion and the deterrence that non-missile systems do not.

We are dealing with a threat that is developing and is really here to some degree right now. We need to recognize that.

I point out some of the other testimony we have heard in the Armed Services Committee. In addition to the 1999 Rumsfeld report, we have received a number of other bits of information and important reports in the Armed Services Committee in the Intelligence Committee and Foreign Affairs Committee. These are areas I share with Members as we think about the question of the type of threats we face from hostile nations with missiles.

Vice Admiral Wilson, the Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, in his testimony about Iran, said that they continue “the development and acquisition of longer range missiles and weapons of mass destruction—that is, nuclear, biological, chemical weapons”—“to deter the United States and to intimidate Iran’s neighbors.” Also, he says: Iran is buying and developing longer range missiles.

They are buying these missiles and developing these missiles right now. This is a nation the President referred to as part of the “axis of evil,” a nation whose government is not in the hands of its people, and a nation which could very well be out of the extreme at any time. Admiral Wilson further notes that Iran already has chemical weapons and that Iran is pursuing biological and nuclear capability.”
Admiral Wilson concludes on Iran that it will "likely acquire a full range of weapons of mass destruction capabilities, field substantial numbers of ballistic missiles and cruise missiles, including perhaps an ICBM," capable of reaching this country. That is what they are seeking to do. That is what we need to prepare for today. We do not need to end up in 2005, 2006, or 2007 being totally vulnerable to a missile attack from Iran.

With regard to Iraq, Admiral Wilson said:

Baghdad continues to work on short-range 150 kilometer missiles and can use this expertise for future long-range missile development. Is that not a threat to us? It troubles me. He adds:

Iraq may also have begun to reconstitute a chemical and biological weapons program.

That seems to be clear. He has rejected any inspection that he at one time agreed to.

Admiral Wilson continues:

It is possible that Iraq could develop and test an ICBM capable of reaching the United States by 2015.

On North Korea, Admiral Wilson said:

North Korea continues to place heavy emphasis on the improvement of its military capabilities and continues its robust efforts to develop more capable ballistic missiles. They made a good deal of progress, as everyone knows, as mentioned in the papers, about the launches they have demonstrated.

Specifically, as to North Korea, Admiral Wilson said:

It is developing an ICBM capability with its Tapeo Dong 2 missile, judged capable of delivering a several hundred kilogram payload to Alaska or Hawaii and a lighter payload to the western half of the United States.

This is one of the most bizarre nations in the world, or in the history of the world. I was in South Korea in January 2002. I was on the DMZ. I saw what was going on. It is one of the most dramatic demonstrations anyone could ever see on the difference between a free society and a totalitarian Communist society. The people of North Korea cannot feed themselves. Yet their obsessed leadership is driving the nation to spend more and more money on missiles, technology, and war while their people cannot feed themselves. So just south of that DMZ in South Korea. I was in Seoul and traveled around that country. We visited our military people. It is a nation of impressive progress. They are producing some of the finest materials and products the world knows. I was pleased this year South Korea announced that they would invest $1 billion in the State of Alabama to build an automobile plant. They continue to have greater increases in sales than almost any other automobile country.

This is free South Korea compared to the totalitarian north.

I also read that we could not send messages to the group in North Korea, do a Radio Free Europe-type message, to get our message out and maybe destabi-

This regime, I was told the television stations only have two or three channels, and those are all government channels. You cannot even turn to another channel. The same is true with the radio. It is virtually impossible to get a message message in there. People are afraid that the leadership in North Korea could act in a bizarre and illogical way and even trigger an attack on the United States.

For example, Admiral Wilson noted that North Korea "probably has the capability to field an ICBM within the next couple of years."

That is frightening. When our President gets into a dispute, an argument, a disagreement with the leadership in North Korea or Iran or Iraq, and they end up in the final analysis saying: You do that, and we are going to launch our missiles, and you know we can hit your cities and you have no defense.

It affects our foreign policy and affects deeply the ability of the President to lead and courageous on behalf of the just interests of the United States and freedom in the world.

He also noted with regard to North Korea that they continue to "proliferate weapons of mass destruction, especially missile technology." So they are selling missile technology around the world to countries, leaving them, although they may not have the development capability, leaving them capable of threatening us.

CIA Director George Tenet, March 19 of this year—and the reports I have been reading from earlier this year—March 19, Director Tenet said this about the Chinese military: They announced a 17.6 percent increase in defense spending replicating last year's increase of 17.7 percent. If this trend continues, China could double its announced defense spending between 2000 and 2005.

Tenet, on China, continues that they are near "toward fielding its first generation of road mobile strategic missiles, the DF-31, a longer range version capable of reaching targets in the United States that will become operational later in the decade."

Those are some of the reasons we made a decision in 1999 to start now to develop a missile defense system. We have a clear threat to our military in the field. They are subject to the shorter-range missiles. Such type missiles. Those type threats are also important. The proposal floated earlier that came out of committee, unfortunately, on a party line vote, would have cut our research into longer range missiles, the 150-kilometer type missiles. Those type threats are also important.

The Levin amendment makes clear that, while both missile defense and efforts to combat terrorism are important, our priorities are different.

I believe if we can give the President the authority to go forward, we will have done a good day's work. Should it appear we are making some progress. I hope we can reach an agreement on this.

The American people expect us to protect this country. The American people still do not fully understand we do that, and when this matter is discussed with them, and when they are told that we have an officer such as Lieutenant General Ron Kadish, directing this program providing it an extraordinary leadership, professionalism, and production, and that he is moving this national missile defense program forward and will soon be able to deploy a successful missile defense system, they are frustrated some might try and slow down the progress needed to provide the nation the protection it requires.

That is where we need to go.

Let's protect our homeland through no threat to our allies around the globe. Let's harden our defenses here at home in every way possible. Let's also continue this steady development of a national missile defense system that can save the lives of innocent Americans who are now vulnerable to attack.

I yield the floor.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, as chairman of the Readiness Subcommittee, I rise in support of the Levin second degree to Senator WARNER's amendment restoring $814 million either to the President's missile defense request or to combating terrorism. Senator Levin's amendment clarifies what we know to be true, that the need to address the scourge of terrorism is urgent and is the top priority of our Nation.

I want to mention that I do have some concerns about Senator WARNER's amendment. I am not aware of the committee receiving any information from the administration that the suggested savings from inflation might in fact be realized. I sincerely hope that we are not just talking about "funny money" and that we will know that the funds are there before we start talking about how to spend them.

The Levin amendment makes clear that, while both missile defense and efforts to combat terrorism are important, our priorities are different.

I believe that all of us here in
this chamber would do everything in our power to ensure that U.S. citizens are protected against vicious attacks from those who would do us harm, including those who would launch those attacks with missiles. However, I believe we continue to lack in this bill to the President's fiscal year 03 budget request for the missile defense program are judicious and based on sound reasoning. I support a missile defense effort that is sensible, thoroughly tested, and programs in a rational manner. I believe that the $6.8 billion included in this bill provides ample funding for reasonable missile defense efforts.

I also believe that there are many immediate threats that we know all too well. The horror of September 11 is seared forever in our minds and shows what these terrorists are capable of. If additional funds become available, I believe we have no choice but to direct them to actions we can take immediately to help us win the war on terror.

As chairman of the Readiness Subcommittee, I am acutely aware of the costs incurred by the Department of Defense as we continue to spend our military personnel around the globe to hunt down terrorists. Even beyond the supplemental appropriations which may be provided this year and funds for the war already included in this bill, the military services will have war-related needs that are not being met. When we began consideration of the fiscal year 2003 budget, the Chiefs of Staff of the Army and Air Force, the Chief of Naval Operations, and the Commandant of the Marine Corps provided us with a prioritized list of those needs that remain unfunded.

For those who may not have had a chance to review those lists, let me note just a few examples. Over the last few years, we have suffered repeated attacks on U.S. embassies overseas, on the USS Cole, and on Khobar Towers. These attacks make clear that terrorists will strike U.S. assets all over the world, and that we have been engaged in this war far longer than we realized. September 11 showed us that we can no longer assume we are safe within our own borders, and that they will try to attack us here at home as well. We are a trusting nation, and, after the earlier attack, we believed that we could somehow this underlying legislation is inevitable and urgent need of those two is counterterrorism. That is the essence of the Levin amendment. There is also a suggestion made that somehow this underlying legislation is oblivious to the missile threats we face. That is not at all correct.

Let me go back to the intelligence estimates. I suggested—and, in fact, I read—that U.S. territories are more likely to be attacked using materials from nonmissile delivery means—most likely from terrorists—than by missiles, primarily because nonmissile delivery means are less costly, easier to acquire, more reliable, and accurate.

I suggest if the national intelligence is already telling us the most immediate and the most dire threat we face is anti-terrorist is the cost of conventional munitions, that goes a long way in suggesting the priorities we should adopt in spending the money.

Let me quote further.
They also can be used without attribution. Nevertheless, the missile threat will continue to grow in part because missiles have become important regional weapons.

Here we are talking about regional missiles, which were referred to in the old parlance as theatre missiles or medium-ranged missiles. We are funding and supporting robustly the development of a missile defense for the United States.

The PAC-3 system—our most advanced development—is fully funded in this proposal, both R&D and procurement. We propose in fiscal year 2003 to buy 72 of these missiles. The first set of operational tests is scheduled for this year. They will complete the first set of operational tests. Soldiers are already operating these systems. And it is capable of prompt deployment to protect U.S. troops from the types of region in the way you effectively develop a system that will protect the people of the United States. It makes some sense, I think, to at least have the first test flight before you acquire the additional missiles.

We increased the resources available for the sea-based, mid-course—formerly, Navy theatre-wide. We have added $40 million for the shipboard radar system, which we believe is important if this is ever to work properly.

We increased the administration's request for the Arrow missile, precisely the type of system that will counter a threat from Iran and from Iraq, because long before those missiles could effectively reach the United States, they would likely be targeted on Israel. The Arrow missile system is an Israeli-United States partnership designed to counter some of those threats. We added $29 million to that.

So, again, I rise not only to respond, but to place in perspective the point that before we adopt this Levin amendment as a second-degree amendment we must look very closely at what the Senator from Virginia is proposing. Simply, he is saying if we have extra money through savings, through inflation adjustments, then they will apply to two categories—missile defense or counter-terrorism. Of course, our highest priority is everything the Department of Defense has requested in the President's budget. I think we have to make it clear our highest priority today and for fiscal year 2003 is countering the obvious, immediate, dramatic threat of terrorism here at home and abroad in the context, of course, of robust and full funding for national missile defense, and in particular theater missile defense, that precisely responds to the issues raised by the Intelligence Estimate of the growing regional threat from missiles.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I rise to discuss a few items. The inflation index is an index that is in all of our budgetary calculations. We figure out how our budget is going to be. When that index altered, it did free up some money previously committed to inflationary cost increases. It left that money available.

I point out that in our Armed Services Committee, as we discussed this, we did not hear, when the budget passed, that we had to have more money for homeland defense or any particular item that amendments were offered on and voted down. It was only after this index became altered and funds were freed up. The President said: I will accept what the Senate Democrats offered in the Armed Services Committee. The President said: The money they took from missile defense—that he requested and was spent on other items that they wanted—I will allow that to go. I suggest we use this extra money so I can complete my projections for national missile defense.

That is where we are today. Hopefully, we will be able to work through this and be happy with it. But I think we will have that inflation index money. I think it will be available.

There is strong bipartisan support in this country for developing a national missile defense program and keeping it on track.

The House passed their Defense authorizing bill recently. They increased the President's request for national missile defense by $21 million. The House bill passed by a huge margin, 359 to 58. It is a totally bipartisan bill. Liberals, Conservatives, Democrats, and Republicans supported it. It had more in it for national missile defense than the President is asking for or that Senator WARNER has asked for.

I suggest that before we get real pure about spending money for a critical national defense, and pork that went into that. Those are just some comments I wanted to make.

I believe we are on track to maintain the steady development of national missile defense. It is something I support.

I point out, with regard to the threat, that threats are not exclusive. In our Armed Services Committee, which Senator HARKIN chairs, as the Director of CIA, George Tenet, testified that we don't have the luxury of choosing between threats. He noted that missile defense threats have sometimes developed more rapidly than the intelligence community had predicted. And, indeed, the Russian such as national missile. He, in 1999, unanimously concluded that missile programs of some of the rogue nations, and some other nations hostile to the United States, were developing far faster than had previously been predicted.

Then there is this question about the money that is building up in to the counter-terrorism account. There is
some $10 billion available for missile defense in the year 2003 if the bill is approved as is. But I think to do so would really be creative bookkeeping.

The new budget authority for missile defense in this bill is $6.6 billion. That is $1 billion more than was appropriated last year. And the President proposed a modest reduction this year. There is another $814.3 million by the committee. That is a big cut by any standard.

Senator REED gets his $10 billion figure by mixing apples and oranges or, precisely, old fiscal year 2002 funding and new fiscal year 2003 funding. All funding for the Missile Defense Agency is for research and development. Research and development is what we are funding. R&D funding is available for obligations for 2 years and for expenditures over 5 years. That is the way we do it. We do not give money for research and development and say you have to spend it all this year, ready or not. That is why because R&D projects, by their nature, require some flexibility in execution and stability in funding and planning.

If Senators disagree with that, we can take away that extended availability of the most Senate Members suspect, would say that the flexibility in execution and stability in funding and planning is a good thing. I think that is the way we need to continue to proceed.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, the Armed Services Committee conducted an exhaustive examination of the proposed missile defense budget request. We held two strategic subcommittee hearings on missile defense under Senator REED’s leadership. We reviewed 400 pages of missile defense budget documentation, participated in more than 25 hearings, and had more than 200 briefings by the Department of Defense. Based on that exhaustive review, the committee recommended funding the vast majority of the Department’s missile defense request, an amount that is sufficient to aggressively fund all the specific systems that the Department wants to develop.

At the same time, the committee identified roughly $810 million of the missile defense request—about 11 percent of the entire department—did not justify, after a detailed review of available documentation and repeated hearings and briefings.

For example, the budget request included $1.1 billion in the ballistic missile defense program element, an increase of $258 million over the current funding level. The major purpose of this program element is to develop integrated architecture ballistic missile defense systems. While this is an important goal, most of the systems that will comprise the ballistic missile defense architecture are years away from being deployed, making the development and definition of a detailed BMD architecture impossible at this point.

After receiving more than $300 million for this program element in fiscal year 2002, the Missile Defense Agency has yet to provide Congress any indication of what BMD architecture might be. In fact, the committee determined that of the $800 million appropriated for this program element in 2002, only $50 million—5%—of the $800 million appropriated had been spent halfway through the fiscal year. Because of slow execution, the Missile Defense Agency informed us that $400 million of these funds will be available for expenditure in fiscal year 2003. Under these circumstances, it is hard to see why the Department would need a $250 million increase in the program element in 2003.

So we made a choice. We made a choice to make some careful and well-justified reductions in missile defense requests of $7.6 billion. Our bill provides the Department of Defense as much money as can reasonably be executed for the Missile Defense Program in the year 2003 and would ensure that this money is expended in a sound manner.

The Senator from Virginia has assured this body that the midyear review will make sufficient funds available to cover added spending which would be authorized by his amendment. We assume that would be the case, based on what he has told us and based on his statement to this body.

The underlying amendment of Senator WARNER provides that the additional $800 million, approximately, would be spent as the President determines in one of two ways—and they are very specific—one, research, development, test, and evaluation for ballistic missile defense programs, or, two, activities of the Department of Defense for combating terrorism at home and abroad. The departmental priorities programs on which the President could spend this authorized additional money under the underlying Warner amendment.

Under my second-degree amendment, we simply state our view that the highest priority at this time is the war against terrorism. The amendment states that, in the expenditure of additional funds made available by a lower rate of inflation, the top priority shall be the use of such additional funds for combating terrorism at home and abroad.

Our second-degree amendment does not preclude the President from spending some or all of the money for missile defense. It does not preclude him from spending that additional money on missile defense, if the President determines that the additional money on missile defense is more necessary, more vital than combating terrorism at home and abroad.

I believe the President should put the money into the fight against terrorism because we have no higher priority than the war against terrorism. Over and over again we are informed and we believe—I think every Member of this body believes—that we are vulnerable to a terrorist attack. We hear warnings of attacks against our cities, our banks, our nuclear powerplants, sporting events. We hear warnings about mass attacks by car bombs, about truck bombs, “dirty” bombs. As a member of the Intelligence Committee, a member of the Armed Services Committee, I believe there is a good reason to be concerned about these threats.

The likelihood of these threats is far greater than the likelihood of being attacked by a missile from North Korea when such an attack would lead to the immediate destruction of North Korea, of the attacker. North Korea can attack us with a truck bomb or a car bomb or an envelope full of anthrax, if she chose, with greater accuracy, far cheaper and with a much lesser possibility of our identifying the attacker so we could respond with a massive attack of our own.

These are real threats. The war on terrorism is here and now. We have not adequately funded the war on terrorism. With all the funds we have put into these, there are additional places that we can usefully spend money in the war against terrorism.

To give some specific examples of where the Department of Defense has identified areas where it needs additional funding, there are two specific priorities—$491 million for improved security at Air Force facilities, including the security of nuclear weapons areas; $92 million to help prepare our first responders to help combat terrorist weapons of mass destruction. These are just two of the items which total about $1 billion in what we call the “unfunded priorities list”; in other words, where there is a priority of the Department of Defense that they have identified but we have not been able to find the funds to put into these priorities so they have given us the unfunded priorities list—$491 million for improved security at Air Force facilities, including the security of nuclear weapons areas; $92 million to help prepare our first responders to help combat terrorist weapons of mass destruction. These are just two of the items which total $1 billion in what we call the unfunded priorities list of the Department of Defense.

We should be making a choice, at least expressing a preference and a judgment as to where the highest priorities are. That is our responsibility. We serve on these committees. We listen to testimony. We should make a judgment. If $810 million is available for additional spending, which we hope it will be, then the question is, What is the greatest need at this time?

We express that need in the second-degree amendment. We say the war on terrorism; of those two identified, specific threats by aircraft, about our bombs, about truck bombs, “dirty” bombs. As a member of the Intelligence Committee, a member of the Armed Services Committee, I believe there is a good reason to be concerned about these threats.

The likelihood of these threats is far greater than the likelihood of being attacked by a missile from North Korea when such an attack would lead to the immediate destruction of North Korea, of the attacker. North Korea can attack us with a truck bomb or a car bomb or an envelope full of anthrax, if she chose, with greater accuracy, far cheaper and with a much lesser possibility of our identifying the attacker so we could respond with a massive attack of our own.

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We should be making a choice, at least expressing a preference and a judgment as to where the highest priorities are. That is our responsibility. We serve on these committees. We listen to testimony. We should make a judgment. If $810 million is available for additional spending, which we hope it will be, then the question is, What is the greatest need at this time?
money on missile defense than we provide, more than the almost $7 billion we provide, if the President determines that spending additional funds on missile defense is a higher priority than the war on terrorism, we do not preclude him from doing so. But I express our perspective and our point of view that the war on terrorism is the highest priority.

Should we address all threats that face us? Of course, we should address all threats that face us. And we do. But we have to allocate resources. We should allocate resources against the greatest threats that we face. Those greatest threats are the terrorist threats. We have had so much evidence of this that we have all reached that basic conclusion. I hope we express that perspective by adopting the second-degree amendment which has been offered. I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CARPER). The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, while Senator Sessions is still here as co-manager of the bill, I ask unanimous consent, in the event Senator Bill Nelson, who I believe is working with Senator Smith and Senator Roberts on an amendment which we support, gets to the floor before we dispose of the Warner amendment and the second-degree amendment, that we set aside the Warner amendment temporarily to allow them to offer their amendment. I ask unanimous consent that we do that, while my co-manager is on the floor.

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, while Senator Sessions is still here as co-manager of the bill, I ask unanimous consent, in the event Senator Bill Nelson, who I believe is working with Senator Smith and Senator Roberts on an amendment which we support, gets to the floor before we dispose of the Warner amendment and the second-degree amendment, that we set aside the Warner amendment temporarily to allow them to offer their amendment. I ask unanimous consent that we do that, while my co-manager is on the floor.

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, we have a number of cleared amendments which Senator ALLARD and I can now offer and hopefully dispose of. We understand Senator Nelson and Senator Roberts are on their way to offer an amendment which previously by unanimous consent we have agreed they could offer, and I also believe has been cleared on both sides. So perhaps we can start down the road I described to offer some cleared amendments, get those adopted but then perhaps interrupt if Senator Nelson and Senator Roberts come to the floor.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, that is agreeable with me.

AMENDMENT NO. 4087

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I send to the desk an amendment which provides additional funding for the development of solar cell technology for the military, and I believe it has been cleared on both sides.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN] proposes an amendment numbered 4087.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

The amendment authorizes an additional $2 million for Air Force applied research to develop new substrate materials for solar cells. The Air Force Space Power Generation program is working on novel high-temperature materials in order to develop advanced flexible thin film solar cells for military applications. New materials will enable lighter, cheaper, and more efficient solar arrays that are critical to achieving Air Force technology performance goals. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 4087) was agreed to.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 4088

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator WARNER, I offer an amendment that authorizes $2 million for the analysis of emerging threats at the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory. I believe this amendment has been cleared on both sides.

Mr. LEVIN. It has been cleared. We have no objection.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The amendment authorizes an additional $2 million for the analysis of emerging threats at the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

The amendment authorizes an additional $2 million for the analysis of emerging threats at the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I urge that the Senate adopt this amendment. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I urge that the Senate adopt this amendment. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate? Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 4088) was agreed to.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 4089

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator KENNEDY and seven other Senators, I send an amendment to the desk which concerns the Department of Defense Medical Free Electron Laser Program.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The amendment authorizes an additional $2 million for the analysis of emerging threats at the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

The amendment authorizes an additional $2 million for the analysis of emerging threats at the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory.
Notwithstanding any other provision of law the Medical Free Electron Laser Program (PE0602227D8Z) may not be transferred from the Department of Defense to the National Institutes of Health, or to any other department or agency of the Federal Government.

Mr. KENNEDY. I am proposing this amendment, along with Senators KERRY, HELMS, THOMPSON, EDWARDS, Frist, Boxer, and Feinstein, which will retain the Medical Free Electron Laser Program. (MFEL); in the Department of Defense. This program was initiated in 1985 and the benefit to military personnel and all Americans was realized immediately. This successful and visionary program has benefited the military in many ways. For example, new and innovative methods developed in the MFEL program to diagnose and treat burns, the number one combat casualty injury, are now in practical use. Current research involving tissue-welding and tissue-bonding is going to be of great value for treating battlefield injuries by allowing for the immediate repair of soft tissue and vascular wounds.

This technology also has some special applications, such as for pilots with ocular injuries. Of particular interest to me, however, is its potential to help diagnose and deactivate other types of biological contamination and injury. This research has yielded very promising results.

The Office of Management and Budget is attempting to move the program from the Department of Defense to the National Institutes of Health. Moving the program from DoD would be detrimental to the MFEL program and would jeopardize many promising research and development efforts. A proposed transfer of the MFEL program to DoD would be detrimental to the military and the medical community. The amendment which would authorize the Secretary of the Army to convey property at the engineering proving ground, Fort Belvoir, VA. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To authorize land conveyances at the Engineer Proving Ground, Fort Belvoir, Virginia.)

At the end of subtitle C of title XXVIII, add the following:

SEC. 2829. LAND CONVEYANCES, ENGINEER PROVING GROUND, FORT BELVOIR, VIRGINIA.

(a) CONVEYANCE TO FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA, AUTHORIZED.—(1) The Secretary of the Army may convey, without payment or consideration, to Fairfax County, Virginia, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a parcel of real property, consisting of approximately 135 acres, located in the northwest portion of the Engineer Proving Ground (EPG) at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, in order to permit the County to use such property for park and recreational purposes.

(b) CONVEYANCE OF BALANCE OF PROPERTY AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary may convey, without payment or consideration, to any competitively selected grantee all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the real property, including any improvements thereon, at the Engineer Proving Ground, to be conveyed under the authority in subsection (a).

(c) CONSIDERATION.—(1) As consideration for the conveyance authorized by subsection (b), the grantee shall provide the United States, whether by cash payment, in-kind contribution, or a combination thereof, an amount that is not less than the fair market value, as determined by the Secretary, of the property conveyed under that subsection.

(2) In-kind consideration under paragraph (1) may include the maintenance, improvement, alteration, repair, remodeling, restoration (including environmental restoration), or construction of facilities for the Department of the Army at Fort Belvoir or at any other site or sites designated by the Secretary.

(3) If in-kind consideration under paragraph (1) includes the construction of facilities, the grantee shall convey to the United States—

(A) title to such facilities, free of all liens and other encumbrances; and

(B) if the United States does not have fee simple title to the land underlying such facilities, convey to the United States all right, title, and interest in and to such lands not held by the United States.

(4) The Secretary shall deposit any cash received as consideration under this subsection in the special account established pursuant to section 204(h) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 605(h)).


(e) DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.—The exact acreage and legal description of the real property to be conveyed under subsections (a) and (b) shall be determined by surveys satisfactory to the Secretary. The cost of each such survey shall be borne by the grantee.

(f) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyances under subsections (a) and (b) as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further discussion on the amendment?

Mr. ALLARD. The amendment is cleared on this side.

Mr. LEVIN. The amendment has been cleared.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to. The amendment (No. 4090) was agreed to.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 4090

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator Inouye, I offer an amendment which would increase the grade of the heads of the nurse corps of each of the services to major general or rear admiral, upper half.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To amend title 10, United States Code, to increase the grade provided for the heads of the nurse corps of the Armed Forces.)

On page 100, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following:

SEC. 503. INCREASED GRADE FOR HEADS OF NURSE CORPS.

(a) ARMY.—Section 3069(b) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking “brigadier general” in the second sentence and inserting “major general”.

(b) NAVY.—The first sentence of section 5150(c) of such title is amended—

(1) by inserting “rear admiral (upper half) in the case of officers in the Nurse Corps or” after “promotion to the grade of”; and
The amendment is as follows:
(Purpose: To prescribe the composition and leadership of the Veterinary Corps of the Army)
On page 200, between lines 14 and 15, insert the following:

SEC. 3071. Veterinary Corps: composition; Chief and assistant chief; appointment; grade.

(a) Veterinary Corps consists of the Chief and assistant chief of that corps and other officers in grades prescribed by the Secretary of the Army.

(b) Chief.—The Secretary of the Army shall appoint the Chief from the officers of the Regular Army in that corps whose regular grade is above lieutenant colonel and who are recommended by the Surgeon General. An appointee who holds a lower regular grade may be appointed in the regular grade of brigadier general. The Chief serves during the pleasure of the Secretary, but not for more than four years, and may not be reappointed to the same position.

(c) Assistant Chief.—The Surgeon General shall appoint the assistant chief from the officers of the Regular Army in that corps whose regular grade is above lieutenant colonel. The assistant chief serves during the pleasure of the Surgeon General, but not for more than four years, and may not be reappointed to the same position.

(2) The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after section 3070 the following new section 3071:

“(g) Assistant Chief.—The Surgeon General shall appoint the assistant chief from the officers of the Regular Army in that corps whose regular grade is above lieutenant colonel. The assistant chief serves during the pleasure of the Surgeon General, but not for more than four years, and may not be reappointed to the same position.”.

The amendment is as follows:
(Purpose: To provide for the amount for the demonstration or renewable energy use of the Navy to be available within the Navy energy program (PE 0604710N) and not within Navy facilities improvement (PE 0603725N))
On page 26, after line 22, and insert the following:

SEC. 214. DEMONSTRATION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY USE.
Of the amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(2), $2,500,000 shall be available for the demonstration of renewable energy use program within the program element for the Navy energy program and not within the program element for facilities improvement.

Mr. LEVIN. I believe the amendment has been cleared.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to. The amendment (No. 4093) was agreed to.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. ALLARD. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. LEVIN. I ask unanimous consent reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:
(Purpose: To extend multiyear procurement authority for DDG–51 class destroyers)
On page 17, strike line 14 and insert the following:

SEC. 121. EXTENSION OF MULTIYEAR PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY FOR DDG–51 CLASS DESTROYERS.


Mr. ALLARD. The amendment has been cleared.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection the amendment is agreed to. The amendment (No. 4094) was agreed to.

Mr. ALLARD. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.
Mr. LEVIN. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. ALLARD. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. ALLARD. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. ALLARD. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to reconsider the vote. The amendment (No. 4097) was agreed to.

Mr. ALLARD. On behalf of Senators HELMS and CLELAND, I offer an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a policy and a risk mitigation plan for testing and certification requirements for telecommunications switches connected to the Defense Switch Network. I believe this amendment has been cleared.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The assistant legislative clerk reads as follows:

The Senator from Colorado [Mr. ALLARD], for Mr. HELMS and Mr. CLELAND, proposes an amendment numbered 4098.

Mr. ALLARD. I ask unanimous consent reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To require the Secretary of Defense to establish a policy and a risk mitigation plan for testing and certification requirements for telecommunications switches connected to the Defense Switch Network)

On page 90, between lines 19 and 20, insert the following:

Section 246. ACTIVITIES AND ASSESSMENT OF THE DEFENSE EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM TO STIMULATE COMPETITIVE RESEARCH.

(a) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—Subsection (c) of section 257 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998, (Public Law 105-337; 10 U.S.C. 2358 note), is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ‘‘Research grants’’ and inserting ‘‘grants for research and instrumentation to support such research’’; and

(2) by adding at the end the following paragraph:

‘‘(3) Any other activities that are determined necessary to further the achievement of the program objectives set forth in paragraph (b).’’

(b) COORDINATION.—Subsection (e) of such section is amended by adding at the end the following:

‘‘(4) The Secretary shall contract with the National Research Council to assess the effectiveness of the Defense Experimental Program in achieving the program objectives set forth in subsection (b). The assessment provided to the Secretary shall include the following:

‘‘(A) An assessment of the eligibility requirements of the program and the relationship of such requirements to the overall research base in the States and the personnel available to carry out such activities, together with any recommendations for modification of the eligibility requirements.

‘‘(B) An assessment of the program structure and the effects of that structure on the development of a variety of research activities in the States and the personnel available to carry out such activities, together with any recommendations for modification of program structure, funding levels, and funding strategy.

‘‘(C) An assessment of the past and ongoing activities of the State planning committees in supporting the achievement of the program objectives.

‘‘(D) An assessment of the effects of the various eligibility requirements of the various Research Programs to stimulate competitive research on the ability of States to develop niche research areas of expertise, exploit opportunities for developing interdisciplinary research initiatives, and achieve program objectives.’’.

Mr. ALLARD. It has been cleared on this side.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to. The amendment (No. 4096) was agreed to.
approve a waiver or grant of interlim authority under paragraph (1).

(d) INVENTORY OF DEFENSE SWITCH NETWORK.—The Secretary of Defense shall prepare and maintain an inventory of all telecom switches that, as of the date on which the Secretary issues the policy and procedures—

(1) are installed or connected to the Defense Switch Network; but

(2) have not been tested, validated, and certified by the Defense Information Systems Agency (Joint Interoperability Test Center).

(e) INTEROPERABILITY RISKS.—(1) The Secretary of Defense shall, on an ongoing basis—

(A) identify and assess the interoperability risks that are associated with the installation or connection of uncertified switches to the Defense Switch Network and the maintenance of such switches on the Defense Switch Network; and

(B) develop and implement a plan to eliminate or mitigate such risks as identified.

(2) The Secretary shall initiate action under paragraph (1) upon completing the initial inventory of telecom switches required by subsection (d).

(f) TELECOM SWITCH DEFINED.—In this section, the term “telecom switch” means hardware or software designed to send and receive voice, data, or video signals across a network that provides customer voice, data, or video equipment access to the Defense Switch Network or public switched telecommunications networks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 4098) was agreed to.

Mr. ALLARD. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 4099

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, on behalf of Senators BILL NELSON, MCCAIN, CLELAND, ROBERTS, and DASCHLE, I offer an amendment which would provide for the disclosure to the Department of Veterans Affairs of information on the shipboard hazard and defense project of the Navy.

I ask that the clerk report the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment is as follows:

(a) PLAN FOR DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION ON SHIPBOARD HAZARD AND DEFENSE PROJECT TO DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.—

(1) PLAN FOR DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs a comprehensive plan for the review, declassification, and submittal to the Department of Veterans Affairs of all medical records and information of the Department of Defense on the Shipboard Hazard and Defense (SHAD) project of the Navy that are relevant to the presence or biological agents as a result of the Shipboard Hazard and Defense project.

(2) The plan shall provide for completion of all activities contemplated by the plan not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) REPORTS ON IMPLEMENTATION.—(1) Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 90 days thereafter until completion of all activities contemplated by the plan under subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs a report on the implementation of the plan during the 90-day period ending on the date of such report.

(2) Each report under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) the number of records reviewed;

(B) each test, if any, under the Shipboard Hazard and Defense project identified during such review;

(C) for each test so identified—

(i) the test name;

(ii) the test objective;

(iii) the chemical or biological agent or agents involved; and

(iv) the number of members of the Armed Forces, and civilian personnel, potentially affected by such test; and

(D) the extent of submittal of records and information to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under this section.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate? Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 4099) was agreed to.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. ALLARD. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 4100

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator WARNER, I offer an amendment which would authorize $5 million to conduct a preliminary engineering study and environmental analysis for an alternate road to Woodlawn Road (State Route 618) at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, which were closed as a force protection measure.

The amendment is as follows:

(b) CONSULTATION.—The study required by subsection (a) shall be conducted in consultation with the Department of Transportation of the Commonwealth of Virginia and Fairfax County, Virginia.

(c) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to Congress a summary report on the study and analysis required by subsection (a). The summary report shall be submitted together with the budget justification materials in support of the budget of the President for fiscal year 2006 that is submitted to Congress under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code.

(d) FUNDING.—Of the amount authorized to be appropriated by section 301(a)(1) for the Army for operations and maintenance, $5,000,000 may be available for the study and analysis required by subsection (a).

Mr. LEVIN. The amendment has been cleared.

Mr. ALLARD. It has been cleared on this side, too.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 4100) was agreed to.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I see Senator NELSON of Florida is on the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To require an engineering study and environmental analysis of road modifications to address the closure of roads in the vicinity of Fort Belvoir, Virginia, for force protection purposes.

At the end of subsection D of title III, add the following:

SEC. 346. ENGINEERING STUDY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS OF ROAD MODIFICATIONS IN VICINITY OF FORT BELVOIR, VIRGINIA.

(a) STUDY AND ANALYSIS.—(1) The Secretary of the Army shall conduct a preliminary engineering study and environmental analysis to evaluate the feasibility of establishing a connector road between Richmond Highway and Telegraph Road.

(b) CONSULTATION.—The study required by subsection (a) shall be conducted in consultation with the Department of Transportation of the Commonwealth of Virginia and Fairfax County, Virginia.

(c) REPORT.—The report shall be submitted to Congress and the Secretary of Defense.

Mr. LEVIN. The amendment has been cleared.

Mr. ALLARD. It has been cleared on this side, too.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 4101) was agreed to.
The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON), for himself and Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, and Mr. GRAHAM, proposes an amendment numbered 181.

Mr. NELSON of Florida. I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be agreed to, with the amendment to the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To require reports on efforts to resolve the whereabouts and status of Captain Michael Scott Speicher, United States Navy)

At the end of subtitle C of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1035. REPORTS ON EFFORTS TO RESOLVE WHEREABOUTS AND STATUS OF CAPTAIN MICHAEL SCOTT SPEICHER, UNITED STATES NAVY.

(a) REPORTS.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 90 days thereafter, the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Navy shall submit to Congress a report on efforts to determine the whereabouts and status of Captain Michael Scott Speicher, United States Navy.

(b) PERIOD COVERED BY REPORTS.—The first report under subsection (a) shall cover efforts described in that subsection preceding the date of the report, and each subsequent report shall cover efforts described in that subsection during the 90-day period ending on the date of such report.

(c) REPORT ELEMENTS.—Each report under subsection (a) shall describe, for the period covered by such report:

(1) all direct and indirect contacts with the Government of Iraq, or any successor government, regarding the whereabouts and status of Michael Scott Speicher, including the response to such request;

(2) each lead on the whereabouts and status of Michael Scott Speicher, and the assessment of the utility of such lead in resolving the whereabouts and status of Michael Scott Speicher; and

(3) any request made to the government of another country, including the intelligence service of such country, for assistance in resolving the whereabouts and status of Michael Scott Speicher, including an assessment of cooperation.

(d) FORM OF REPORTS.—Each report under subsection (a) shall be submitted in classified form, but may include an unclassified summary.

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, Senator ROBERTS and I come to the floor to offer this amendment. I ask unanimous consent that Senator GRAHAM of Florida be added as a co-sponsor. I believe Senator Bob SMITH of New Hampshire is already a co-sponsor. If he is not, I ask unanimous consent he be added as a co-sponsor as well.

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

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be agreed to, with the amendment to the amendment.

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

The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I thank the distinguished Senator from Florida, who has joined what I call the Speicher Team. I thank him for his interest, for his leadership, for his perseverance, and for his very aggressive action with regard to legislation I am sponsoring as of today in behalf of Scott Speicher.

I rise today in support of the amendment. The amendment simply requires frequent reports by the Department of Defense on their efforts to determine the fate of CAPT, Select, Scott Speicher.

Why on Earth would we have to pass legislation requiring the Department of Defense to report back to Congress with periodic reports?

It is all about Scott Speicher—Scott Speicher—a lieutenant commander who was shot down in his Navy F–18 fighter jet within that 90 minutes of the start of the Gulf War. He was streaking towards Baghdad on a strike mission. Within 24 hours, he was declared a fatality by the U.S. Navy and the Department of Defense—our first casualty in the short Gulf War.

Unfortunately for Scott, as we have learned since that time through a series of mistakes and still very unexplained action—and when I say a "series of mistakes," I am talking about an unbelievable set of circumstances that are so bizarre and so unexplainable that it is difficult to imagine. At any rate, through this series of mistakes, there was no confirmation—no confirmation—that Scott Speicher died in the shootdown. Tragically, there was not 1 minute of search and rescue effort made in behalf of Scott Speicher. He was declared a fatality based solely on the report of a fellow flyer who saw a bright fireball in the direction of Scott's plane and determined that nobody could have survived that hit.

That was relayed up the command to the point that the Secretary of the Navy again had to be pressed to get that done on the part of the Department of Defense—Vice President CHENEY, today—was told that he was a casualty, which he announced on national television.

So Scott was dead. He was killed in action. And he remained dead in the eyes of the Department of Defense and the Department of Justice until investigations forced upon the DIA—the Defense Intelligence Agency—and the CIA by Congress made it so obvious that the probability was that he survived the shootdown and ended up in the hands of Iraqis, as has been pointed out by the distinguished Senator.

But even with this information, the Department of Defense and the Department of the Navy again had to be pressured to change his status from killed in action—i.e., KIA—to missing in action. Finally, in January of 2001—10 years after the Gulf War, the Navy changed the status of Scott from KIA to missing in action. It took a lot of effort to get that done on the part of
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some of my colleagues and what I call the Scott Speicher Team.

In February of this year, I wrote to the Secretary of Defense and requested that CAPT, Select, Scott Speicher be designated not as missing in action but as a prisoner of war.

My request was based upon “The Intelligence Community Assessment of the Lieutenant Commander Speicher Case.” That is what it is called. That is the title of the assessment. It actually concluded that “Scott Speicher probably survived the loss of his aircraft, and, if he survived, he was most certainly captured by the Iraqis.”

My colleagues, today is the 25th of June, and yet the Department is still delaying on the obvious. CAPT, Select, Scott Speicher was, and is, and should be a prisoner of war.

Let me be clear. I don’t know if Scott is alive today. I hope and I pray so. But let me be equally clear. There is no evidence that he is dead either. Rather, colleagues, “prisoner of war” is the appropriate designation for the warrior we left behind.

Today we are here to argue the status of Scott Speicher but, rather, whether or not Senator NELSON, I, others who support this bill, and the Senate go on record as requiring the Department of Defense to report frequently on their efforts to resolve his whereabouts and status.

Sadly, my colleagues, my history about Scott. Speicher case says we must keep pressure on the Department if we are to finally determine the fate of an American warrior we left behind in the desert of Iraq.

This Nation prides itself on the commitment to our men and women who sacrifice for our freedom. My colleagues, we saw that commitment in the effort to recover the remains of the victims of the 9/11 terrorist attack. We saw that effort on a hilltop in Afghanistan in our efforts to recover a lost Special Forces member. We saw that commitment in the streets of Mogadishu when a Blackhawk helicopter was shot down. We saw that effort in Kosovo and in Bosnia when downed airmen were heroically rescued.

In each of our wars or conflicts, the American servicemen were told they were a prisoner of war. We are bound to tell the fate of Scott Speicher.

January 18, 1991: Secretary of Defense CHEENEY—as I referred to earlier in my remarks—received word that he was a casualty, and it was announced over national television. He referred to the “death” of Commander Speicher.

January 26, 1991: His status was established as “killed in action,” however, by his commanding officer.

May 22, 1991: While the law requires a 1-year interval—let me repeat that. While the law requires a 1-year interval before changing an MIA determination to “killed in action.” Commander Speicher’s status changed to “killed in action.” The Office of Naval Intelligence available evidence did support the KIA status at that particular time—clear back in 1991.

Today we are here to argue the status of Scott Speicher but, rather, whether or not Senator NELSON, I, others who support this bill, and the Senate go on record as requiring the Department of Defense to report frequently on their efforts to resolve his whereabouts and status.

Let me be clear, I don’t know if Scott is alive today. I hope and I pray so. But let me be equally clear. There is no evidence that he is dead either. Rather, colleagues, “prisoner of war” is the appropriate designation for the warrior we left behind.

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Let me be clear, I don’t know if Scott is alive today. I hope and I pray so. But let me be equally clear. There is no evidence that he is dead either. Rather, colleagues, “prisoner of war” is the appropriate designation for the warrior we left behind.
and make an assessment on the fate of Commander Speicher.

I also had the committee request the CIA and the DOD inspectors general to jointly and expeditiously examine the intelligence to support the Speicher case.

July 25, 2000: The committee holds another on-the-record briefing in regards to the Speicher case. Questions for the record then follow.

September of 2000: Congress receives the Intelligence Committee's first ever assessment of the fate of Commander Speicher. I believe the preponderance of evidence does not support the KIA status.

Since that time he has been changed to MIA. I might point out that just before President Clinton left office, he reported to the country that he may be alive.

Now, since that time, we have followed very closely, in the Intelligence Committee, all of the intelligence assessments that have come in. And let me say the people in charge today are doing that with due diligence. I am not trying to point any fingers of blame. I just do not understand how on Earth this could have been so badly handled over an 11- or 12-year period. Without really pointing any fingers of blame, we are receiving good cooperation from those people in charge now.

But what this legislation will do, what the Nelson-Roberts-Smith legislation will do is make sure that, on a timely basis, we have these reports. I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD my letter to Secretary Rumsfeld, dated February 12, 2002, because I think it is very clear that Scott Speicher should be classified a POW. And I feel in my heart—as I say, again, I do not know whether he is alive or not, but I feel in my heart, with continuing intelligence assessment and open-source assessments that we are receiving on a roller coaster timely basis, and more and more public and attention given to this issue, and all of the foreign policy discussion and military mission discussion in regards to Iraq, he may be alive. I cannot say he may be alive. I do not know if Scott is alive. But, my colleagues, we must press ahead in behalf of everybody who wears the uniform to determine his fate.

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

February 12, 2002.

Hon. Donald Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense, The Pentagon, Washington, DC.

Dear Mr. Secretary: I write to request that you designate and use the title Prisoner-of-War (POW) for Captain Scott Speicher. Captain Speicher was the first and only Coalition pilot shot down the first night of the Persian Gulf War in January 1991. He may have been so badly handled at the time of his capture that his status was changed to Missing-in-Action (MIA) in January 2001. President Clinton stated on January 11, 2001 that Captain Speicher ‘might be alive,’ and ‘if he is, where he is; and how we can get him out. . . . Because since he was a uniformed service person, he’s clearly entitled to be released and not to do everything we can to get him out.’

I wrote to Secretary of Defense Cohen on October 20, 2000 that Captain Speicher’s status be changed to a category less decisive and final than KIA (see attachment). At the time, I felt that there was considerable evidence that Captain Speicher had not been killed during the crash of his aircraft. This was based on The Intelligence Community Assessment of the Lieutenant Regan’s conclusion that ‘LCDR Speicher probably survived the loss of his aircraft, and if he survived, he was almost certainly captured by the Iraqis.’ This strongly supported appropriate designation of POW or status of POW. However, I find it odd that Title 10, USC 15132(d) does not identify POW as an officially recognized status although it does define a subcategory under ‘missing’ status as ‘captured.’ Captain Speicher clearly fits the term ‘missing, captured.’ Subparagraph §15132(d) of DOD Instruction 5000.25, Intelligence Community Assessment that implements the statute, contains identical language.

Common usage of the status of ‘missing, captured’ is that of POW.

There is a precedent for maintaining the status of an American as POW many years after the event. I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD my letter to Secretary Cohen, dated August 28, 2000: Congress receives regular updates to the Congress about his fate and increases our leverage of information about Scott Speicher. And while intelligence is central to the potential for our success in resolving his fate, it is not the only aspect of this situation that clearly merits the congressional attention that we are trying to give it right now.

This amendment that is offered by me, Senator ROBERTS, Senator SMITH, Senator GRAHAM of Florida, as well as the majority leader, Senator DASCHLE—and my other colleagues on the amendment. If it is not, I ask unanimous consent that he be added as a co-sponsor of this amendment.

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

Mr. NELSON of Florida. This amendment sets in place a firm schedule of updates on actions taken by the Departments of Defense and State as well as the Central Intelligence Agency. It would formalize a schedule to determine the fate of Captain Speicher; a schedule of accountability, if you will, that puts the department squarely and clearly within the view of Congress and America so that we can take the measure of their efforts and their progress. And they must make progress.

In American military philosophy, no one is left behind on the battlefield. That is particularly the creed among pilots. If a pilot goes down, you know that there is a rescue team coming in to get you. Our effort today, through this amendment, is to encourage those whose responsibility it is in government to find our missing and to leave no effort unturned in the search for Captain Speicher.

To that end, this amendment requires regular updates to the Congress on contacts with the Government of Iraq, on contacts with foreign governments and intelligence services, and on current leads in the case, and efforts to coordinate to groups such as the United Nations and the International Committee of the Red Cross.
We expect to see action and progress in these reports. We expect to have a report that states the facts and makes the necessary adjustments.

I spoke as recently as 2 hours ago with the Deputy Secretary of State and the New Hampshire Senator from Florida. At a Department of Defense press conference shortly after the memorial service, it was announced that he was killed in action and that was it.

Scott Speicher is the only American missing from the Gulf War. Over 11 years after, his fate remains unknown. The horrors of war and the frailty of the human body make it impossible to know with certainty the fate of every American who may be lost in battle. Nonetheless, Americans must have the confidence that the sons and daughters, the brothers and sisters, the fathers and mothers we send into harm's way will find their way home, even if it is only to their final honored resting place. We owe this to those who go and those they leave behind.

I am confident some day we will know the fate of Scott Speicher. I hope it is soon. I pray that he will return to us safe and sound, alive. In the meantime, we must watch this effort closely and pray that resolution will bring peace to the shipmates and the family of CAPT Scott Speicher.

I thank the Senate for what they will do in a few minutes, which is adopt this amendment. I look forward to the comments of the distinguished Senator from New Hampshire.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I compliment my colleagues, Senators NELSON and ROBERTS, for their continued leadership on this issue. I rise in strong support of the amendment.

The case of Scott Speicher is a terrible tragedy that never should have happened to any American fellow soldier. I know this is his constituent—I was formerly stationed in a small midwestern city—and I know this is his constituent. I know this is his constituent. I told him, I think, that I was coming to this country to tell him the story of Scott Speicher.

I have a copy of the letter from the Secretary of Defense to the family of CAPT Speicher. I have a copy of the letter from the Secretary of Defense to the family of CAPT Speicher. I have a copy of the letter from the Secretary of Defense to the family of CAPT Speicher. I have a copy of the letter from the Secretary of Defense to the family of CAPT Speicher.

We will do everything we can to bring peace to the Speicher family. We will do everything we can to bring peace to the Speicher family. We will do everything we can to bring peace to the Speicher family. We will do everything we can to bring peace to the Speicher family.

In the meantime, we must watch this effort closely and pray that resolution will bring peace to the Speicher family and the family of CAPT Scott Speicher.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.
We assess that Iraq can account for Lieutenant Commander Speicher, but that Baghdad is concealing information about his fate. Lieutenant Commander Speicher probably survived the ejection from the aircraft, and if he survived, he almost certainly was captured by the Iraqis.

We know, because there is a lot of information to indicate, that he could have survived the ejection from the aircraft and that there is all kinds of intelligence information about what may or may not have happened to him afterwards. We also know that the Iraqis know the answer. They could return him in one way or the other, dead or alive, or give us information that would indicate one way or the other.

I don’t know if Commander Scott Speicher is alive, but I do know there is no information that he is dead. A lot of information suggests he may be alive. I want to once again re-encapsulate this because it is very important. In spite of all the information we had at our disposal up until the last 2 or 3 years, by nineties, crossing two administrations, the previous Bush administration and the Clinton administration—in spite of the fact that information was in the DPMO office and in the intelligence office and the Navy, in spite of all of that information that showed an overwhelming amount of evidence that he may have survived, they still declared him KIA and refused to change the status.

When I asked to change the status, I was accused of a troublemaker in the secret conversations and documents to which I was not privy. I don’t care because the issue is not me. If we can find out that Scott Speicher is alive and could come home to his family, I would like to join my colleague in Jackson-ville for that homecoming. But we owe nothing less to the Speicher family than that. All the men and women who serve in uniform in our Nation’s military deserve nothing less than that—that the U.S. Government finds out what happened to him.

We realize we are dealing with a na-tion and a leader who isn’t exactly cooperative and is not the greatest humanitarian the world has ever seen. I don’t blame the U.S. Gov-ernment for that. I do blame the U.S. Government for not sharing this with me. I was not a member of the Intel-ligence Committee, so I was basically kept from getting the information, frankly, by the chairman of the com-mittee. I wasn’t able to get it.

Finally, after raising enough ruckus, I began to challenge the intelligence reports and documents and evidence we were getting, and I was able to get before the committee—even though I am not a member—and ask some ques-tions, and then, subsequently, all this information began to come out. It is amazing.

We know the Iraqis do hold prisoners. They released an Iranian pilot in 1998 who had been held for 18 years. So it is not unprecedented. I hope sincerely that we will move forward. I think the Senator’s bill will help. I just caution one thing, which is that we don’t turn this thing into a 90-day reporting pe-riod and get off focus. The main focus should be, let’s find him, or find out what happened to him. And let’s do it quickly. This legislation will be over with quickly because, hopefully, in the first 90 days we will get the answers. I hope it will not be a series of 90-day reports in succession as we see years and years go by.

If Scott Speicher is alive, the thought of him being in some prison cell somewhere in Iraq—God knows what is going on—is a horrible thing to even think about. If he is dead, then Saddam Hussein should tell us what happened to him.

I want to make clear before I con-clude, that the current intelligence community, starting in the previous administration and then into this one, Admiral Wilson of DIA, and others have been very helpful and very responsi-ve in helping us to get the answers. Using the phone calls, the conversations where we could do that. So I am optimis-tic and I know the Senator’s legisla-tion will help.

NINTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS RULING

Before I yield the floor, this has an impact here. I want my colleagues to know that before here we are talking now about a missing pilot who was shot down in 1991 in the Persian Gulf war, fighting for his country, for the flag, fighting for this Nation under God, the flag we salute every single day, “one nation under God.” I want to announce to my colleagues a decision that just came down from the Ninth Circuit Court—the infamous Ninth Circuit Court. Listen to this article on the rul-ing:

A federal appeals court ruled Wednesday that the Pledge of Allegiance is an unconsti-tutional endorsement of religion and cannot be recited in schools.

That is the wording of the Ninth Cir-cuit Court.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals over-turned a 1994 decision by a Federal district court of appeals, of which I was not aware, to take the words “under God” out of the Pledge of Allegiance. I have faith in our judicial system. Senator Byrd, the distinguished senior Senator from West Virginia, reminds all of us to carry around a copy of the Constitution and a copy of the Declara-tion of Independence. I remind my col- leagues the second paragraph of the Declaration of Independence has these immortal words:

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. What in the world is going on? Why don’t you guys salute the flag? I said: I don’t know; let’s find out. We implemented it. The House of Representatives recites the Pledge every day. We have to change the status. I wish to recite from the resolution because it shows we ought to be pretty outraged by that judicial decision:

Whereas the Flag of the United States of America is our Nation’s most revered and preeminent symbol.

And it goes on to talk about the flag and it even talks about the Pledge.

Here we are talking about a Naval of- ficer who may or may not be alive in Iraq who is basically not looked for by his own Government for 10 years, and now we get an appeals court decision in the Ninth Circuit that says we have to take “under God” out of the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Frankly, to Judge Goodwin: May God bless us all and pray for us.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Sen-ator from Florida.

Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. Presi-dent, we are going to wind up the de-bate on our amendment having to do with Scott Speicher, but since the distin-guished Senator has told me of two events, I want to comment.

First, the Senator from New Hamp-shire told me that certain bureaucrats label him a troublemaker. If that is the case, I like that kind of troublemaker.

Second, the Senator from New Hamp-shire referred to a recent decision by a Federal district court of appeals, of which I was not aware, to take the words “under God” out of the Pledge of Allegiance.

I have faith in our judicial system. Senator Byrd, the distinguished senior Senator from West Virginia, reminds all of us to carry around a copy of the Constitution and a copy of the Declara-tion of Independence. I remind my col- leagues the second paragraph of the Declaration of Independence has these immortal words:

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. Whether it be the judicial system that would correct a decision by a court of appeals which absolutely stuns me or whether it would be the checks and balances found in the Constitution of the United States, to which constitutional amendments can be initi-ated by this body, then I have the con-fidence to know that the constitutional system will work under this time-tested system.

I thank the Senator from New Hamp-shire for bringing that to our atten-tion.

Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the Scott Speicher amend-ment. I ask the Presiding Officer to put the question.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Sen-ator from Nevada.
Mr. REID. Mr. President, Senator LEVIN is not here. I cannot allow that to happen.

Mr. NELSON of Florida. If the Senator will yield, Senator LEVIN has just come into the Chamber.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I understand the pending amendment is the amendment of Senator NELSON of Florida; is that correct?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct.

Mr. LEVIN. Which Senator ROBERTS and Senator SMITH have cosponsored. I commend them on their amendment and their continuing efforts to remind us of the missing hero of whom we can never lose sight. As long as there is hope, we are going to remain targeted on trying to locate our wonderful American who is always on our minds. I do not know if there is further debate on the amendment. If not, I hope that amendment can be adopted at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate? The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I believe that amendment has been cleared on this side. I also compliment my colleagues on their tenacity in sticking with this issue. I was on the Intelligence Committee when this was called to my attention. I believe Senator SMITH was one of the first to get involved, as well as Senator ROBERTS and then Senator NELSON from Florida.

We need to get to the bottom of this matter. I think this amendment is something the Senate needs to adopt. There is no objection on this side.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate on the amendment? If not, without objection the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 4101) was agreed to.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. ALLARD. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 4103

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator WARNER, I offer an amendment that would amend the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2000 to modify the requirement for the Secretary of Defense to submit a master plan on the use of the Navy Annex.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. ALLARD. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 4104

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator DURBIN, I offer an amendment which would provide authority for nonprofit organizations to self-certify for treatment as qualified organizations employing the severely disabled for purposes of the DOD Mentor-Protege Program.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

Mr. LEVIN. I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To provide for a master plan for the use of the Navy Annex, Arlington, Virginia)

At the end of subtitle C of title XXVIII, add the following:

SEC. 2829. MASTER PLAN FOR USE OF NAVY ANNEX, ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA.


(b) MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITY FOR TRANSFER FROM NAVY ANNEX.—Section 2881 of the Military Construction Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000 (division B of Public Law 107–107; 115 Stat. 1330), by striking “as a site”—and all that follows and inserting “as a site for other memorials or museums that the Secretary of Defense may, in accordance with such requirements as the Secretary may establish, permit a business entity operating on a non-profit basis to self-certify its eligibility for treatment as qualified organizations employing the severely disabled under subsection (m)(2)(D).
‘‘(2) The Secretary shall treat any entity described in paragraph (1) that submits a self-certification under that paragraph as a qualified organization employing the severely disabled until the Secretary receives evidence, if any, that such entity is not described by paragraph (1) or does not merit treatment as a qualified organization employing the severely disabled in accordance with applicable provisions of subsection (m).’’

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, it has been cleared on this side.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 4104) was agreed to.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. ALLARD. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 4106

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator Kyl, I offer an amendment which would authorize the transfer of the DF–9E Panther aircraft to the Women Air Force Service Pilots Museum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Mr. President, I am not in a position to lay the matter on the table. The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 4107

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator Santorum, I offer an amendment that would authorize an increase of $1 million for procurement of M821A1 high explosive insensitive munition and would authorize a decrease of $1 million for the procurement of the CH–47 crashworthy seat modification.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

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(2) The Secretary shall treat any entity described in paragraph (1) that submits a self-certification under that paragraph as a qualified organization employing the severely disabled until the Secretary receives evidence, if any, that such entity is not described by paragraph (1) or does not merit treatment as a qualified organization employing the severely disabled in accordance with applicable provisions of subsection (m).’’

‘‘(3) Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall cease to be effective on the effective date of regulations prescribed by the Small Business Administra-

Mike ALLARD. Mr. President, it has been cleared on this side.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 4104) was agreed to.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. ALLARD. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 4106

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator Kerry, I offer an amendment which would require the Army to report to Congress on the impact of a proposed reorganization of contracting authority that will have on small business. I send the amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 4105) was agreed to.

Mr. ALLARD. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 4107

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator Santorum, I offer an amendment that would authorize an increase of $1 million for procurement of M821A1 high explosive insensitive munition and would authorize a decrease of $1 million for the procurement of the CH–47 crashworthy seat modification.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.
Mr. ALLARD. It has been cleared on this side also.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 4107) was agreed to.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Amendment No. 4058

Mr. LEVIN. On behalf of Senators CLELAND, HATCH, and KENNEDY, I offer an amendment which would authorize the Secretary of Defense to pay interest on student loans of service members for 3 years during their first term of service.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN], for Mr. CLELAND, for himself, Mr. HUTCHINSON, and Mr. KENNEDY, proposes an amendment as follows:

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To authorize the payment of interest on student loans of members of the Armed Forces)

SEC. 655. PAYMENT OF INTEREST ON STUDENT LOANS.

(a) Authority.—(1) The Secretary concerned may pay in accordance with this section to the Secretary of Defense any special allowances that accrue on one or more student loans of an eligible member of the armed forces.

(2) The Secretary of a military department or agency, in determining the program under paragraph (1) only if approved by the Secretary of Defense and subject to such requirements, conditions, and restrictions as the Secretary of Defense may prescribe.

(b) Eligible Personnel.—A member of the armed forces is eligible for the benefit under subsection (a) while the member—

(i) is serving on active duty in fulfillment of the member’s first enlistment in the armed forces or, in the case of an officer, is serving on active duty and has not completed more than three years of service on active duty;

(ii) is the debtor on one or more unpaid loans described in subsection (c); and

(iii) is not negligent on any such loan.

(c) Student Loans.—The authority to make payments under subsection (a) may be exercised with respect to the following loans:

(1) A loan made, insured, or guaranteed under part B of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1078 et seq.).

(2) A loan made under part D of such title (20 U.S.C. 1091 et seq.).

(3) A loan made under part E of such title (20 U.S.C. 1087aa et seq.).

(d) Maximum Benefit.—The months for which any special allowance may be paid on behalf of a member of the armed forces under this section are any 36 consecutive months during which the member is eligible under subsection (b).

(e) Funds for Payments.— Appropriations available for the pay and allowances of military personnel shall be available for payments under this section.

(f) Coordination.—(1) The Secretary of Defense and, with respect to the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a service in the armed forces under section 2174 of title 10, United States Code, shall consult with the Secretary of Education regarding the administration of the authority under this section with the administration of the student loan programs under parts B, D, and E of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087 et seq.).

(2) The Secretary concerned shall transfer to the Secretary of Education the funds necessary—

(A) to pay interest and special allowances on student loans under this section; and

(B) to reimburse the Secretary of Education for any reasonable administrative costs incurred by the Secretary in coordinating the program under this section with the administration of the student loan programs under parts B, D, and E of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

(g) Special Allowance Defined.—In this section, the term ‘special allowance’ means a special allowance that is payable under section 438 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087–1).

(2) The table of sections at the beginning of this chapter is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"2174. Interest payment program: members on active duty."

(b) Federal Family Education Loans and Direct Loans.—(1) Subsection (c)(3) of section 438 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087j) is amended—

(A) in clause (i) of subparagraph (A)—

(i) striking "or" at the end of subclause (II);

(ii) by inserting "or" at the end of subclause (III); and

(iii) by adding at the end the following new subclause (IV):

"(IV) is eligible for interest payments to be made on such loan for service in the Armed Forces under section 2174 of title 10, United States Code, and, pursuant to that eligibility, the interest on such loan is being paid under subsection (j), except that the form of a forbearance under this paragraph shall be a temporary cessation of all payments on the loan other than payments of interest on the loan that are made under subsection (j);";

and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(i) ARMED FORCES STUDENT LOAN INTEREST PAYMENT PROGRAM."

"(1) Authority.—Using funds received by transfer to the Secretary under section 2174 of title 10, United States Code, for the payment of interest on a loan made under this part to a member of the Armed Forces, the Secretary shall pay the interest on the loan as due for a period not in excess of 36 consecutive months. The Secretary may not pay interest on any special allowance on such a loan out of other funds than those that have been so transferred.

"(2) FORBEARANCE.—During the period in which the Secretary is making payments on a loan under paragraph (1), the lender shall grant the borrower forbearance in accordance with the guaranty agreement under subsection (c)(3)(A)(ii)(IV).

"(3) SPECIAL ALLOWANCE DEFINED.—For the purposes of this subsection, the term ‘special allowance’, means a special allowance that is payable with respect to a loan under section 438 of this Act."

(c) Federal Perkins Loans.—Section 464 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067d) is amended—

(1) in subsection (e)—

(A) by striking "or" at the end of paragraph (1); and

(B) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (2) and inserting "; or";

and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(3) the borrower is eligible for interest payments to be made on such loan for service in the Armed Forces under section 2174 of title 10, United States Code, and, pursuant to that eligibility, the interest on such loan is being paid under subsection (j), except that the form of a forbearance under this paragraph shall be a temporary cessation of all payments on the loan other than payments of interest on the loan that are made under subsection (j)."; and

(d) Effective Date.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to interest, and any special allowance under section 438 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 that accrue for months beginning on or after October 1, 2003, on student loans described in subsection (c) of section 2174 of title 10, United States Code (as added by subsection (a)), that were made before, on, or after such date to members of the Armed Forces who are on active duty (as defined in section 101(d) of title 10, United States Code) on or after that date.

Mr. ALLARD. The amendment has been cleared on this side.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 4108) was agreed to.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. ALLARD. I move to lay that motion on the table.
The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.  

**AMENDMENT NO. 4109**

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator SANTORUM, I offer an amendment which would revise the language in section 2841 of the bill authorizing transfer of funds from the Air Force to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to carry out the terms of a provision in the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2003 authorizing the withdrawal of lands from the National Wildlife Refuge system lands in Nevada.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To provide alternative authority for the transfer of funds in lieu of acquisition of replacement property for National Wildlife Refuge system lands in Nevada.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The Senator from Colorado [Ms. ALLARD], for Mr. SANTORUM, proposes an amendment numbered 4109.

**AMENDMENT NO. 4109**

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To add $1,000,000 for the Air Force for cargo helicopter commercial, off-the-shelf, cargo helicopter commercial, off-the-shelf, crashworthy seats.)

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Colorado [Ms. ALLARD], for Mr. SANTORUM, proposes an amendment numbered 4109.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To authorize $1,000,000 for the Air Force for cargo helicopter commercial, off-the-shelf, crashworthy seats.)

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Colorado [Ms. ALLARD], for Mr. SANTORUM, proposes an amendment numbered 4109.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.  

**AMENDMENT NO. 4110**

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator LOTT, I offer an amendment to the motion to authorize the Secretary of Defense to waive the time-in-grade requirement for officers in the grades of 0-4 and above as set forth in section 1370 of title 10, United States Code.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The legislative clerk reads as follows:

The amendment (No. 4110) was agreed to.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I offer an amendment (No. 4110) to the motion to authorize the Secretary of Defense to waive the time-in-grade requirement for officers in the grades of 0-4 and above as set forth in section 1370 of title 10, United States Code.

Mr. ALLARD. I ask unanimous consent of the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To add restrictions on the proposed authority for reducing the minimum period of service in grades above 0-4 for eligibility to be retired in highest grade held)
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“(A) an exercise of authority under paragraph (2)(a) of subsection (a) to reduce the 3-year minimum period of service in grade required under paragraph (3)(A) of such subsection in the case of an officer to whom such paragraph applies before the officer is retired in such grade under such subsection without having satisfied that 3-year service requirement; and

“(B) an exercise of authority under paragraph (5) of subsection (d) to reduce the 3-year minimum period of service in grade required under paragraph (3)(A) of such subsection in the case of an officer to whom such paragraph applies before the officer is retired in such grade under such subsection without having satisfied that 3-year service requirement.

(2) The requirement for a notification under paragraph (1) is satisfied in the case of an officer to whom subsection (c) applies if the notification is included in the certification submitted with respect to such officer under paragraph (1) of such subsection.

(3) The notification requirement under paragraph (1) does not apply to an officer being retired at discharge for cause as a lieutenant colonel or colonel or, in the case of the Navy, commander or captain.”.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment of the Senator from Mississippi.

The amendment (No. 411) was agreed to.

Mr. ALLARD. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the proceedings under the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent Senator Nelson be recognized as in morning business and that we then return immediately to the pending amendment.

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

The Senator from Florida.

THE PLEDGE

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, a few minutes ago, late-breaking news was called to our attention. As a matter of fact, it was while we were debating the Scott Speicher amendment, which was adopted unanimously on this historic vote, that we were then informed by the media—by the Associated Press, that news is accurate. A Reuters statement says:

A Federal appeals court found the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance unconstitutional on Wednesday, saying it was illegal to ask U.S. schoolchildren to vow fealty to one Nation under God.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco overturned a 1954 act of Congress that added “under God” to the pledge, saying the words violated the Constitution’s framers’ intent of separating church and state.

It is with a heavy heart that I would have to take the floor—I imagine I am just the first of many—to call to the attention of the Senate, and indeed to call to the attention of the courts, that I think there is substantial legal justification. There is a huge difference between separation of church and state—which is what the Constitution requires of the state and of God. There is a huge difference.

The opening ceremony of the U.S. Senate each morning that we go into session is a very solemn occasion. Overlooking the Chamber are the words inscribed in gold, above the middle entrance into this Chamber, above the two stately columns—inscribed in gold: “In God We Trust.”

The opening ceremony, for those who have not participated in it, is a most solemn occasion about which the historian of this Chamber, one of our own, the distinguished senior Senator from West Virginia—who has been in Congress, if not over a half a century, certainly over half a century—has taken it upon himself to educate the freshman Senators as to the dignity, the decorum, and the solemnity of the opening ceremony.

When the bossing bells ring and those two doors to the left of the rostrum open, in walks the Presiding Officer accompanied by the Senate Chaplain or the especially designated Chaplain for the day.

As the Presiding Officer walks in and starts to mount the rostrum, the Presiding Officer steps up three of the four steps but does not ascend on the fourth step, which is the level of the Presiding Officer’s desk and chair. Rather, the Presiding Officer remains on the third step as the Chaplain ascends to the higher level, the level of the rostrum.

This is the symbolic act. It is a symbolic act of raising the dignity of the position of the Chaplain of the Senate, or the designated Chaplain of the Senate for the day, recognizing and elevating the deity, or the representative of divine providence to that position.

We do that each day in the Senate.

Mr. JOHNSON. I share the shock and dismay expressed by my colleague, my friend from Florida, over the ruling of the Ninth Circuit Court relative to the Pledge of Allegiance in our schools.

Without having read the decision, other than the news release within the hour through the media, it would appear that ruling of the three-judge panel of the Ninth Circuit—the Senator will concur that this is only one of our appellate circuits—applies only to the Ninth Circuit.

Certainly, it would be my hope that this matter would be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, and that the Supreme Court would not accept this decision and, hopefully, in my view, overturn the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Is that the progression of events that my friend and colleague from Florida hopes will be the next step that this particular controversy might take?

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Indeed, under our constitutional system—that is part of what I wanted to point out, and I pointed out to the Senate earlier today—we have a mechanism of checks and balances. The step here is the right of appeal from this court of appeals in San Francisco to the U.S. Supreme Court.

I have the confidence that the Supreme Court’s nine Justices representing the entire Nation would understand the difference of separation of church and state as being the difference between the separation of the state and God.

As I was saying, the dignity of this institution is started off each day under the watchful words inscribed in gold above the center door. “In God We Trust,” with an opening ceremony in which the position of the Chaplain is actually elevated above the Presiding Officer until the Chaplain delivers the opening prayer which opens the business of the Senate.

Furthermore, I point out to our colleagues that as part of our constitutional heritage—including the Constitution—one of the most important documents in our governmental archives is the Declaration of Independence. I call to the attention of the Senate the words of the second paragraph:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

Then I point out that there are similar words at the end of the Declaration:

And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

I have the confidence to know that when there is a judicial opinion that I think so violates the national understanding and national sense of the proper perspective of a state and divine providence as opposed to the issue that we all support, the separation of church and state so that anyone can worship as they wish if at all, then I think that distinction needs to be clearly made as well as it needs to be reminded of all of the historical significance of our reliance upon divine providence that is a part of the very fabric of this Nation, of this Government, and of the documents upon which this Government was founded.

I see the great Senator from Connecticut standing and I want to hear what he has to say. Should all else fail, even in a judicial interpretation, there is another check and balance given to us by this document; that is, the will of this Nation can be expressed by the amending or an addition to this Constitution, the Constitution. We can start right here in this legislative body by the process of adding to the Constitution, amending the Constitution...
by the legislative branch’s initiative of proposing a constitutional amendment. I have great confidence in the system—that this judicial decision by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals is not going to stand.

I yield to the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. CLINTON). The Senator from Connecticut is recognized.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. I thank the Chair. Madam President, I rise to join my friends and colleague from Florida, Senator NELSON, in expressing dismay, outrage, and amazement at the news today of the decision by the Ninth Circuit Court declaring the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance unconstitutional.

I say to my friends from Florida and friends in the Chamber, when my staff members told me this, I, frankly, thought they were joking. This is a decision that offends our national morality, that rejects the most universally shared values of our country, that diminishes our unity, and that attempts to undercut our strength at a time after September 11 when we need the strength, unity, and our shared belief in God which has historically brought the American people together, and does so today.

There may have been a more senseless, ridiculous decision issued by a court somewhere at some time, but I have never heard of it. I find the decision by this court hard to believe.

I remember a day, I say to my friends, a decade or so ago when the Supreme Court issued a ruling saying that it was unconstitutional for a clergyman—in that case, it was a Rabbi—to give an invocation at a high school graduation in Rhode Island. I couldn’t believe that decision. In some sense this decision is its progeny. It offends the very basis of our rights as Americans.

My friend from Florida read from the Declaration of Independence. According to their decision of the Ninth Circuit Court, the reading of the Declaration of Independence is unconstitutional.

If that isn’t turning logic and morality on its head, I do not know what is, because the paragraph is the first statement by the Founders of our independence and the first declaration of the basis for our rights that have so distinguished our history in the 226 years since.

First paragraph:

When in the Course of human events . . . and to assume among the powers of Earth, the separate and equal station to which the endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

So that the premise of the rights that have distinguished America for the 226 years since, that we were embraced in the Constitution as an expression of the declaration, all come from God, not from the Framers and the Founders, as gifted as they were, not from the philosophers of the enlightenment who affected their judge from that were the endowment of our Creator.

And that judgment has framed our history in two ways. It has been the basis of our rights because it is from our shared belief in God and the foundation place it has in our system of government, as stated right here in the first statement of the first Americans, the Declaration of Independence, that we are all children of the same God. That means we all have the rights. All else were that I stand in a deep sense of unity with one another. I remember, after the terrible events of September 11, how struck I was by the classically American reaction that not only at that moment when we were so shaken by the tragedy and the enormity of what had happened did we go to our houses of worship to ask for strength and purpose and comfort, we went to each other’s houses of worship—that is the American way—and gained strength and purpose from it.

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, will the Senator yield?

We are privileged to serve on the Armed Services Committee. When I first heard of this, I thought to myself about the hundreds and hundreds of thousands of men and women who have worn the uniform of our country and have gone beyond our shores to fight for freedom. Each of them brings to bear the lessons he or she learned from their own personal history in expressing our grave concern over this opinion.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. I thank my friend from Virginia.

I want to say a few words more. One is that your statement reminds me, my dad served in World War II. My dad passed away 18 years ago. One of the treasured possessions of his that I have is a small Bible that he was given with a written statement in it from President Roosevelt who said, "In defense of our liberty in World War II got similar Bibles—and to carry it with them as a source of strength.

It has been my honor, each time I have spoken in a Senate or joint the lessons from his, a Bible as a source of strength.

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I have to say to my friend, my father served in World War I as a doctor in the trenches. He was wounded and highly decorated. And he carried, in his tunic, throughout every hour of the day, his prayer book which his mother had given him. And he noted in it every single battle and engagement he was in and the wounds that he tended to and the wounded and those who died.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. I appreciate my friend from Virginia sharing that moving story.

I will conclude in a moment because I know—

Mr. REID. Will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Of course I will yield to my friend from Nevada.

Mr. REID. I know the Senator from Connecticut had a distinguished legal career prior to coming here. I believe the Senator was attorney general of the State of Connecticut; is that right?

Mr. LIEBERMAN. That is correct.

Mr. REID. I put in many years prior to coming back here and tried lots and lots of cases. We had a rule that when a judge ruled contrary to the interests of your client, you were not to comment on the judge.

I say to my friend, I am not constrained in this instance. I say anything I want about the judge who wrote that opinion. And I say to my friend from Connecticut, that judge, who is no youngster, was appointed. He graduated from law school in 1951 and appointed by President Kennedy to be a member of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

I say to my friend, it is things like that that take away from what I think is a great institution; that is, the people who serve in the bar of the United States, lawyers.

This is just so meaningless, so senseless, so illogical. I cannot imagine that a judge who has graduated and been a lawyer for 50 years, more than 50 years—does the Senator from Connecticut have any idea how, logically, you could come up with an opinion such as this? I read the highlights of the opinion. It is, for me, illogical, irrational. Can the Senator figure any rationality to this opinion?

Mr. LIEBERMAN. I thank my friend from Nevada.

In my opinion, having seen a precis of the decision, it offends all logic. The facts of the circumstances are that students by previous court decisions, are allowed, if they are offended by a part of the pledge that says we are “one nation under God,” not to say the pledge or, in fact, to leave the room.

Secondly, this decision is the most extreme and ridiculous expression of what I take to be a fundamental misunderstanding of the religion clauses of the Constitution, which, to me, promised—if you will allow me to put it this way—freedom of religion, not freedom from religion. They protect the American people against the establishment of an official religion but have always, in the best of times, acknowledged the reality that our very rights, our very
existence comes from an acknowledgment of the authority and goodness of Almighty God, and that people of faith, throughout the 226 years since then, in our history, are the ones who repeatedly have led movements that have made the ideals of the Declaration and the Constitution real—the abolitionists, the suffragettes, all those who worked, beginning in the 19th century, and then in the 20th century, on social welfare, child labor legislation, and, of course, the civil rights movement of the 20th century.

So I do not see any logic. In fact, I think this decision offends logic. It will outrage the public. And if there is anything positive that comes out of it, it will unify this most religious and tolerant people.

We have found a way in this country, that is unique in world history, to express our shared faith in God, and to do so in a way that has not excluded anyone. I was privileged to be there, and feel that in a most personal and validating and inspiring way in the election of 2000.

So I thank the Senator from Nevada and the Senator from Virginia. I thank the Senator from Florida for initiating this discussion. I agree with him, this decision will be appealed. I hope and trust it will be overturned. But if, may I say, God forbid, it is not overturned, then we will join to amend the Constitution to make clear that in this one Nation of people—because we are one Nation under God—we are one Nation because of our faith in God, that the American people, children, forever will be able to stand and recite the pledge.

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. REID. If my two friends would allow me to propound a unanimous consent request, we waited for 2 days to do this. As soon as I complete this, the Senator from Connecticut will regain the floor.
The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Navy under Title 10, U.S.C., Section 624: RUSSELL J GROCKI, 0000.

JOEL T GRINER JR., 0000.

BRIAN A GOULDING, 0000.

JAMES G FOGGO III, 0000.

KENT V FLOWERS, 0000.

CHRISTOPHER P FEDYSCHYN, 0000.

FREDERICK G DORAN, 0000.

MICHAEL B CHASE, 0000.

THOMAS F CARNEY JR., 0000.

JOEL M CANTRELL, 0000.

TODD A BOYERS, 0000.

MCWILLIAM V BOLLMAN, 0000.

JOHN W BARNHILL, 0000.

KELLY B BARAGAR, 0000.

STUART D BAILEY, 0000.

CHRISTOPHER P ARENDT, 0000.

ROBERT S ANDERSON, 0000.

JOSEPH C ADAN, 0000.

RICHARD W SMITH, 0000.

DOROTHY J FREER, 0000.

PETER D BAUMANN, 0000.

SHEILA A PATTERSON, 0000.

THOMAS J MOORE, 0000.

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KELLY B BARAGAR, 0000.

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DOROTHY J FREER, 0000.

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SHEILA A PATTERSON, 0000.

THOMAS J MOORE, 0000.

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STUART D BAILEY, 0000.

CHRISTOPHER P ARENDT, 0000.

ROBERT S ANDERSON, 0000.

JOSEPH C ADAN, 0000.
To the grade indicated in the United States Navy Under Title 10, U.S.C., Section 624:

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Navy under Title 10, U.S.C., Section 624:

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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 Thursday, June 27, 2002 may be found in the Daily Digest of today’s RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 28

9:30 a.m.  
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
Children and Families Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on S. 2246, to improve access to printed instructional materials used by blind or other persons with print disabilities in elementary and secondary schools.  
SD–430

Governmental Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine how the proposed Department of Homeland Security should address weapons of mass destruction, and relevant science and technology, research and development, and public health issues.  
SD–342

JULY 10

9:30 a.m.  
Veterans’ Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine the continuing challenges of care and compensation due to military exposures.  
SR–418

Energy and Natural Resources  
Water and Power Subcommittee  
To hold oversight hearings to examine water resource management issues on the Missouri River.  
SD–366

2 p.m.  
Environment and Public Works  
To hold hearings to examine the President’s proposal to establish the Department of Homeland Security.  
SD–406

JULY 11

10 a.m.  
Energy and Natural Resources  
To hold hearings to examine the Department of Energy’s Environmental Management program, focusing on DOE’s progress in implementing its accelerated cleanup initiative, and the changes DOE has proposed to the EM Science and Technology program.  
SD–366

● 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.
HIGHLIGHTS
Senate agreed to S. Res. 292, Expressing Support for the Pledge of Allegiance.
Trade Act 2002—The House agreed to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3009, Andean Trade Preference Act, with an amendment. The House then insisted on its amendment, asked for a conference with the Senate, and appointed conferencees.
House committees ordered reported 18 sundry measures.

Senate

Chamber Action
Routine Proceedings, pages S6049–S6095

Measures Introduced: Seven bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2681–2687, S.J. Res. 39, S. Res. 292, and S. Con. Res. 124. (See next issue.)

Measures Reported:
S. 1227, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area in the State of New York, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 107–179)
S. 1325, to ratify an agreement between the Aleut Corporation and the United States of America to exchange land rights received under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act for certain land interests on Adak Island, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 107–180)
H.R. 601, To redesignate certain lands within the Craters of the Moon National Monument. (S. Rept. No. 107–181)
H.R. 2440, to rename Wolf Trap Farm Park as “Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts”. (See next issue.)

Measures Passed:
Expressing Support for Pledge of Allegiance: By a unanimous vote of 99 yeas (Vote No. 163), Senate agreed to S. Res. 292, expressing support for the Pledge of Allegiance. (See next issue.)

Ports-to-Plains Corridor: Senate passed S. 1646, to identify certain routes in the States of Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, and New Mexico as part of the Ports-to-Plains Corridor, a high priority corridor on the National Highway System. (See next issue.)

Automatic Defibrillation in Adam’s Memory Act: Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of S. 1041, to establish a program for an information clearinghouse to increase public access to defibrillation in schools, and the bill was then passed. (See next issue.)

Patent and Trademark Office Authorization: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2047, to authorize appropriations for the United States Patent and Trademark Office for fiscal year 2003 through 2008, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: (See next issue.)

Reid (for Leahy/Hatch) Amendment No. 4113, in the nature of a substitute. (See next issue.)
Reid (for Leahy) Amendment No. 4115, to amend the title. (See next issue.)

for fiscal years 2003 through 2008, after agreeing to a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute.

(See next issue.)

National Defense Authorization Act: Senate continued consideration of S. 2514, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2003 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S6057–89 (continued next issue)

Adopted:

Domenici Amendment No. 4009, to extend and improve United States programs on the proliferation of nuclear materials. Pages S6057–66

Levin Amendment No. 4087, to increase the amount provided for RDT&E, Air Force, for silicone substrates for flexible solar cells (PE 62601F), and to offset the increase by reducing the amount provided for RDT&E, Army, for countermobility systems (PE 62624A). Page S6075

Allard (for Warner) Amendment No. 4088, to authorize, with an offset, $2,000,000 for research, development, test, and evaluation for the Navy for the Marine Corps Advanced Technology Demonstration (ATD) (PE0603640M) for analysis of emerging threats.

Levin (for Kennedy) Amendment No. 4089, to prohibit the transfer of the Medical Free Electron Laser program (PE0602227D8Z) from the Department of Defense. Pages S6075–76

Allard (for Warner) Amendment No. 4090, to authorize land conveyances at the Engineer Proving Ground, Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Page S6076

Levin (for Inouye) Amendment No. 4091, to amend title 10, United States Code, to increase the grade provided for the heads of the nurse corps of the Armed Forces. Pages S6076–77

Allard/Reid Amendment No. 4092, to prescribe the composition and leadership of the Veterinary Corps of the Army. Page S6077

Levin (for Akaka) Amendment No. 4093, to provide for the amount for the demonstration of renewable energy use of the Navy to be available within the Navy energy program (PE 0604710N) and not within Navy facilities improvement (PE 0603725N). Page S6077

Allard (for Collins) Amendment No. 4094, to extend multiyear procurement authority for DDG–51 class destroyers.

Levin (for Landrieu/Roberts) Amendment No. 4095, to authorize additional activities for the Defense Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, and to require an assessment of the program.

Allard (for Inhofe/Akaka) Amendment No. 4096, to increase the maximum amount of assistance that the Secretary of Defense may provide to a tribal organization or economic enterprise to carry out a procurement technical assistance program in two or more Bureau of Indian Affairs service areas.

Levin (for Cleland/Thurmond) Amendment No. 4097, to repeal a prohibition on use of Air Force Reserve AGR personnel for Air Force base security functions.

Allard (for Helms/Cleland) Amendment No. 4098, to require the Secretary of Defense to establish clear and uniform policy and procedures regarding the installation and connection of telecom switches to the Defense Switch Network.

Levin (for Nelson (FL)) Amendment No. 4099, to provide for the disclosure to the Department of Veterans Affairs of information on the Shipboard Hazard and Defense project of the Navy.

Allard (for Warner) Amendment No. 4100, to require an engineering study and environmental analysis of road modifications to address the closure of roads in the vicinity of Fort Belvoir, Virginia, for force protection purposes.

Nelson (FL)/Roberts Amendment No. 4101, to require reports on efforts to resolve the whereabouts and status of Captain Michael Scott Speicher, United States Navy.

Levin (for Biden/Carper) Amendment No. 4102, to extend the work safety demonstration program of the Department of Defense. Page S6085

Allard (for Warner) Amendment No. 4103, to provide for a master plan for the use of the Navy Annex, Arlington, Virginia.

Levin (for Durbin) Amendment No. 4104, to provide authority for nonprofit organizations to self-certify eligibility for treatment as qualified organizations employing the severely disabled for purposes of the Mentor-Protege Program. Pages S6085–86

Allard (for Kyl) Amendment No. 4105, to authorize the transfer of a DF–9E Panther aircraft to the Women Airforce Service Pilots Museum. Page S6086

Levin (for Kerry) Amendment No. 4106, to require the Secretary of the Army to submit a report on the effects of the Army Contracting Agency on small business participation in Army procurement.

Allard (for Santorum) Amendment No. 4107, to add $1,000,000 for the Army for procurement of M82A1 High Explosive (HE) insensitive munition for the 81-millimeter mortar, and to offset the increase by reducing the amount provided for the
Army for aircraft procurement for CH–47 cargo helicopter modifications, for the procurement of commercial, off-the-shelf, crashworthy seats by $1,000,000.

Levin (for Cleland) Amendment No. 4108, to authorize the payment of interest on student loans of members of the Armed Forces. Pages S6086–87

Allard (for Santorum) Amendment No. 4109, to add $1,000,000 for the Air Force for RDT&E for space and missile operations, Civil Reserve Space Service (CRSS) initiative (PE 305173F), and to offset the increase by reducing the amount provided for the Army for Aircraft procurement, CH–47 cargo helicopter modifications, for the procurement of commercial, off-the-shelf, crashworthy seats by $1,000,000. Page S6088

Levin (for Reid) Amendment No. 4110, to provide alternative authority regarding the transfer of funds for the acquisition of replacement property for National Wildlife Refuge system lands in Nevada.

Allard (for Lott) Amendment No. 4111, to add restrictions on the proposed authority for reducing the minimum period of service in grades above O–4 for eligibility to be retired in highest grade held. Pages S6088–89

Subsequently, the amendment was modified.

Levin Amendment No. 4046 (to Amendment No. 4007), to provide priority for the allocation of certain funds for Department of Defense activities to combat terrorism at home and abroad. Pages S6066–75

Warner Amendment No. 4007, to provide an additional amount for ballistic missile defense or combating terrorism in accordance with national security priorities of the President. Page S6057

Reid (for Kennedy) Amendment No. 4117, to provide an amount for lift support for mine warfare ships and other vessels. (See next issue.)

Warner Amendment No. 4118, to add an amount for the Navy Data Conversion and Management Laboratory for support data conversion activities for the Navy, and to provide an offset. (See next issue.)

Reid (for Cleland) Amendment No. 4119, to require a report on efforts to ensure the adequacy of fire fighting staffs at military installations. (See next issue.)

Warner (for Snowe/Collins) Amendment No. 4120, to set aside $1,500,000 for the Navy Pilot Human Resources Call Center, Cutler, Maine. (See next issue.)

Reid (for Wyden/Smith (OR)) Amendment No. 4121, to authorize, with an offset, $9,000,000 for a military construction project for the Army National Guard for a Reserve Center in Lane County, Oregon. (See next issue.)

Reid (for Cochran/Lott) Amendment No. 4122, to authorize a military construction project in the amount of $3,580,000 for construction of a National Guard Readiness Center, Kosciusko, Mississippi. (See next issue.)

Reid (for Biden/Carpenter) Amendment No. 4123, to authorize, with an offset, a military construction project in the amount of $7,500,000 for construction of a new air traffic control facility at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware. (See next issue.)

Warner (for Domenici/Bingaman) Amendment No. 4124, to authorize, with an offset, $3,000,000 for a planning and design for a new anechoic chamber at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico (Project No. 56232). (See next issue.)

Reid (for Durbin) Amendment No. 4125, to authorize, with an offset, $10,000,000 for the Air National Guard for a military construction project for a Composite Support Facility for the 183rd Fighter Wing of the Illinois Air National Guard. (See next issue.)

Warner (for Thurmond) Amendment No. 4126, to authorize $8,000,000 for the construction of a parking garage at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, District of Columbia, and to offset the amount with a reduction in operation and maintenance for the Army in amounts available for Base Operations Support (Servicewide Support). (See next issue.)

Warner (for Frist/Thompson) Amendment No. 4127, to authorize a military construction project in the amount of $8,400,000 for the Air National Guard for completion of construction of the Composite Aviation Aircraft Maintenance Complex (PN#BKTZ989063) in Nashville, Tennessee, and to offset the authorization with a reduction of $2,400,000 in operation and maintenance for the Army from amounts available for Base Operations Support (Servicewide Support), a reduction of $3,000,000 in operation and maintenance for the Army from amounts available for Recruiting and Advertising, and a reduction of $3,000,000 in operation and maintenance for the Air Force from amounts available for Recruiting and Advertising. (See next issue.)

Warner (for DeWine) Amendment No. 4128, to authorize, with an offset, $15,200,000 for a military construction project for the Air Force for consolidation of the materials computational research facility at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio (PNZHTV033301A). (See next issue.)

Reid (for Cleland) Amendment No. 4129, to authorize $2,000,000 for research, development, test, and evaluation for the Air Force for Support Systems Development (PE0708611F) for Aging Aircraft and to offset the amount with a reduction in research,
development, test, and evaluation for the Navy from amounts available for Warfighting Sustainment Advanced Technology (PE0605236N). (See next issue.)

Warner (for Cochran/Lott) Amendment No. 4130, to authorize, with an offset, $4,500,000 for research, development, test, and evaluation for the Army for radar power technology. (See next issue.)

Reid (for Landrieu) Amendment No. 4131, to increase the amount provided for RDT&E, Defense-wide activities, for critical infrastructure protection (PE 35190D8Z), and to offset the increase by reducing the amount provided for RDT&E, Defense-wide activities, for power projection advanced technology (PE63114N). (See next issue.)

Warner (for Domenici) Amendment No. 4132, to increase the amount for the Air Force for RDT&E for for wargaming and simulation centers, and to provide an offset. (See next issue.)

Reid (for Conrad) Amendment No. 4133, with respect to Russian Tactical Nuclear Weapons. (See next issue.)

Warner (for Collins) Amendment No. 4134, to authorize, with an offset, $2,500,000 for research, development, test, and evaluation for the Navy for the DDG optimized manning initiative. (See next issue.)

Reid (for Feinstein/Stevens) Amendment No. 4135, to prohibit the use of authorized funds for research, development, test, evaluation, procurement, or deployment of nuclear armed interceptors of a missile defense system. (See next issue.)

Warner (for Santorum) Amendment No. 4136, to add $1,000,000 for Defense-Wide RDT&E for key enabling robotics technologies for the support of Army, Navy, and Air Force robotic and unmanned military platforms (PE 604709D8Z), and to offset the increase by reducing the amount provided for the Navy for other procurement for gun fire control equipment, SPQ–9B solid state transmitter, by $1,000,000. (See next issue.)

Reid (for Cleland/Hutchinson) Amendment No. 4137, to prohibit denial of TRICARE services to a covered beneficiary receiving medical care from the Department of Veterans Affairs under certain circumstances. (See next issue.)

Warner (for Roberts) Amendment No. 4138, to authorize, with an offset, $1,000,000 for research, development, test, and evaluation, defense-wide, for In-House Laboratory Independent Research (PE0601103D8Z) for research, analysis, and assessment of efforts to counter potential agroterrorist attacks. (See next issue.)

Reid (for Levin) Amendment No. 4139, to authorize the Secretary of Defense to pay monetary rewards for assistance in combating terrorism. (See next issue.)

Warner Amendment No. 4140, to establish the position of Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence. (See next issue.)

Reid (for Landrieu) Amendment No. 4141, to require a study on the designation of a highway in the State of Louisiana as a defense access road. (See next issue.)

Warner (for Roberts) Amendment No. 4142, to authorize the conveyance of 2000 acres at the Sunflower Army Ammunition Plant, Kansas. (See next issue.)

Reid (for Landrieu) Amendment No. 4143, to require an annual long-range plan for the construction of ships for the Navy. (See next issue.)

Warner (for Bunning) Amendment No. 4144, to provide for the conveyance of a portion of the Bluegrass Army Depot in Richmond, Kentucky, to Madison County, Kentucky. (See next issue.)

Reid (for Bingaman/Santorum) Amendment No. 4145, to extend the authority of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency to award prizes for advanced technology achievements. (See next issue.)

Reid (for Inhofe/Akaka) Amendment No. 4146, to authorize the provision of space and services for military welfare societies. (See next issue.)

Reid (for Reed) Amendment No. 4147, to authorize, with an offset, $5,500,000 for research, development, test, and evaluation for the Army for development of a very high speed support vessel for the Army. (See next issue.)

Warner (for Santorum) Amendment No. 4148, to add $1,000,000 for Other Procurement, Air Force, for the procurement of technical C–E equipment, Mobile Emergency Broadband System, and to offset the increase by reducing the amount provided for the Navy for other procurement for gun fire control equipment, SPQ–9B solid state transmitter, by $1,000,000. (See next issue.)

Reid (for Cleland) Amendment No. 4149, to add $1,500,000 for the Air Force for other procurement for base procured equipment for a Combat Arms Training System (CATS) for the Air National Guard, and to offset the increase by reducing the amount provided for the Army for RDT&E for artillery system demonstration and validation (PE 0603854A) by $1,500,000. (See next issue.)

Warner (for Thurmond) Amendment No. 4150, to authorize, with an offset, $100,000 for the Army for activation efforts with respect to the National Army Museum, Fort Belvoir, Virginia. (See next issue.)

Reid (for Lieberman) Amendment No. 4151, to authorize, with an offset, $1,000,000 for research, development, test, and evaluation for the Navy for Force Protection Advanced Technology (PE
Warner (for Thompson) Amendment No. 4161, to provide for monitoring implementation of the 1979 United States-China Agreement on Cooperation in Science and Technology.  

Warner (for Thompson) Amendment No. 4161, to require biannual reports on foreign persons who contribute to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and their delivery systems, by countries of proliferation concern.  

Warner (for Hatch) Amendment No. 4162, to commend military chaplains.  

Reid (for Bingaman) Amendment No. 4153, to require a plan for a five-year program to enhance the measurement and signatures intelligence capabilities of the Federal Government.  

Reid (for Domenici/Bingaman) Amendment No. 4158, to set aside $6,000,000 for the Aerospace Relay Mirror System (ARMS) Demonstration.  

Reid Amendment No. 4159, to authorize funds for requirements development of a littoral ship in Ship Concept Advanced Design (PE 0603123N).  

Reid (for Corzine/Torricelli) Amendment No. 4155, to authorize use of an amount of the authorization of appropriations for RDT&E for the Navy for the aviation-shipboard information technology initiative.  

Warner (for Cochair/Lott) Amendment No. 4156, to require the Secretary of the Navy to maintain the scope of the cruiser conversion program for the Ticonderoga class of AEGIS cruisers.  

Reid (for Kerry/Frist) Amendment No. 4157, to require the Secretary of Defense to expand the Department of Defense program of HIV/AIDS prevention educational activities undertaken in connection with the conduct of United States military training, exercises, and humanitarian assistance in sub-Saharan African countries.  

Warner (for Domenici/Bingaman) Amendment No. 4158, to set aside $6,000,000 for the Aerospace Relay Mirror System (ARMS) Demonstration.  

Warner Amendment No. 4159, to authorize funds for requirements development of a littoral ship in Ship Concept Advanced Design (PE 0603123N).  

Reid (for Sarbanes) Amendment No. 4163, to grant a Federal charter to Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated.  

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, June 27, 2002, with a vote on the motion to close further debate on the bill to occur thereon. Further, that Senators have until 10 a.m. to file second degree amendments to the bill.  

Authority for Committees: All committees were authorized to file legislative and executive reports during the adjournment of the Senate on Wednesday, July 3, 2002, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:  

Richard A. Griffin, of Michigan, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit.  

Daniel L. Hovland, of North Dakota, to be United States District Judge for the District of North Dakota.  

Thomas W. Phillips, of Tennessee, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee.  

Linda R. Reade, of Iowa, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Iowa.  

Routine lists in the Navy.  

Messages From the House:  

Measures Referred:  

Measures Placed on Calendar:  

Measures Read First Time:  

Additional Cosponsors:  

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:  

Additional Statements:  

Amendments Submitted:  

Notices of Hearings/Meetings:  

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:  

Richard A. Griffin, of Michigan, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit.  

Daniel L. Hovland, of North Dakota, to be United States District Judge for the District of North Dakota.  

Thomas W. Phillips, of Tennessee, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee.  

Linda R. Reade, of Iowa, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Iowa.  

Routine lists in the Navy.  

Messages From the House:  

Measures Referred:  

Measures Placed on Calendar:  

Measures Read First Time:  

Additional Cosponsors:  

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:  

Additional Statements:  

Amendments Submitted:  

Notices of Hearings/Meetings:
Authority for Committees to Meet: (See next issue.)

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—163) (See next issue.)

Adjournment: Senate met at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 9:34 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, June 27, 2002. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S6091).

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Housing and Transportation concluded hearings to examine the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, focusing on funding issues and investing in economic development and the environment, after receiving testimony from Carl Guardino, Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group, San Jose, California; Herschel Abbot, BellSouth, Hank Dittmar, Great American Station Foundation, on behalf of the Surface Transportation Policy Project, and Michael A. Replogle, Environmental Defense, all of Washington, D.C.; and Robert Broadbent, Las Vegas Monorail Company, Las Vegas, Nevada.

ENFORCING CORPORATE GOVERNANCE
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs, Foreign Commerce, and Tourism concluded hearings to examine issues and perspectives in enforcing corporate governance in order to assure individual investors that their interests are protected and that the information received is truthful as a part of an overall investment banking reform, focusing on the experience of the State of New York, after receiving testimony from New York State Attorney General Eliot Spitzer, New York.

BUSINESS MEETING
Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported H.R. 4737, to reauthorize and improve the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families, and improve access to quality child care, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

AFGHANISTAN
Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded hearings to examine the current situation in Afghanistan, focusing on conducting the war on terrorism, fostering internal governance, and providing humanitarian and development assistance, after receiving testimony from Richard L. Armitage, Deputy Secretary of State; Paul Wolfowitz, Deputy Secretary of Defense; Brig. Gen. David L. Grange, USA (Ret.), Chicago, Illinois; and Peter Tomsen, Ambassador in Residence, University of Nebraska, Omaha, former Ambassador to Armenia, and former Special Envoy to Afghanistan.

NOMINATIONS
Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded hearings on the nominations of Mark Sullivan, of Maryland, to be United States Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development; and Paul William Speltz, of Texas, to be United States Director of the Asian Development Bank, with the rank of Ambassador, after the nominees, testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY
Committee on Governmental Affairs: Committee held hearings to examine the relationship between a future Department of Homeland Security and the current federal, state, and local intelligence communities, receiving testimony from William B. Berger, North Miami Beach Police Department, Miami, Florida, on behalf of the International Association of Chiefs of Police; Ashton B. Carter, Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government Preventive Defense Project, Cambridge, Massachusetts, former Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Policy; Lt. Gen. Patrick M. Hughes, USA (Ret.), former Director, Defense Intelligence Agency; Lt. Gen. William E. Odom, USA (Ret.), former Director, National Security Agency; and Jeffrey H. Smith, Arnold and Porter, Washington, D.C., former General Counsel, Central Intelligence Agency.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

NOMINATION
Committee on Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded hearings on the nomination of James E. Boasberg, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Warner, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee met and began consideration of S. 710, to require coverage for colorectal cancer screenings, but did not complete action thereon, and recessed subject to call.

TRIBAL TRUST FUNDS
Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee held oversight hearings on the status of the dialogue between the U.S. Department of the Interior and American
Indian and Alaska Native leaders on various alternatives for the reorganization of the Department of the Interior to improve the management of tribal trust funds, receiving testimony from J. Steven Griles, Deputy Secretary, and Neal A. McCAleb, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, both of the Department of the Interior; and Tex G. Hall, Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, New Town, North Dakota, and Susan Masten, Yurok Tribe of Indians of California, Eureka, both on behalf of the Tribal Leader/Department of the Interior Trust Reform Task Force.

Hearings will continue on Tuesday, July 30.

HOMELAND SECURITY INFRASTRUCTURE

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee held hearings to examine the President's proposal for reorganizing our homeland defense infrastructure and establishing a Department of Homeland Security, receiving testimony from Tom Ridge, Director of the Transition Planning Office for the Department of Homeland Security.

Hearings recessed subject to call.

IMMIGRATION REFORM AND HOMELAND DEFENSE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration held hearings to examine immigration reform and the reorganization of homeland defense, focusing on the inclusion of the Immigration and Naturalization Service in the new Department of Homeland Security, and the impact this would have on immigration law and policy, and the adjudication of immigration services and benefits, receiving testimony from Kathleen Campbell Walker, El Paso, Texas, on behalf of the American Immigration Lawyers Association; Bill Ong Hing, University of California School of Law, Davis, on behalf of the National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium; David A. Martin, University of Virginia School of Law, Charlottesville, former General Counsel, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice; and Judge Dana Marks Keener, San Francisco, California, on behalf of the National Association of Immigration Judges.

Hearings recessed subject to call.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to consider pending intelligence matters, made no announcements, and recessed subject to call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

H. Res. 461, providing for consideration of H.R. 5010, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003 (H. Rept. 107–536);

H. Res. 462, providing for consideration of H.R. 5011, making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003 (H. Rept. 107–537); and

H. Res. 463, providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules (H. Rept. 107–538);

H.R. 4954, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a voluntary program for prescription drug coverage under the Medicare Program, to modernize and reform payments and the regulatory structure of the Medicare Program, amended (H. Rept. 107–539 Pt. 1);

H.R. 4962, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make rural health care improvements under the Medicare Program (H. Rept. 107–540 Pt. 1);

H.R. 4987, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve payments for home health services and for direct graduate medical education (H. Rept. 107–541 Pt. 1);

H.R. 4988, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish the Medicare Benefits Administration within the Department of Health and Human Services (H. Rept. 107–542 Pt. 1);

H.R. 4013, to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish an Office of Rare Diseases at the National Institutes of Health (H. Rept. 107–543);

H.R. 4961, to establish a National Bipartisan Commission on the Future of Medicaid (H. Rept. 107–544);

H.R. 4989, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for grants to health care providers to implement electronic prescription drug programs (H. Rept. 107–545);
H.R. 4990, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to establish requirements with respect to the sale of, or the offer to sell, prescription drugs through the Internet (H. Rept. 107–546);  
H.R. 4991, to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to revise disproportionate share hospital payments under the Medicaid Program (H. Rept. 107–547);  
H.R. 4992, to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish health professions programs regarding practice of pharmacy (H. Rept. 107–548);  
H.R. 4986, to amend part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve payments for physicians’ services and other outpatient services furnished under the Medicare Program (H. Rept. 107–549 Pt. 1);  
H.R. 4985, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to revitalize the Medicare+Choice Program, establish a Medicare+Choice competition program, and to improve payments to hospitals and other providers under part A of the Medicare Program (H. Rept. 107–550 Pt. 1); and  
H.R. 4984, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a Medicare prescription drug benefit (H. Rept. 107–551 Pt. 1).  

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Johnson of Illinois to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Rev. David E. Paul, Pastor, First United Methodist Church of Clewiston, Florida.

Journal: Agreed to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal of Tuesday, June 25 by a recorded vote of 369 yeas to 41 nays with 1 voting “present,” Roll No. 261.

Recess: The House recessed at 10:42 a.m. and reconvened at 10:56 a.m.

Homeland Security Information Sharing Act: The House passed H.R. 4598, to provide for the sharing of homeland security information by Federal intelligence and law enforcement agencies with State and local entities by a yea-and-nay vote of 422 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 258.

Agreed to the Committee amendment in the nature of a substitute now printed in the bill (H. Rept. 107–534, Part 1) and made in order by the rule.

Withdrawn:  
Jackson-Lee amendment was offered but subsequently withdrawn that sought to require the President to prescribe procedures which determine whether, how, and to what extent information provided by whistleblowers should be disseminated.

Agreed to H. Res. 458, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill by voice vote.

Recess: The House recessed at 1:14 p.m. and reconvened at 2:19 p.m.

Motions to Adjourn: Rejected the Hastings of Florida motions to adjourn by a yea-and-nay vote of 45 yeas to 378 nays, Roll No. 262 and a yea-and-nay vote of 40 yeas to 384 nays, Roll No. 263.

Trade Act of 2002: The House agreed to H. Res. 450, the rule relating to consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 3009, to extend the Andean Trade Preference Act and to grant additional trade benefits under that Act, by a yea-and-nay vote of 216 yeas to 215 nays with 1 voting “present,” Roll No. 264.

Pursuant to the rule, the House agreed to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3009, to extend the Andean Trade Preference Act and to grant additional trade benefits under that Act, with an amendment. The House then insisted on its amendment and asked for a conference with the Senate thereon. Appointed as conferees: From the Committee on Ways and Means for consideration of the House amendment and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Chairman Thomas and Representatives Crane and Rangel.

From the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for consideration of section 603 of the Senate amendment and modifications committed to conference: Chairman Boehner and Representatives Sam Johnson of Texas and George Miller of California.

From the Committee on Energy and Commerce for consideration of section 603 of the Senate amendment and modifications committed to conference: Chairman Tauzin and Representatives Bilirakis and Dingell.

From the Committee on Government Reform for consideration of section 344 of the House amendment and section 1143 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Chairman Burton of Indiana and Representatives Barr of Georgia and Waxman.

From the Committee on the Judiciary for consideration of sections 111, 601, and 701 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: chairman Sensenbrenner and Representatives Coble and Conyers.
From the Committee on Rules for consideration of sections 2103, 2105 and 2106 of the House amendment and sections 2103, 2105, and 2106 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Chairman Dreier and Representatives Linder and Hastings of Florida.

**Suspending the Sense of the House of Representatives**: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures that were debated on June 25:

**Sex Tourism Prohibition**: H.R. 4477, amended, to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to crimes involving the transportation of persons and sex tourism (agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 418 yeas to 8 nays, Roll No. 259);

**Social Security Program Protection**: H.R. 4070, amended, to amend the Social Security Act and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide additional safeguards for Social Security and Supplemental Security Income beneficiaries with representative payees and to enhance program protections (agreed to by a recorded vote of 425 ayes with none voting “nay,” Roll No. 260);

**2002 Securities and Exchange Commission Authorization**: H.R. 3764, to authorize appropriations for the Securities and Exchange Commission (agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 422 yeas to 4 nays, Roll No. 265); and

**New Hampshire-Vermont Interstate School Compact**: H.R. 3180, to consent to certain amendments to the New Hampshire-Vermont Interstate School Compact (agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 425 yeas with none voting “nay,” Roll No. 266).

**Motion to Instruct Conference—Help America Vote Act**: Representative Langevin announced his intention to offer a motion to instruct conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendments to H.R. 3295, Help America Vote Act, to recede from disagreement with the provisions contained in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 101(a)(3) of the Senate amendment to the House bill (relating to the accessibility of voting systems for individuals with disabilities).

**Capitol Police Retention, Recruitment, and Authorization Act**: The House passed H.R. 5018, to direct the Capitol Police Board to take steps to promote the retention of current officers and members of the Capitol Police and the recruitment of new officers and members of the Capitol Police, by unanimous consent.

**Historic Performance of the United States Soccer Team**: The House agreed to H. Res. 445, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with regard to the United States National Soccer Team and its historic performance in the 2002 FIFA World Cup tournament, by unanimous consent. Agreed to the Sullivan amendment that commends the United States Soccer Federation, United States Soccer Foundation, and coaches and parents of young soccer players around the country for their role in the success of soccer in the United States.

**In Honor of Jack Buck—Voice of the St. Louis Cardinals**: The House agreed to H. Res. 455, honoring the life of John Francis “Jack” Buck.

**Senate Messages**: Message received from the Senate appears on page H3931.

**Referral**: S. 2621 was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

**Quorum Calls—Votes**: Seven yea-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H3948, H3949, H3949–50, H3950–51, H3952, H3960, H3963–64, H4020–21, and H4021–22. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment**: The House met at 10 a.m. and at 11:20 p.m. stands in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

### Committee Meetings

**REVIEW PROPOSAL—DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**

**Committee on Agriculture**: Held a hearing to review the Administration’s proposed legislation creating a Department of Homeland Security. Testimony was heard from Bob Odom, Commissioner, Department of Agriculture and Forestry, State of Louisiana; Roger Johnson, Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, State of North Dakota; Meg Scott Phipps, Commissioner, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, State of North Carolina; and public witnesses.

**AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS**

**Committee on Appropriations**: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies approved for full Committee action the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies appropriations for fiscal year 2003.
TREASURY, POSTAL SERVICE AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service and General Government approved for full Committee action the Department of Treasury, Postal Service and General Government appropriations for fiscal year 2003.

REVIEW PROPOSED—DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service and General Government approved for full Committee action the Department of Treasury, Postal Service and General Government appropriations for fiscal year 2003.

REVIEW PROPOSED—DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on the Administration’s proposal to create a new Department of Homeland Security, and its impact on the Department of Defense and defense-related aspects of the Department of Energy. Testimony was heard from Stephen A. Cambone, Principal Deputy Under Secretary (Policy), Department of Defense; and John Gordon, Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy.

OUTSOURCING: REVIEW—COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES PANEL REPORT

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Military Readiness held a hearing on Outsourcing: Review of the Commercial Activities Panel Report. Testimony was heard from David M. Walker, Comptroller General and Chairman, Commercial Activities Panel, GAO; Angela B. Styles, Administrator, Office of Federal Procurement Policy, OMB; Michael Wynn, Deputy Under Secretary (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), Department of Defense; and public witnesses.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD ACT


AREA CODE EXHAUSTION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet held a hearing on Area Code Exhaustion: What are the Solutions? Testimony was heard from Dorothy Atwood, Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, FCC; and public witnesses.

CONSUMER RENTAL AGREEMENT ACT

Committee on Financial Services: Began consideration of H.R. 1701, Consumer Rental Agreement Act.

HOMELAND SECURITY—SHOULD CONSULAR AFFAIRS BE TRANSFERRED

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Civil Service, Census and Agency Organization held a hearing on “Homeland Security: Should Consular Affairs be Transferred to the new Department of Homeland Security?” Testimony was heard from Grant S. Green, Jr., Under Secretary, Management, Department of State; and public witnesses.

SPRING VALLEY REVISITED—STATUS OF CONTAMINATED SITES CLEANUP

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on the District of Columbia held a hearing on Spring Valley Revisited—The Status of the Cleanup of Contaminated Sites in Spring Valley. Testimony was heard from Representative Blumenauer; David Wood, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, GAO; the following officials of the Department of the Army: Raymond J. Fatz, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Environment, Safety and Occupational Health; and Col. Charles J. Fiala, Jr., USA, Baltimore District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Thomas C. Voltaggio, Regional Administrator, Region III, EPA; Robert C. Williams, Director, Division of Health Assessment and Consultation, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, Department of Health and Human Services; the following officials of the District of Columbia: Theodore Gordon, Senior Deputy Director, Public Health Assurance, Department of Health; and Bailus Walker, Jr., Chairman, Mayor’s Spring Valley Scientific Advisory Panel; and public witnesses.

SINGLE AUDIT ACT

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Government Efficiency, Financial Management, and Intergovernmental Relations, held a hearing on “The Single Audit Act: Is it Working?” Testimony was heard from Sally E. Thompson, Director, Financial Management and Assurance, GAO; Mark W. Everson, Controller, OMB; Frederick T. Knickbocker, Associate Director, Economic Programs, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce; the following officials of the Department of Education: Jack Martin, Chief Financial Officer; and Thomas A. Carter, Assistant Inspector General, Audit Services; Elizabeth A. Hanson, Director, Departmental Real Estate Assessment Center, Department of Housing and Urban Development; and a public witness.

HOMELAND SECURITY ACT

Committee on International Relations: Held a hearing on H.R. 5005, Homeland Security Act of 2002. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department
of State: Marc Grossman, Under Secretary, Political Affairs; and George Lannon, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Consular Affairs.

PROPOSED DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on the Judiciary: Held a hearing on “The Proposal to Create a Department of Homeland Security.” Testimony was heard from Tom Ridge, Assistant to the President, Office of Homeland Security Adviser.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES


The Committee also began consideration of H.R. 4749, Magnuson-Stevens Act Amendments of 2002.

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, an open rule on H.R. 5010, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, providing one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule waives clause 2 of rule XXI (prohibiting unauthorized or legislative provisions in an appropriations bill) against provisions in the bill. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered for amendment by paragraph. The rule authorizes the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole to accord priority in recognition to Members who have pre-printed their amendments in the Congressional Record. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Finally, the rule provides that upon adoption of the resolution it shall be in order, any rule of the House notwithstanding, to consider concurrent resolutions providing for adjournment of the House and Senate during the month of July. Testimony was heard from Representatives Lewis of California and Murtha.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, an open rule on H.R. 5011, making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes providing one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule waives clause 2 of rule XXI (prohibiting unauthorized or legislative provisions in an appropriations bill) against provisions in the bill. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered for amendment by paragraph. The rule authorizes the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole to accord priority in recognition to Members who have pre-printed their amendments in the Congressional Record. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Finally, the rule provides that H. Res. 421 be laid upon the table. Testimony was heard from Representatives Hobson and Olver.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a resolution providing that it shall be in order at any time on the legislative day of Thursday, June 27, 2002, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules relating to H. Res. 459, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Newdow v. U.S. Congress was erroneously decided. Testimony was heard from Chairman Sensenbrenner and Representative Pickering.

FREEDOM CAR; GETTING NEW TECHNOLOGY INTO THE MARKETPLACE

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing on Freedom Car: Getting New Technology into the Marketplace. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.
MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

The Committee also approved the following: several GSA Fiscal Year Investment and Leasing resolutions; and several U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Survey resolution.

VETERANS HEALTH-CARE ITEMS PROCUREMENT REFORM AND IMPROVEMENT ACT
Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on H.R 3645, Veterans Health-Care Items Procurement Reform and Improvement Act of 2002. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs: Mark Catlett, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Management; and John S. Bilobran, Deputy Assistant Inspector General, Auditing; Cindy A. Bascetta, Director, Health Care-Veterans’ Health and Benefits Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

CREATION—HOMELAND SECURITY DEPARTMENT
Committee on Ways and Means: Held a hearing on Creation of Homeland Security Department. Testimony was heard from Jimmy Gurule, Under Secretary, Office of Enforcement, Department of the Treasury; and public witnesses.

GLOBAL HOT SPOTS
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a briefing on Global Hot Spots. The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2002
(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, with the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine, to hold joint hearings to examine cross border trucking issues, 9:30 a.m., SR–253.

Subcommittee on Interior, business meeting to mark up proposed legislation making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, 10 a.m., S–128, Capitol.

Full Committee, business meeting to mark up proposed legislation making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, proposed legislation making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and 302(b) subcommittee allocations for fiscal year 2003, 2 p.m., S–128, Capitol.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold oversight hearings to examine the preliminary findings of the Commission on Affordable Housing and Health Facility Need for Seniors in the 21st Century, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine, with the Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Transportation, to hold joint hearings to examine cross border trucking issues, 9:30 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 9:30 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings on the nomination of Charlotte A. Lane, of West Virginia, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Central Asia and South Caucasus, to hold hearings to examine the balancing of military assistance and support for human rights in central Asia, 2:30 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on Governmental Affairs: to continue hearings to examine the relationship between a Department of Homeland Security and the intelligence community, 1 p.m., SD–342.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, focusing on 30 years of progress, 2:30 p.m., SD–430.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider H.R. 3375, to provide compensation for the United States citizens who were victims of the bombings of United States embassies in East Africa on August 7, 1998, on the same basis as compensation is provided to victims of the terrorist-related aircraft crashes on September 11, 2001; S. 2134, to allow American victims of state sponsored terrorism to receive compensation from blocked assets of those states; S. 486, to reduce the risk that innocent persons may be executed; S. 2633, to prohibit an individual from knowingly opening, maintaining, managing, controlling, renting, leasing, making available for use, or profiting from any place for the purpose of manufacturing, distributing, or using any controlled substance; S. 862, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2002 through 2006 to carry out the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program; S. 1339, to amend the Bring Them Home Alive Act of 2000 to provide an asylum program with regard to American Persian Gulf War POW/MIAs; S. 2395, to prevent and punish counterfeiting and copyright piracy; S. 2513, to assess the extent of the backlog.
in DNA analysis of rape kit samples, and to improve investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases with DNA evidence; S. Res. 281, designating the week beginning August 25, 2002, as “National Fraud Against Senior Citizens Awareness Week”; S. Res. 284, expressing support for “National Night Out” and requesting that the President make neighborhood crime prevention, community policing, and reduction of school crime important priorities of the Administration; and the nominations of Lavenski R. Smith, of Arkansas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit, and the nomination of John M. Rogers, of Kentucky, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Full Committee, to hold hearings on the nominations of Dennis W. Shedd, of South Carolina, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit; Terrence F. McVerry, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania; and Arthur J. Schwab, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania, 2 p.m., SD–226.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry, hearing on Roadless areas in our National Forests, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs, on the President’s proposed Millennium Challenge, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Legislative, to mark up appropriations for fiscal year 2003, 10 a.m., H–140 Capitol.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Military Procurement and the Subcommittee on Military Research and Development, joint hearing on missile defense, 1 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Subcommittee on Employer-Employee Relations, hearing on Union Reporting and Disclosure: Legislative Reform Proposals, 10:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, to continue consideration of H.R. 1701, Consumer Rental Agreement Act, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on International Relations, hearing on Promoting Economic Development in Africa Through Accountability and Good Governance, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, oversight hearing on “The Revisions to the Attorney General’s Investigative Guidelines,” 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property, oversight hearing on “Unpublished Judicial Opinions,” 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.


Committee on Resources, Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Ocean’s, to mark up H. Con. Res. 419, requesting the President to issue a proclamation in observance of the 100th Anniversary of the founding of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies; followed by an oversight hearing on the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, Executive Order 13089, and the oceanic conditions contributing to coral reef decline, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation and Public Lands, hearing on H.R. 4968, to provide for the exchange of certain lands in the State of Utah, 2 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Science, hearing on H.R. 5005, Homeland Security Act, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, hearing on various approaches to Improving Highway Safety, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, hearing on Creation of the Department of Homeland Security, 2 p.m., H–405 Capitol.

Joint Meetings

Conference: meeting of conferees on H.R. 4, to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn Building.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
9:30 a.m., Thursday, June 27

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 10:30 a.m.), Senate will continue consideration of S. 2514, National Defense Authorization Act, with a vote on the motion to close further debate to occur thereon.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 a.m., Thursday, June 27

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of H.R. 5010, Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2003 (open rule, one hour of debate);
Consideration of H. Res. 459, expressing the Sense of the House of Representatives that Newdow v. U.S. Congress was erroneously decided (subject to a rule providing for consideration of the suspension);
Consideration of H.R. 5011, Military Construction Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2003 (open rule, one hour of debate);
Consideration of H.R. 4954, Medicare Modernization and Prescription Drug Act of 2002 (subject to a rule);
Complete Consideration of Suspensions:
(1) H. Con. Res. 424, Commending the Patriotism of Roofing Professionals Who Replaced, At No Cost, the Pentagon’s Slate Roof Destroyed on September 11; and
(2) H.R. 3034, Frank Sinatra Post Office, Hoboken, New Jersey.

(Senate and House proceedings for today will be continued in the next issue of the Record.)

Congressional Record

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