

(3) the constitutional reforms of Bosnia and Herzegovina should be consistent with, and bring the country closer to, the goal of membership in the European Union;

(4) the United States supports the development of Bosnia and Herzegovina as a unified, fully democratic, and stable state on the path toward Euro-Atlantic integration;

(5) all parties to negotiations on the reforms of the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina should work together and seek compromises so that a first set of revisions to the Constitution can take effect before national elections in October 2006;

(6) all groups responsible for past violence and atrocities in Bosnia and Herzegovina must accept responsibility for their actions and promote reconciliation among the different ethnic groups of Bosnia and Herzegovina; and

(7) all levels of government in Bosnia and Herzegovina must comply with the directives of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY), arrest persons indicted for war crimes, and turn over fugitives to face justice at the International Criminal Tribunal.

SENATE RESOLUTION 401—URGING THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS TO CONDUCT PLANNED PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS MARCH 19, 2006, IN A FREE, FAIR, AND TRANSPARENT MANNER AND WITH RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. MCCONNELL, and Mr. SUNUNU) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 401

Whereas the Government of Belarus has accepted numerous specific commitments governing the conduct of elections as a participating State of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), including provisions of the 1990 Copenhagen Document;

Whereas the Belarus parliamentary elections of 2000 failed to meet international standards;

Whereas the Belarus presidential elections of 2001 failed to meet international standards;

Whereas the local elections in Belarus in 2003 failed to meet international standards;

Whereas the Belarus parliamentary elections of 2004 failed to meet international standards;

Whereas the 2004 vote on the constitutional referendum in Belarus failed to meet international standards;

Whereas Belarus is scheduled to conduct presidential elections on March 19, 2006;

Whereas President of Belarus Alexander Lukashenko has placed tight controls on the press, jailed opposition party members, violently disrupted protests, conducted surveillance of opposition candidates, and been implicated in the disappearance of at least 3 opposition members and a journalist;

Whereas, on March 2, 2006, opposition candidate Alexander Kazulin and 20 of his supporters were beaten and detained.

Whereas the campaign of Alexander Milinkevich, the main opposition candidate, has been subject to repeated government harassment and bureaucratic obstacles to open campaigning; and

Whereas the intimidation and arrest of opposition parties and candidates, including the reported March 8, 2006, arrest of Vincuk

Viachorka and 5 other members of Alexander Milinkevich's campaign team, represents a deliberate assault on the democratic process and sends a clear signal that government officials in Belarus are not committed to holding free and fair elections; Now, therefore, be it:

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the people of Belarus as they face the dictatorship of President Lukashenko;

(2) notes that the integration of Belarus into the Western community of nations will suffer delay so long as President Lukashenko prevents the development of a democratic political system;

(3) urges the Government of Belarus to ensure a free, fair, and fully transparent 2006 presidential election, in accordance with Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) standards, including unobstructed access to all aspects of the election process by the OSCE Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), opposition parties, and nongovernmental organizations;

(4) encourages the international community, including the Council of Europe and the OSCE, to continue supporting democracy in Belarus, and thanks the governments and people of neighboring countries such as Poland, Lithuania, and Latvia for continuing to promote democracy and human rights in Belarus; and

(5) expresses its belief that tyranny in Belarus will not forever endure and that the people of Belarus will one day enjoy the benefits of democracy and human rights at home.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2998. Mr. BROWNBACK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 and 2008 through 2011; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2999. Mr. BURNS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3000. Mr. HAGEL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3001. Mr. NELSON of Florida submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3002. Mr. GREGG proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, supra.

SA 3003. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3004. Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mr. WYDEN, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3005. Mr. BURNS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3006. Ms. SNOWE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3007. Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. KERRY, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SALAZAR, Mrs.

LINCOLN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. DODD, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. JEFFORDS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3008. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3009. Mr. NELSON, of Nebraska submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3010. Mr. KYL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3011. Mr. TALENT (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. THUNE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3012. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2998. Mr. BROWNBACK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 and 2008 through 2011; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING A COMMISSION TO REVIEW THE PERFORMANCE OF PROGRAMS.

It is the sense of the Senate that a commission should be established to review Federal agencies, and programs within such agencies, including an assessment of programs on an accrual basis, with the express purpose of providing the Congress with recommendations on legislation to realign or eliminate Federal agencies and programs that are wasteful, duplicative, inefficient, outdated, irrelevant, or have failed to accomplish their intended purpose.

SA 2999. Mr. BURNS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 and 2008 through 2011; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

- On page 23, line 24, increase the amount by \$823,000,000
- On page 23, line 25, increase the amount by \$733,000,000.
- On page 24, line 3, increase the amount by \$854,000,000.
- On page 24, line 4, increase the amount by \$845,000,000.
- On page 24, line 7, increase the amount by \$888,000,000.
- On page 24, line 8, increase the amount by \$880,000,000.
- On page 24, line 11, increase the amount by \$923,000,000.
- On page 24, line 12, increase the amount by \$914,000,000.

On page 24, line 15, increase the amount by \$958,000,000.

On page 24, line 16, increase the amount by \$949,000,000.

On page 27, line 23, decrease the amount by \$823,000,000.

On page 27, line 24, decrease the amount by \$733,000,000.

On page 28, line 1, decrease the amount by \$854,000,000.

On page 28, line 2, decrease the amount by \$845,000,000.

On page 28, line 4, decrease the amount by \$888,000,000.

On page 28, line 5, decrease the amount by \$880,000,000.

On page 28, line 7, decrease the amount by \$923,000,000.

On page 28, line 8, decrease the amount by \$914,000,000.

On page 28, line 10, decrease the amount by \$958,000,000.

On page 28, line 11, decrease the amount by \$949,000,000.

SA 3000. Mr. HAGEL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 and 2008 through 2011; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end add the following:

TITLE V—SENSE OF THE SENATE

SEC. 501. SENSE OF THE SENATE SUPPORTING ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE ENTITLEMENT REFORM COMMISSION.

(a) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that there should be established a Comprehensive Entitlement Reform Commission in accordance with subsections (b) through (e).

(b) PURPOSE.—The Commission should review Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid and make comprehensive recommendations to sustain the solvency and stability of these three programs for future generations.

(c) DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission should conduct a comprehensive review of Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid consistent with the purpose specified in subsection (b) and should submit the report required under paragraph (2).

(2) REPORT.—

(A) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the selection of the 2 Co-Chairpersons and the Executive Director of the Commission, the Commission should prepare and submit a final report that contains a detailed statement of the recommendations, findings, and conclusions of the Commission to the appropriate Committees of Congress and the President.

(B) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The report submitted under this paragraph should be made available to the public.

(d) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The Commission should be composed of 8 members, to be appointed as follows:

(A) The majority leader of the Senate should appoint 2 members.

(B) The minority leader of the Senate should appoint 2 members.

(C) The Speaker of the House of Representatives should appoint 2 members.

(D) The minority leader of the House of Representatives should appoint 2 members.

(2) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT.—Each member should be appointed for the life of the Commission. Any vacancies should not affect the

power and duties of the Commission but should be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(3) DATE.—Members of the Commission should be appointed by not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(4) INITIAL ORGANIZATION PERIOD.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission should develop and implement a schedule for completion of the review and report required under subsection (c).

(5) CO-CHAIRPERSONS.—The Commission should select 2 Co-Chairpersons from among its members.

(6) TERMINATION.—The Commission should terminate on the date that is 30 days after the date on which the Commission submits the report required under subsection (c)(2).

(e) ADMINISTRATION.—

(1) QUORUM.—Five members of the Commission should constitute a quorum for purposes of voting, but a quorum is not required for members to meet and hold hearings.

(2) MEETINGS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission should meet at the call of the Co-Chairpersons or a majority of its members.

(B) OPEN MEETINGS.—Each meeting of the Commission, other than meetings in which classified information is to be discussed, should be open to the public.

(3) HEARINGS.—The Commission may hold such hearings and undertake such other activities as the Commission determines to be necessary to carry out its duties.

(4) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Members should receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with sections 5702 and 5703 of title 5, United States Code, while away from their homes or regular places of business in performance of services for the Commission.

(5) STAFF.—

(A) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The Commission should have a staff headed by an Executive Director. The Executive Director should be paid at a rate equivalent to a rate established for the Senior Executive Service under section 5382 of title 5, United States Code.

(B) STAFF APPOINTMENT.—With the approval of the Commission, the Executive Director may appoint such personnel as the Executive Director determines to be appropriate.

(C) ACTUARIAL EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—With the approval of the Commission, the Executive Director may procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code.

(D) DETAIL OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.—Upon the request of the Commission, the head of any Federal agency may detail, without reimbursement, any of the personnel of such agency to the Commission to assist in carrying out the duties of the Commission. Any such detail should not interrupt or otherwise affect the civil service status or privileges of the Federal employee.

(E) OTHER RESOURCES.—The Commission should have reasonable access to materials, resources, statistical data, and other information such Commission determines to be necessary to carry out its duties from the Library of Congress, the Chief Actuary of Social Security, the Congressional Budget Office, and other agencies and elected representatives of the executive and legislative branches of the Federal Government. The Co-Chairpersons of the Commission should make requests for such access in writing when necessary.

SA 3001. Mr. NELSON of Florida submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent res-

olution S. Con. Res. 83, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 and 2008 through 2011; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 3, line 13, increase the amount by \$975,000,000.

On page 3, line 15, increase the amount by \$1,037,000,000.

On page 3, line 17, increase the amount by \$792,000,000.

On page 3, line 19, increase the amount by \$826,000,000.

On page 3, line 21, increase the amount by \$861,000,000.

On page 4, line 1, increase the amount by \$975,000,000.

On page 4, line 2, increase the amount by \$1,037,000,000.

On page 4, line 3, increase the amount by \$792,000,000.

On page 4, line 4, increase the amount by \$826,000,000.

On page 4, line 6, increase the amount by \$861,000,000.

On page 4, line 13, increase the amount by \$975,000,000.

On page 4, line 15, increase the amount by \$1,037,000,000.

On page 4, line 17, increase the amount by \$792,000,000.

On page 4, line 19, increase the amount by \$826,000,000.

On page 4, line 21, increase the amount by \$861,000,000.

On page 5, line 4, increase the amount by \$975,000,000.

On page 5, line 6, increase the amount by \$1,037,000,000.

On page 5, line 8, increase the amount by \$792,000,000.

On page 5, line 10, increase the amount by \$826,000,000.

On page 5, line 12, increase the amount by \$861,000,000.

On page 9, line 20, increase the amount by \$975,000,000.

On page 9, line 21, increase the amount by \$975,000,000.

On page 9, line 24, increase the amount by \$1,037,000,000.

On page 9, line 25, increase the amount by \$1,037,000,000.

On page 10, line 3, increase the amount by \$792,000,000.

On page 10, line 4, increase the amount by \$792,000,000.

On page 10, line 7, increase the amount by \$826,000,000.

On page 10, line 8, increase the amount by \$826,000,000.

On page 10, line 11, increase the amount by \$861,000,000.

On page 10, line 12, increase the amount by \$861,000,000.

SA 3002. Mr. GREGG proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 and 2008 through 2011; as follows:

On page 3, line 11, strike "\$1,694,445,000,000" and insert "\$1,694,455,000,000".

On page 3, line 23, strike "reduced" and insert "changed".

On page 21, line 3, strike "\$441,150,000,000" and insert "\$411,150,000,000".

On page 28, line 15, after "000" insert ",000".

On page 28, line 16, after "000" insert ",000".

On page 29, line 18, strike “by \$0 for fiscal year 2007 and”.

On page 42, strike beginning with line 11 and all that follows through page 43, line 4, and insert the following:

SEC. 311. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR CHRONIC CARE CASE MANAGEMENT.

If the Senate Committee on Finance reports a bill or joint resolution, or an amendment is offered thereto or a conference report is submitted thereon, that would provide \$1,750,000,000 to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to create a demonstration project or program that assigns a case manager to coordinate the care of chronically-ill and other high-cost Medicare beneficiaries in traditional fee-for-service Medicare, the Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution by the amount provided in such measure for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit for the period of fiscal years 2007 through 2011.

SA 3003. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 and 2008 through 2011; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

TITLE _____—ELIMINATING CHILD POVERTY

SEC. _____ 1. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “End Child Poverty Act”.

SEC. _____ 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) More than 13,000,000 children in the United States who are younger than 18 live below the poverty line.

(2) Most parents of poor children are playing by the rules by working to support their families. Despite their efforts, many of these parents still cannot help their children get ahead. Seven out of 10 poor children live in a working family and 1 poor child in 3 lives with a full-time year-around worker.

(3) Poor children are at least twice as likely as non-poor children to suffer stunted growth or lead poisoning, or to be kept back in school. Poor children score significantly lower on reading, mathematics, and vocabulary tests when compared with otherwise similar non-poor children. In more than half of poor households with children in the United States, the members of the households experience serious deprivations during the year, including lack of adequate food, utility shutoffs, crowded or substandard housing, or lack of needed medical care.

(4) Over 8,000,000 children under age 18 in the United States lack health insurance. With a 2004 uninsured rate of 18.9 percent, poor children are more likely to be uninsured than children generally.

(5)(A) The members of 1 in 6 households with children in the United States are hungry or on the verge of hunger, largely due to inadequate household income.

(B) Hungry children—

(i) tend to lack nutrients vital to healthy brain development;

(ii) tend to have difficulty focusing their attention and concentrating in school; and

(iii) often have greater emotional and behavioral problems, have weaker immune systems, and are more susceptible to infections, including anemia, than other children.

(6) Child poverty has risen significantly, by 1,440,000 since 2000.

(7) The poverty rate for children in the United States is substantially higher than that in most other wealthy industrialized nations.

(8) Children in the United States are more likely to live in poverty than any other age group in the United States.

(9) African-American and Latino children are much more likely to live in poverty than White children. One third of African-American children are low-income, as are nearly a third of Latino children.

(10) Great Britain made a public commitment to cut child poverty in half in 10 years, and end child poverty by 2020, and it has already successfully lifted 2,000,000 children out of poverty.

(11) Poverty is a moral issue and Congress has a moral obligation to address it.

SEC. _____ 3. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this title are—

(1) to set a national goal of cutting child poverty in half within a decade, and eliminating child poverty entirely as soon as possible; and

(2) to establish a Child Poverty Elimination Trust Fund as an initial measure to fund Federal programs to achieve that goal.

SEC. _____ 4. DEVELOPMENT OF PLAN BY CHILD POVERTY ELIMINATION BOARD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established a board to be known as the Child Poverty Elimination Board (referred to in this title as the “Board”).

(b) COMPOSITION.—

(1) APPOINTMENTS.—The Board shall be composed of 12 voting members, to be appointed not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, as follows:

(A) SENATORS.—One Senator shall be appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, and one Senator shall be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate.

(B) MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—One Member of the House of Representatives shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and one Member of the House of Representatives shall be appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives.

(C) ADDITIONAL MEMBERS.—

(i) APPOINTMENT.—Two members each shall be appointed by—

(I) the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

(II) the majority leader of the Senate;

(III) the minority leader of the House of Representatives; and

(IV) the minority leader of the Senate.

(ii) EXPERTISE.—Members appointed under this subparagraph shall be appointed on the basis of demonstrated expertise in child poverty issues.

(2) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT; VACANCIES.—Members shall be appointed for the life of the Board. Any vacancy on the Board shall be filled in the manner in which the original appointment was made. The vacancy shall not affect the power of the remaining members to execute the duties of the Board.

(3) CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRMAN.—The Board shall elect a chairperson and a vice chairperson from among the members of the Board.

(4) MEETINGS.—The Board shall first meet not later than 30 days after the date on which all members are appointed, and the Board shall meet thereafter at the call of the chairperson or vice chairperson or a majority of the members.

(c) PLAN AND REPORT.—

(1) PLAN.—The Board shall meet regularly to develop a plan for cutting child poverty in half within a decade, and eliminating child poverty entirely as soon as possible. The

plan shall include recommendations for allocations of funds from the Child Poverty Elimination Trust Fund established in section 9511 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, to carry out the plan.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Board shall prepare and submit a report containing the plan to the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, and the President.

(d) POWERS.—

(1) HEARINGS AND SESSIONS.—The Board may hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence as the Board considers appropriate. The Board may administer oaths or affirmations to witnesses appearing before it.

(2) ACCESS TO INFORMATION.—The Board may secure directly from any Federal agency information necessary to enable the Board to carry out this title, if the information may be disclosed under section 552 of title 5, United States Code. Subject to the previous sentence, on the request of the chairperson or vice chairperson of the Board, the head of such agency shall furnish such information to the Board.

(3) USE OF FACILITIES AND SERVICES.—Upon the request of the Board, the head of any Federal agency may make available to the Board any of the facilities and services of such agency.

(4) PERSONNEL FROM OTHER AGENCIES.—On the request of the Board, the head of any Federal agency may detail any of the personnel of such agency to serve as an Executive Director of the Board or assist the Board in carrying out the duties of the Board. Any detail shall not interrupt or otherwise affect the civil service status or privileges of the Federal employee.

(5) VOLUNTARY SERVICE.—Notwithstanding section 1342 of title 31, United States Code, the chairperson of the Board may accept for the Board voluntary services provided by a member of the Board.

(e) COMPENSATION.—

(1) PAY.—Members of the Board shall serve without compensation.

(2) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Members of the Board shall be allowed reasonable travel expenses, including a per diem allowance, in accordance with section 5703 of title 5, United States Code, when performing duties of the Board.

SEC. _____ 5. ISSUANCE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN.

(a) ISSUANCE.—Not later than 90 days after receiving the report containing the plan developed by the Board under section _____ 4(c), the President shall review the report, and shall issue a plan for cutting child poverty in half within a decade, and eliminating child poverty entirely as soon as possible. The plan shall include specifications and allocations of funds to be made from the Child Poverty Elimination Trust Fund, to carry out the plan.

(b) RELATIONSHIP TO BOARD PLAN.—The plan issued under subsection (a) shall be the same as the plan developed by the Board under section _____ 4(c) except insofar as the President may determine, for good cause shown and stated together with the plan issued under subsection (a), that a modification of the Board’s plan would be more effective for eliminating child poverty.

(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 90 days after issuing a plan under subsection (a), the President shall ensure the implementation of the plan issued under subsection (a), and shall work with Congress to ensure funding for the implementation of the plan.

SEC. 6. IMPOSITION OF INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX SURCHARGE TO FUND CHILD POVERTY ELIMINATION FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to imposition of tax on individuals) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(j) ADDITIONAL INCOME TAX.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If the adjusted gross income of an individual exceeds the threshold amount, the tax imposed by this section (determined without regard to this subsection) shall be increased by an amount equal to 1 percent of so much of the adjusted gross income as exceeds the threshold amount.

“(2) THRESHOLD AMOUNTS.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘threshold amount’ means—

“(A) \$1,000,000 in the case of a joint return, and

“(B) \$500,000 in the case of any other return.

“(3) TAX NOT TO APPLY TO ESTATES AND TRUSTS.—This subsection shall not apply to an estate or trust.”

(b) COORDINATION WITH MINIMUM TAX.—Section 55(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (defining regular tax) is amended by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4) and by inserting after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

“(3) COORDINATION WITH MINIMUM TAX.—Solely for purposes of this section, section 1(j) shall not apply in computing the regular tax.”

(c) ESTABLISHMENT OF CHILD POVERTY ELIMINATION FUND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter A of chapter 98 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to trust fund code) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“**SEC. 9511. CHILD POVERTY ELIMINATION TRUST FUND.**

“(a) CREATION OF TRUST FUND.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States a trust fund to be known as the ‘Child Poverty Elimination Trust Fund’ (referred to in this section as the ‘Trust Fund’), consisting of such amounts as may be appropriated or credited to the Trust Fund as provided in this section or section 9602(b).

“(b) TRANSFERS TO TRUST FUND.—There is hereby appropriated to the Trust Fund an amount equivalent to the increase in revenues received in the Treasury as the result of the surtax imposed under section 1(j).

“(c) DISTRIBUTION OF AMOUNTS IN TRUST FUND.—Amounts in the Trust Fund shall be available, as provided by appropriation Acts, to make expenditures in connection with Federal programs designed to carry out the plan issued by the President under section 5 of the End Child Poverty Act, to eliminate child poverty.”

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subchapter A of chapter 98 of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following:

“Sec. 9511. Child Poverty Elimination Trust Fund.”

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2005.

(e) SECTION 15 NOT TO APPLY.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall not be treated as a change in a rate of tax for purposes of section 15 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

SA 3004. Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mr. WYDEN, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and in-

cluding the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 and 2008 through 2011; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title III, insert the following:

SEC. RESERVE FUND FOR THE NEGOTIATION OF THE BEST POSSIBLE PRICE FOR PRESCRIPTION DRUGS THROUGH MEDICARE PART D.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the aggregates, allocations, functional totals, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution upon enactment of legislation that allows the Secretary of Health and Human Services to use the collective purchasing power of 40,000,000 Medicare beneficiaries to negotiate the best possible prices for prescription drugs provided through part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act in fallback plans and, if asked, by private drug plans, and in other circumstances, but not permitting price setting or a uniform formulary, by the amount of savings in that legislation, to ensure that those savings are reserved for deficit reduction or to improve the Medicare part D drug benefit.

SA 3005. Mr. BURNS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 and 2008 through 2011; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place insert the following:

SEC. SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE 10-PERCENT TAX RATE BRACKET.

It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the aggregate reduced levels of Federal revenues under section 101(1)(B) assume the extension of the 10-percent rate bracket under section 1(i)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 through September 30, 2011, and

(2) the 10-percent rate bracket should be made permanent.

SA 3006. Ms. SNOWE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 and 2008 through 2011; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 15, line 21, increase the amount by \$121,000,000.

On page 15, line 22, increase the amount by \$85,000,000.

On page 16, line 1, increase the amount by \$28,000,000.

On page 16, line 5, increase the amount by \$7,000,000.

On page 16, line 9, increase the amount by \$1,000,000.

On page 27, line 23, decrease the amount by \$121,000,000.

On page 27, line 24, decrease the amount by \$85,000,000.

On page 28, line 2, decrease the amount by \$28,000,000.

On page 28, line 5, decrease the amount by \$7,000,000.

On page 28, line 8, decrease the amount by \$1,000,000.

SA 3007. Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. NELSON

of Florida, Mr. KERRY, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SALAZAR, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. DODD, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. JEFFORDS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 and 2008 through 2011; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 3, line 13, increase the amount by \$1,350,000,000.

On page 3, line 15, increase the amount by \$135,000,000.

On page 3, line 17, increase the amount by \$6,000,000.

On page 3, line 19, increase the amount by \$2,000,000.

On page 4, line 1, increase the amount by \$1,350,000,000.

On page 4, line 2, increase the amount by \$135,000,000.

On page 4, line 3, increase the amount by \$6,000,000.

On page 4, line 4, increase the amount by \$2,000,000.

On page 4, line 13, increase the amount by \$1,500,000,000.

On page 5, line 4, increase the amount by \$1,350,000,000.

On page 5, line 6, increase the amount by \$135,000,000.

On page 5, line 8, increase the amount by \$6,000,000.

On page 5, line 10, increase the amount by \$2,000,000.

On page 23, line 24, increase the amount by \$1,500,000,000.

On page 23, line 25, increase the amount by \$1,350,000,000.

On page 24, line 4, increase the amount by \$135,000,000.

On page 24, line 8, increase the amount by \$6,000,000.

On page 24, line 12, increase the amount by \$2,000,000.

On page 53, line 1, increase the amount by \$1,500,000,000.

On page 53, line 2, increase the amount by \$1,350,000,000.

SA 3008. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 and 2008 through 2011; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title III, insert the following:

SEC. RESERVE FUND TO IMPROVE THE MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT; REPEAL OF DIRECT SPENDING LIMITATION.

(a) RESERVE FUND.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for a bill or joint resolution, or an amendment thereto or conference report thereon, that would—

(1) require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to offer a Medicare guaranteed prescription drug plan under part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act that would be operated by the Secretary and that would have a service area that consists of the entire United States;

(2) improve the coverage under the program under such part D, including through

the reduction of the annual deductible and the required coinsurance and through the elimination of the coverage gap, cost-sharing above the annual out-of-pocket threshold, and the assets test for low-income beneficiaries;

(3) eliminate overpayments to Medicare Advantage plans under part C of such title, including through the elimination of the MA Regional Plan Stabilization Fund, through the extension of refinements to the health status adjustment to plan payments, and through requiring that the Medicare Advantage capitation rate be based on the fee-for-services rate;

(4) reduce costs by allowing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate discounted prices on prescription drugs offered under a drug plan under such part D; by the amount provided in such measure for those purposes.

(b) REPEAL OF DIRECT SPENDING LIMITATION.—Section 406 shall be null and void.

SA 3009. Mr. NELSON of Florida submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 and 2008 through 2011; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title III, add the following:

SEC. ____ . DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PROTECT MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES WHO ENROLL IN THE PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT DURING 2006.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for a bill or joint resolution, or an amendment thereto or conference report thereon, that would—

(1) extend the annual open enrollment period under the Medicare prescription drug program under part D of title XVIII through all of 2006 without imposing a late enrollment penalty for months during such period; and

(2) allow a one-time change of plan enrollment under such program at any time during 2006;

by the amount provided in such measure for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit for the period of fiscal years 2006 through 2011.

SA 3010. Mr. KYL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 and 2008 through 2011; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 24, line 24, increase the amount by \$2,000,000,000.

On page 24, line 25, increase the amount by \$2,000,000,000.

On page 27, line 23, decrease the amount by \$2,000,000,000.

On page 27, line 24, decrease the amount by \$2,000,000,000.

SA 3011. Mr. TALENT (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. THUNE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, setting forth

the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 and 2008 through 2011; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 9, line 20, increase the amount by \$3,000,000,000.

On page 9, line 21, increase the amount by \$3,000,000,000.

On page 27, line 23, decrease the amount by \$3,000,000,000.

On page 27, line 24, decrease the amount by \$3,000,000,000.

SA 3012. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 83, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 and 2008 through 2011; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . SENSE OF THE SENATE CONCERNING AN INCREASE IN THE MINIMUM WAGE.

It is the sense of the Senate that the levels in this resolution assume that Congress should enact legislation to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 201 et seq.) to increase the Federal minimum wage by \$2.10, with a \$0.70 increase effective 60 days after the passage of this resolution, a \$0.70 increase effective 12 months after that 60th day, and a \$0.70 increase effective 24 months after that 60th day.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 13, 2006, at 3 p.m. in closed session to receive a briefing from the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following detailees and interns with the Senate Finance Committee be granted privileges of the floor during the Senate's consideration of the budget resolution: Mary Baker, Robin Burgess, Tiffany Smith, Tom Louthan, Margaret Hathaway, Laura Kellams, Leona Cuttler, Deidra Henry-Spires, David Schwartz, Richard Litsey, Stuart Sirkin, Zachary Henderson, Lesley Meeker, Britt Sandler, Lauren Shields, Jordan Murray, and Will Larson.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate im-

mediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations on today's Executive Calendar: Calendar Nos. 549, 551, 552, 554, 555, 557, 558, 559, 560, 562, 563, 564, 565, and all nominations on the Secretary's desk.

I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed en bloc, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Terrance P. Flynn, of New York, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of New York for the term of four years.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Michell C. Clark, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Management, Department of Education.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Edwin G. Foulke, Jr., of South Carolina, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

Jean B. Elshain, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for the remainder of the term expiring January 26, 2010.

Allen C. Guelzo, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2012.

JAMES MADISON MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP FOUNDATION

George Perdue, of Georgia, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation for a term expiring November 5, 2006.

INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

Anne-Imelda Radice, of Vermont, to be Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Craig T. Ramey, of West Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences for a term of two years.

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

Sarah M. Singleton, of New Mexico, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2008.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Donald J. DeGabrielle, Jr., of Texas, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Texas for the term of four years.

John Charles Richter, of Oklahoma, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Oklahoma for the term of four years.

Amul R. Thapar, of Kentucky, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Kentucky for the term of four years.

Mauricio J. Tamargo, of Florida, to be Chairman of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States for a term expiring September 30, 2009.

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

PN936 Public Health Service nomination of Leah Hill, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 28, 2005.

PN937 Public Health Service nominations (262) beginning Gregory A. Abbott, and ending Carl A. Huffman III, which nominations