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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Lord of truth and love, source and end of our believing and loving, You alone are worthy of our praise and we celebrate Your great Name. Thank You for the gift of Your dynamic presence in our lives and for the power we receive from knowing You.

Be near our Senators today. Lift them from any discouragement, and give them a sure sense of duty and service. Pour fresh energy into them and use their work to transform disorder into harmony, beauty, and peace. Guide them with Your undying love so that the reign of Your kingdom will become a reality in our world.

We pray in Your holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore 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.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, today we will have a period of morning business with the first 15 minutes under the control of the minority and the final 15 minutes under the control of the majority. Following morning business, we will resume consideration of the emergency supplemental appropriations conference report. Under the time agreement that was reached yesterday, we have a little over an hour and a half of debate this morning. The vote on the adoption of the conference report is set for tomorrow at 10 a.m.

Today we will continue work on the Department of Defense authorization bill. Senators who have amendments should consult with the bill managers, Senator WARNER and Senator LEVIN. Votes on amendments to this bill can be expected to occur throughout the day.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will be a period for the transaction of morning business for up to 30 minutes, with the first half of the time under the control of the Democratic leader or his designee and the second half of the time under the control of the majority leader or his designee.

Who yields time?

The Senator from Connecticut.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I want to take a minute or 2, if I can, to join my other colleagues who over the last several days have paid tribute to our colleague from West Virginia, my seatmate, Senator ROBERT BYRD, who, on Monday, celebrated the unique landmark of serving longer than any other person in the history of this remarkable institution.

I said to Senator BYRD, my colleague and seatmate, yesterday, his longevity is impressive but his record as a U.S. Senator is really what excels. While serving for 47 years in this institution is certainly remarkable, what he has done during those 47 years is what is truly remarkable. His contribution to the public discourse and debate of our country throughout that time has been truly exemplary.

I noted the other day, in fact, that when Senator BYRD was first elected to the House, there was a wonderful picture taken that appeared with Senator BYRD and several other Members of newly minted Congressmen who had been elected in 1952 at the White House with Dwight Eisenhower. In that group of pictures was also a newly minted Congressman from Connecticut by the name of Thomas Dodd, my father.

Senator BYRD and my father were elected to the House together in 1952, and came to this body together in 1958. So during these many years of public service, ROBERT C. BYRD has had to serve with two Dodds in the U.S. Congress, my father and myself. I sit next to Senator BYRD by choice. I have been his seatmate for almost 15 or 16 years now, and do so because I have enjoyed his company, his wisdom, and listening to his contributions to the debate and his knowledge of the Senate and its procedures.

I know we have a new group of pages who have arrived to serve in our Nation's Capitol here in the U.S. Senate in the last few days. As someone who sat on the steps of the Democratic side back in the early 1960s as a page, I say to the pages, I would strongly urge you to listen to ROBERT C. BYRD. If you want to have truly a great lesson during your tenure here as pages, then listen to the remarkable Senator from West Virginia, and you will learn more in the short period of time you are here than almost anything else I could advise you to do, except to read his two-volume history of the U.S. Senate, which you may not have time to do during your 2 of 3 weeks here as pages.

Senator BYRD, of course, has had significant accomplishments. And I think

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

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of the time when I served as a page, an unpaid page, back many years ago, and the giants of the Senate in those days; certainly people such as Lyndon Johnson, Mike Mansfield, Richard Russell, Everett Dirksen, Margaret Chase Smith, Hubert Humphrey, John Sherman Cooper, Stuart Symington—and so many others who served during those years who were truly giants in many ways.

They were Senators in the very fullest sense of the word. They represented an institutional spirit that in many ways is lacking today, and I regret that deeply. But it was critical to the success of our democratic Republic how they related one to the other. It is a spirit of independence and understanding that all Senators are equal in this body, regardless of the positions they hold in the institution. All 100 of us are equal Members representing our respective States and constituencies. It is a spirit that allows us to debate—sometimes very vigorously—our differences, while still obliging us to seek common ground for the common good of our country.

ROBERT BYRD certainly epitomizes that spirit—a vigorous debater but also someone who recognizes it is vitally important to reach common goals for the common good. It is a spirit that refuses to submit to the encroachments of any other institution or office in the land, including that of the Executive.

I cannot count the times that ROBERT C. BYRD would correct someone who said: I served under a President here. I served under seven Presidents. ROBERT BYRD will quickly tell you: You do not serve under any President. You serve with Presidents. You are a Member of a coequal branch of the U.S. Government as embodied in the Constitution of the United States.

And how right he is. As Senators understand, ROBERT BYRD understands implicitly that the Senate is a coequal, powerful branch of Government, that our Founders wanted it to be of equal weight in the deliberations of our country.

I carry with me a copy of the U.S. Constitution. I have had this for many, many years, and it was given to me by my seatmate, ROBERT C. BYRD. It is getting rather worn, but his inscription inside is something I will cherish for the rest of my days and life—that I carry a copy of the Constitution given to me by this person who cherishes and loves the Constitution as much as ROBERT C. BYRD does. One of the reasons I care so deeply about this particular copy is of course it was given to me by him and inscribed by him.

I think it is only fitting that someone who cares so much about that document and this institution is now the Senate's longest serving Member.

In his close to five decades of Senate service, Senator BYRD has had an enormous impact on his State and on our country. He, more than any other Member that I can think of in the last half century, has worked to preserve the delicate system of checks and balances conceived by the Founders of our great Republic. That work is typified by his opposition to the line-item veto and his insistence on preserving the prerogatives of this institution in relation to the other branches of Government.

But more than that, he has also helped to bring good jobs, better schools, and decent health care not only to the constituents of West Virginia but also to millions of people across this country because of his leadership.

He has never forgotten the good, hard-working people who sent him here from his beloved West Virginia or why they did so; that is, to make our Nation a stronger, more prosperous, and more hopeful Nation for all of its citizens.

Senator BYRD has had the courage and strength of character to admit past errors—something that too few of us do in this Chamber—and to seek genuine understanding for the good of our country.

In his history of the U.S. Senate, Senator BYRD has written that:

> After 200 years, the Senate is still the anchor of the Republic, is still the morning and evening star in the American constitutional constellation.

More than any other U.S. Senator in this body, I believe Senator BYRD has helped to ensure that this U.S. Senate retains that unique distinction.

So I am pleased to join with my other colleagues in wishing him well. I know more than anything else he would have loved to have his beloved Erma here with him in these days to celebrate this achievement. Of course, he lost Erma just a few months ago. But I am certain, as all of us are, that she is watching, with a great big smile, as she celebrates with all of us the distinction that our colleague from West Virginia has achieved this last Monday—47 years in the U.S. Senate.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, the distinguished senior Senator from West Virginia, our friend ROBERT BYRD, has achieved yet another historic milestone. He is now the longest-serving Senator in the history of the Senate. But what is most remarkable about Senator BYRD is not his longevity, but his unique stature and accomplishment within this body.

Senator BYRD is renowned for his unmatched knowledge of the Senate's history. So he remembers very well that our former colleague, Philip Hart of Michigan, was known as the ''conscience of the Senate.'' Well, I believe that history will remember the senior Senator from West Virginia as the soul of the Senate.

No individual in my memory has been a more tenacious champion of the traditions, prerogatives, and rules of this body. No individual has had greater reverence for the Constitution, and for the Founders' vision of an assertive, independent, co-equal legislative branch. As the Almanac of Americans says in its profile of Senator BYRD, and I quote, he ''may come closer to the kind of Senator that the Founding Fathers had in mind than any other.'' By the way, if anyone here on the Senate floor needs to look something up in the Constitution, we know where to turn; Senator BYRD always carries a copy in his left breast pocket, directly over his heart.

I have always had a special affinity for Senator BYRD, because we are both the sons of coal miners, both raised in humble circumstances. Reading about the Senator's early years, lifting himself out of poverty as a welder and meat cutter before running for the West Virginia Legislature in 1946, I am reminded of Thomas Edison's remark that ''opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.'' Well, ROBERT BYRD made his own opportunities with relentless work, self-education, and striving. And that incredible work ethic continues right up to this day.

One product of that work ethic, and of Senator BYRD's always impressive erudition, is his two-volume history of this body. It is recognized as the definitive history of the Senate during its first 200 years, and widely praised for its graceful writing. On this score, Senator BYRD has much in common with Winston Churchill. Both were prolific writers. And both were major players in the events that they chronicled.

On a personal note, let me just say that I have always valued Senator BYRD's friendship, wisdom, and advice. And I will always appreciate the way he tutored me in the ways of the Senate when I first came to this body in 1984.

So I join with my colleagues from both sides of the aisle in saluting our friend. Senator BYRD is the longest-serving Member of this body. But there are still many chapters yet to be written in the career of this great Senator. As the late Senator Paul Wellstone used to say, ''The future belongs to those with passion.'' By that standard, Senator BYRD is very much a man of the future.

I say to my friend, it has been an honor to serve with him.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to a man who may be the most important friend that the people of West Virginia have ever sent to Washington or ever will send to Washington. He is the senior Senator of West Virginia, and today he becomes America's senior Senator.

The Senate is housed in this beautiful Chamber of marble columns and intricate architecture. But the Senate is not a building; it is not a seal or a symbol or an idea. The Senate is a group of 100 men and women who are chosen by the people to craft the laws that define and govern the American People.

While the Senate is not a building, it does have individuals who serve as pillars upon which the rest of us place our

trust and reliance. Today, we salute one such pillar. The senior Senator from West Virginia enters the record books as the longest serving Senator.

Note, I say that he enters the record books, not the history books. I say that because I expect the senior Senator from West Virginia to be making history on this floor for many years to come.

In an earlier time, we would have called ROBERT BYRD a renaissance man in the mold of such American luminaries as Jefferson or Franklin. Consider that he is a poet, an accomplished musician, an author, the foremost historian of this Chamber, a parliamentary expert, an intensely devout Christian, an unrivaled legislator, a scholar of our Constitution, and earned a J.D. while a Member of this Chamber.

Yet all of these accomplishments as an individual are dwarfed by what he has done and will continue to do for the people of West Virginia. He has brought mew industries like biotechnology, biometrics and other high tech, high skilled work to West Virginia. He has fought for dams, roadways, hospitals, and highways. It is hard to imagine that one man might have such a transformative impact on a State. Yet friend and foe alike would concede this point to ROBERT BYRD.

I say today that Senator BYRD becomes America's senior Senator. In many ways, he always has been. No man or woman more rigorously defends the role of this Chamber in our governmental structure, and no man or woman fights more ardently to preserve that beautiful document he carries in his breast pocket—the U.S. Constitution. One of the first things I did when I was sworn in as a Member of this body was to take the whole Landrieu family to see Senator BYRD and have him give us a talk on the Constitution and the role of the Senate.

For the last 6 years, it has been my pleasure to serve under Senator BYRD's leadership on the Senate Appropriations Committee. In that capacity, he has proven repeatedly that he is a friend to the people of Louisiana and understands the tragedy that has befallen them. I thank him for that help and friendship.

Of course, I would be remiss if I didn't mention that today is a bittersweet anniversary, for it is also Erma's birthday. A woman whose life, and now memory, Senator BYRD so obviously cherished.

So, Mr. President, I thank America's senior Senator for his service to this country and for his friendship.

I conclude my remarks, as he so often does, with a verse of poetry—one of the Senator's favorites—the final verse of ''The Building of the Ship'' by Longfellow:

Thou, too, sail on, O Ship of State!
Sail on, O UNION, strong and great!
Humanity with all its fears,
With all the hopes of future years,
Is hanging breathless on thy fate!
We know what Master laid thy keel,
What Workmen wrought thy ribs of steel,
Who made each mast, and sail, and rope,
What anvils rang, what hammers beat,
In what a forge and what a heat
Were shaped the anchors of thy hope!
Fear not each sudden sound and shock,
'Tis of the wave and not the rock;
'Tis but the flapping of the sail,
And not a rent made by the gale!
In spite of rock and tempest's roar,
In spite of false lights on the shore,
Sail on, nor fear to breast the sea
Our hearts, our hopes, are all with thee,
Our hearts, our hopes, our prayers, our tears,
Our faith triumphant o'er our fears,
Are all with thee,—are all with thee!

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Hawaii is recognized.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I have 5 minutes in morning business.

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

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I note my deep disappointment that the conference agreement for the emergency supplemental appropriations bill now pending before the Senate does not include the supplemental funding for VA health care that was included in the Senate-passed measure.

Despite the fact that the Senate spoke strongly on the need to ensure that VA has enough resources during the balance of this fiscal year to be able to treat our Nation's veterans in an effective and timely manner, my amendment to add $430 million to the VA health care account was not included in the final compromise.

Back in April and May, when we debated the supplemental appropriations measure here in the Senate, I was delighted that my amendment, cosponsored by 21 of our colleagues, to secure a relatively modest amount of emergency funding for VA health care was included in the legislation. The reasons we gave then in support of this funding were clear, and they remain so today.

First, Vet Centers and other mental health programs need to be given more support if VA is to continue to be able to reach out to veterans in need of readjustment counseling or other psychological treatment, especially those returning from service in a war zone.

Secondly, across the VA system, facilities need some additional funding to ensure that VA is able to continue to provide quality of care and availability of services for all veterans.

At the time of the Senate debate, after a slight modification to the amendment so as to require the President to request the emergency funding in order for VA to receive it, the Senate voted 84–13 to adopt the amendment and include it as part of the supplemental package.

My colleagues indicated their overwhelming support of the measure through that vote. In light of that show of support, the failure to include this VA funding in the pending measure is all the more regrettable, all the more unacceptable.

Having just traveled to Iraq to see for myself what the situation is like on the ground there, I am even more steadfast in my belief that VA must have the resources it needs to care for returning servicemembers.

Programs to transition our men and women in uniform who require mental health, prosthetic rehabilitation, or other specialty health care services back into civilian life are a clear, continuing part of the overall cost of war. These services are more important than ever, and we must do our part to support them.

Although we did not succeed in keeping this additional funding in this measure, we will not give up the fight and will do our utmost to ensure that VA has the funding it needs.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

IRAQ

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise to talk about all of the interesting things going on in Iraq. We saw yesterday the surprise, very important visit by the President to the new Iraqi Cabinet under Premier Nouri Kamal al-Maliki. This marks one more significant step in efforts to bring national unity to Iraq. We all must remember that just a few short years ago, Iraq was ruled by a murderous tyrant, Saddam Hussein. According to the Iraqi Survey Group's Charles Dilfer, Iraq was a far more dangerous place even than we knew. We may not have had the intelligence right, but the intelligence was focusing on the fact of how dangerous this place was. Dilfer said that Iraq was overrun with terrorists, like Abu Musab al-Zarqawi who was then in al-Ansar Islam and later changed that to al-Qaida in Iraq, the butcher who brazenly beheaded innocent Americans and others on television.

Dilfer said that Saddam Hussein had the ability to produce chemical and biological weapons that he had in the past and he was willing and able to sell them to terrorists who could deliver them to our country. This milestone, unfortunately, received not enough attention or appreciation in the media. This is not an isolated example of people trying to downplay good news in Iraq. As Peter Wehner wrote in the Wall Street Journal on May 23:

> Iraqis can participate in three historic elections, pass the most liberal constitution in the Arab world, and form a unit government despite terrorist attacks and provocations. Yet, for some critics of the President, these are minor matters.

We have seen time and again the focus of our media, and thus, what many Americans hear is just the killings, the slaughter of innocents in bombings and suicide attacks. We read the tragic stories of the loss of Americans. But the real story, when you talk to our troops on the ground, is how much good they have been doing. They have been completing their mission. They have been pacifying large areas of the country. Schools and hospitals are being built. Women are enjoying newfound freedom. Yet for television, if it bleeds, it leads. That is the only stuff we hear about.

We are told of massacres and chaos, but we aren't told that millions of Iraqis who fled to other countries as refugees by the millions in past years under Saddam Hussein are returning; 1.2 million refugees have returned to their homes. We rarely see positive stories about seminaries which, under Saddam, held only a few dozen students and now have 15,000 pupils from 40 different countries. We don't read about the increase in the value of the Iraqi dinar, the record number of media outlets, the tremendous growth in small businesses forming the economic foundation for Iraq, and the revival of Iraqi agriculture. These stories were told very well by a well-known Iranian journalist, Amir Taheri, who published an article in Commentary magazine available on their Web site talking about how Iraq has improved—a man who has watched Iraq for 40 years.

I ask unanimous consent that this article be printed in the RECORD.

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

THE REAL IRAQ

(by Amir Taheri)

Spending time in the United States after a tour of Iraq can be a disorienting experience these days. Within hours of arriving here, as I can attest from a recent visit, one is confronted with an image of Iraq that is unrecognizable. It is created in several overlapping ways: through television footage showing the charred remains of vehicles used in suicide attacks, surrounded by wailing women in black and grim-looking men carrying coffins; by armchair strategists and political gurus predicting further doom or pontificating about how the war should have been fought in the first place; by authors of instant-history books making their rounds to dissect the various fundamental mistakes committed by the Bush administration; and by reporters, cocooned in hotels in Baghdad, explaining the carnage and chaos in the streets as signs of the country's impending or undeclared civil war. Add to all this the day's alleged scandal or revelation—an outed CIA operative, a reportedly doctored intelligence report, a leaked pessimistic assessment and it is no wonder the American public registers disillusion with Iraq and everyone who embroiled the U.S. in its troubles.

It would be hard indeed for the average interested citizen to find out on his own just how grossly this image distorts the realities of present-day Iraq. Part of the problem, faced by even the most well-meaning news organizations, is the difficulty of covering so large and complex a subject; naturally, in such circumstances, sensational items rise to the top. But even ostensibly more objective efforts, like the Brookings Institution's much-cited Iraq Index with its constantly updated array of security, economic, and public-opinion indicators, tell us little about the actual feel of the country on the ground.

To make matters worse, many of the newsmen, pundits, and commentators on whom American viewers and readers rely to describe the situation have been contaminated by the increasing bitterness of American politics. Clearly there are those in the media and the think tanks who wish the Iraq enterprise to end in tragedy, as a just comeuppance for George W. Bush. Others, prompted by noble sentiment, so abhor the idea of war that they would banish it from human discourse before admitting that, in some circumstances, military power can be used in support of a good cause. But whatever the reason, the half-truths and outright misinformation that now function as conventional wisdom have gravely disserved the American people.

For someone like myself who has spent considerable time in Iraq—a country I first visited in 1968—current reality there is, nevertheless, very different from this conventional wisdom, and so are the prospects for Iraq's future. It helps to know where to look, what sources to trust, and how to evaluate the present moment against the background of Iraqi and Middle Eastern history.

Since my first encounter with Iraq almost 40 years ago, I have relied on several broad measures of social and economic health to assess the country's condition. Through good times and bad, these signs have proved remarkably accurate—as accurate, that is, as is possible in human affairs. For some time now, all have been pointing in an unequivocally positive direction.

The first sign is refugees. When things have been truly desperate in Iraq—in 1959, 1969, 1971, 1973, 1980, 1988, and 1990—long queues of Iraqis have formed at the Turkish and Iranian frontiers, hoping to escape. In 1973, for example, when Saddam Hussein decided to expel all those whose ancestors had not been Ottoman citizens before Iraq's creation as a state, some 1.2 million Iraqis left their homes in the space of just six weeks. This was not the temporary exile of a small group of middle-class professionals and intellectuals, which is a common enough phenomenon in most Arab countries. Rather, it was a departure en masse, affecting people both in small villages and in big cities, and it was a scene regularly repeated under Saddam Hussein.

Since the toppling of Saddam in 2003, this is one highly damaging image we have not seen on our television sets—and we can be sure that we would be seeing it if it were there to be shown. To the contrary, Iraqis, far from fleeing, have been returning home. By the end of 2005, in the most conservative estimate, the number of returnees topped the 1.2-million mark. Many of the camps set up for fleeing Iraqis in Turkey, Iran, and Saudi Arabia since 1959 have now closed down. The oldest such center, at Ashrafiayh in southwest Iran, was formally shut when its last Iraqi guests returned home in 2004.

A second dependable sign likewise concerns human movement, but of a different kind. This is the flow of religious pilgrims to the Shiite shrines in Karbala and Najaf. Whenever things start to go badly in Iraq, this stream is reduced to a trickle and then it dries up completely. From 1991 (when Saddam Hussein massacred Shiites involved in a revolt against him) to 2003, there were scarcely any pilgrims to these cities. Since Saddam's fall, they have been flooded with visitors. In 2005, the holy sites received an estimated 12 million pilgrims, making them the most visited spots in the entire Muslim world, ahead of both Mecca and Medina.

Over 3,000 Iraqi clerics have also returned from exile, and Shiite seminaries, which just a few years ago held no more than a few dozen pupils, now boast over 15,000 from 40 different countries. This is because Najaf, the oldest center of Shiite scholarship, is once again able to offer an alternative to Qom, the Iranian holy city where a radical and highly politicized version of Shiism is taught. Those wishing to pursue the study of more traditional and quietist forms of Shiism now go to Iraq where, unlike in Iran, the seminaries are not controlled by the government and its secret police.

A third sign, this one of the hard economic variety, is the value of the Iraqi dinar, especially as compared with the region's other major currencies. In the final years of Saddam Hussein's rule, the Iraqi dinar was in free fall; after 1995, it was no longer even traded in Iran and Kuwait. By contrast, the new dinar, introduced early in 2004, is doing well against both the Kuwaiti dinar and the Iranian rial, having risen by 17 percent against the former and by 23 percent against the latter. Although it is still impossible to fix its value against a basket of international currencies, the new Iraqi dinar has done well against the U.S. dollar, increasing in value by almost 18 percent between August 2004 and August 2005. The overwhelming majority of Iraqis, and millions of Iranians and Kuwaitis, now treat it as a safe and solid medium of exchange.

My fourth time-tested sign is the level of activity by small and medium-sized businesses. In the past, whenever things have gone downhill in Iraq, large numbers of such enterprises have simply closed down, with the country's most capable entrepreneurs decamping to Jordan, Syria, Saudi Arabia, the Persian Gulf states, Turkey, Iran, and even Europe and North America. Since liberation, however, Iraq has witnessed a private-sector boom, especially among small and medium-sized businesses.

According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, as well as numerous private studies, the Iraqi economy has been doing better than any other in the region. The country's gross domestic product rose to almost $90 billion in 2004 (the latest year for which figures are available), more than double the output for 2003, and its real growth rate, as estimated by the IMF, was 52.3 per cent. In that same period, exports increased by more than $3 billion, while the inflation rate fell to 25.4 percent, down from 70 percent in 2002. The unemployment rate was halved, from 60 percent to 30 percent.

Related to this is the level of agricultural activity. Between 1991 and 2003, the country's farm sector experienced unprecedented decline, in the end leaving almost the entire nation dependent on rations distributed by the United Nations under Oil-for-Food. In the past two years, by contrast, Iraqi agriculture has undergone an equally unprecedented revival. Iraq now exports foodstuffs to neighboring countries, something that has not happened since the 1950s. Much of the upturn is due to smallholders who, shaking off the collectivist system imposed by the Baathists, have retaken control of land that was confiscated decades ago by the state.

Finally, one of the surest indices of the health of Iraqi society has always been its readiness to talk to the outside world. Iraqis are a verbalizing people; when they fall silent, life is incontrovertibly becoming hard for them. There have been times, indeed, when one could find scarcely a single Iraqi, whether in Iraq or abroad, prepared to express an opinion on anything remotely political. This is what Kanan Makiya meant when he described Saddam Husseins regime as a republic of fear.

Today, again by way of dramatic contrast, Iraqis are voluble to a fault. Talk radio, television talk-shows, and Internet blogs are all the rage, while heated debate is the order of the day in shops, tea-houses, bazaars, mosques, offices, and private homes. A catharsis is how Luay Abdulilah, the Iraqi short-story writer and diarist, describes it. This is one way of taking revenge against decades of deadly silence. Moreover, a vast network of independent media has emerged in Iraq, including over 100 privately owned newspapers and magazines and more than two dozen radio and television stations. To anyone familiar with the state of the media in the Arab world, it is a truism that Iraq today is the place where freedom of expression is most effectively exercised.

That an experienced observer of Iraq with a sense of history can point to so many positive factors in the country's present condition will not do much, of course, to sway the more determined critics of the U.S. intervention there. They might even agree that the images fed to the American public show only part of the picture, and that the news from Iraq is not uniformly bad. But the root of their opposition runs deeper, to political fundamentals.

Their critique can be summarized in the aphorism that democracy cannot be imposed by force. It is a view that can be found among the more sophisticated elements on the Left and, increasingly, among dissenters on the Right, from Senator Chuck Hagel of Nebraska to the ex-neoconservative Francis Fukuyama. As Senator Hagel puts it, You cannot in my opinion just impose a democratic form of government on a country with no history and no culture and no tradition of democracy.

I would tend to agree. But is Iraq such a place? In point of fact, before the 1958 pro-Soviet military coup detat that established a leftist dictatorship, Iraq did have its modest but nevertheless significant share of democratic history, culture, and tradition. The country came into being through a popular referendum held in 1921. A constitutional monarchy modeled on the United Kingdom, it had a bicameral parliament, several political parties (including the Baath and the Communists), and periodic elections that led to changes of policy and government. At the time, Iraq also enjoyed the freest press in the Arab world, plus the widest space for debate and dissent in the Muslim Middle East.

To be sure, Baghdad in those days was no Westminster, and, as the 1958 coup proved, Iraqi democracy was fragile. But every serious student of contemporary Iraq knows that substantial segments of the population, from all ethnic and religious communities, had more than a taste of the modern worlds democratic aspirations. As evidence, one need only consult the immense literary and artistic production of Iraqis both before and after the 1958 coup. Under successor dictatorial regimes, it is true, the conviction took hold that democratic principles had no future in Iraq—a conviction that was responsible in large part for driving almost five million Iraqis, a quarter of the population, into exile between 1958 and 2003, just as the opposite conviction is attracting so many of them and their children back to Iraq today.

A related argument used to condemn Iraq's democratic prospects is that it is an artificial country, one that can be held together only by a dictator. But did any nation-state fall from the heavens wholly made? All are to some extent artificial creations, and the U.S. is preeminently so. The truth is that Iraq—one of the 53 founding countries of the United Nations—is older than a majority of that organizations current 198 member states. Within the Arab League, and setting aside Oman and Yemen, none of the 22 members is older. Two-thirds of the 122 countries regarded as democracies by Freedom House came into being after Iraq's appearance on the map.

Critics of the democratic project in Iraq also claim that, because it is a multi-ethnic and multi-confessional state, the country is doomed to despotism, civil war, or disintegration. But the same could be said of virtually all Middle Eastern states, most of which are neither multi-ethnic nor multi-confessional. More important, all Iraqis, regardless of their ethnic, linguistic, and sectarian differences, share a sense of national identity—uruqa (Iraqi-ness)—that has developed over the past eight decades. A unified, federal state may still come to grief in Iraq—history is not written in advance—but even should a divorce become inevitable at some point, a democratic Iraq would be in a better position to manage it.

What all of this demonstrates is that, contrary to received opinion, Operation Iraqi Freedom was not an attempt to impose democracy by force. Rather, it was an effort to use force to remove impediments to democratization, primarily by deposing a tyrant who had utterly suppressed a well-established aspect of the country's identity. It may take years before we know for certain whether or not post-liberation Iraq has definitely chosen democracy. But one thing is certain: without the use of force to remove the Baathist regime, the people of Iraq would not have had the opportunity even to contemplate a democratic future.

Assessing the progress of that democratic project is no simple matter. But, by any reasonable standard, Iraqis have made extraordinary strides. In a series of municipal polls and two general elections in the past three years, up to 70 percent of eligible Iraqis have voted. This new orientation is supported by more than 60 political parties and organizations, the first genuinely free-trade unions in the Arab world, a growing number of professional associations acting independently of the state, and more than 400 nongovernmental organizations representing diverse segments of civil society. A new constitution, written by Iraqis representing the full spectrum of political, ethnic, and religious sensibilities was overwhelmingly approved by the electorate in a referendum last October.

Iraq's new democratic reality is also reflected in the vocabulary of politics used at every level of society. Many new words—accountability, transparency, pluralism, dissent—have entered political discourse in Iraq for the first time. More remarkably, perhaps, all parties and personalities currently engaged in the democratic process have committed themselves to the principle that power should be sought, won, and lost only through free and fair elections.

These democratic achievements are especially impressive when set side by side with the declared aims of the enemies of the new Iraq, who have put up a determined fight against it. Since the country's liberation, the jihadists and residual Baathists have killed an estimated 23,000 Iraqis, mostly civilians, in scores of random attacks and suicide operations. Indirectly, they have caused the death of thousands more, by sabotaging water and electricity services and by provoking sectarian revenge attacks.

But they have failed to translate their talent for mayhem and murder into political success. Their campaign has not succeeded in appreciably slowing down, let alone stopping, the country's democratization. Indeed, at each step along the way, the jihadists and Baathists have seen their self-declared objectives thwarted.

After the invasion, they tried at first to prevent the formation of a Governing Council, the expression of Iraq's continued existence as a sovereign nation-state. They managed to murder several members of the council, including its president in 2003, but failed to prevent its formation or to keep it from performing its task in the interim period. The next aim of the insurgents was to stop municipal elections. Their message was simple: candidates and voters would be killed. But, once again, they failed: thousands of men and women came forward as candidates and more than 1.5 million Iraqis voted in the localities where elections were held.

The insurgency made similar threats in the lead-up to the first general election, and the result was the same. Despite killing 36 candidates and 148 voters, they failed to derail the balloting, in which the number of voters rose to more than 8 million. Nor could the insurgency prevent the writing of the new democratic constitution, despite a campaign of assassination against its drafters. The text was ready in time and was submitted to and approved by a referendum, exactly as planned. The number of voters rose yet again, to more than 9 million.

What of relations among the Shiites, Sunnis, and Kurds the focus of so much attention of late? For almost three years, the insurgency worked hard to keep the Arab Sunni community, which accounts for some 15 percent of the population, out of the political process. But that campaign collapsed when millions of Sunnis turned out to vote in the constitutional referendum and in the second general election, which saw almost 11 million Iraqis go to the polls. As I write, all political parties representing the Arab Sunni minority have joined the political process and have strong representation in the new parliament. With the convening of that parliament, and the nomination in April of a new prime minister and a three-man presidential council, the way is open for the formation of a broad-based government of national unity to lead Iraq over the next four years.

As for the insurgency's effort to foment sectarian violence strategy first launched in earnest toward the end of 2005 this too has run aground. The hope here was to provoke a full-scale war between the Arab Sunni minority and the Arab Shiites who account for some 60 percent of the population. The new strategy, like the ones previously tried, has certainly produced many deaths. But despite countless cases of sectarian killings by so-called militias, there is still no sign that the Shiites as a whole will acquiesce in the role assigned them by the insurgency and organize a concerted campaign of nationwide retaliation.

Finally, despite the impression created by relentlessly dire reporting in the West, the insurgency has proved unable to shut down essential government services. Hundreds of teachers and schoolchildren have been killed in incidents including the beheading of two teachers in their classrooms this April and horrific suicide attacks against school buses. But by September 2004, most schools across Iraq and virtually all universities were open and functioning. By September 2005, more than 8.5 million Iraqi children and young people were attending school or university, an all-time record in the nation's history.

A similar story applies to Iraq's clinics and hospitals. Between October 2003 and January 2006, more than 80 medical doctors and over 400 nurses and medical auxiliaries were murdered by the insurgents. The jihadists also raided several hospitals, killing ordinary patients in their beds. But, once again, they failed in their objectives. By January 2006, all of Iraq's 600 state-owned hospitals and clinics were in full operation, along with dozens of new ones set up by the private sector since liberation.

Another of the insurgency's strategic goals was to bring the Iraqi oil industry to a halt and to disrupt the export of crude. Since July 2003, Iraq's oil infrastructure has been the target of more than 3,000 attacks and attempts at sabotage. But once more the insurgency has failed to achieve its goals. Iraq has resumed its membership in the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and has returned to world markets as a major oil exporter. According to projections, by the end of 2006 it will be producing its full OPEC quota of 2.8 million barrels a day.

The Baathist remnant and its jihadist allies resemble a gambler who wins a heap of chips at a roulette table only to discover that he cannot exchange them for real money at the front desk. The enemies of the new Iraq have succeeded in ruining the lives of tens of thousands of Iraqis, but over the past three years they have advanced their overarching goals, such as they are, very little. Instead they have been militarily contained and politically defeated again and again, the beneficiary has been Iraqi democracy.

None of this means that the new Iraq is out of the woods. Far from it. Democratic success still requires a great deal of patience, determination, and luck. The U.S.-led coalition, its allies, and partners have achieved most of their major political objectives, but that achievement remains under threat and could be endangered if the U.S., for whatever reason, should decide to snatch a defeat from the jaws of victory.

The current mandate of the U.S.-led coalition runs out at the end of this year, and it is unlikely that Washington and its allies will want to maintain their military presence at current levels. In the past few months, more than half of the 103 bases used by the coalition have been transferred to the new Iraqi army. The best guess is that the number of U.S. and coalition troops could be cut from 140,000 to 25,000 or 30,000 by the end of 2007.

One might wonder why, if the military mission has been so successful, the U.S. still needs to maintain a military presence in Iraq for at least another two years. There are three reasons for this.

The first is to discourage Iraqs predatory neighbors, notably Iran and Syria, which might wish to pursue their own agendas against the new government in Baghdad. Iran has already revived some claims under the Treaties of Erzerum (1846), according to which Tehran would enjoy a droit de regard over Shiite shrines in Iraq. In Syria, some in that countrys ruling circles have invoked the possibility of annexing the area known as Jazirah, the so-called Sunni triangle, in the name of Arab unity. For its part, Turkey is making noises about the Treaty of Lausanne (1923), which gave it a claim to the oilfields of northern Iraq. All of these pretensions need to be rebuffed.

The second reason for extending Americas military presence is political. The U.S. is acting as an arbiter among Iraqs various ethnic and religious communities and political factions. It is, in a sense, a traffic cop, giving Iraqis a green or red light when and if needed. It is important that the U.S. continue performing this role for the first year or two of the newly elected parliament and government.

Finally, the U.S. and its allies have a key role to play in training and testing Iraqs new army and police. Impressive success has already been achieved in that field. Nevertheless, the new Iraqi army needs at least another year or two before it will have developed adequate logistical capacities and learned to organize and conduct operations involving its various branches.

But will the U.S. stay the course? Many are betting against it. The Baathists and jihadists, their prior efforts to derail Iraqi democracy having come to naught, have now pinned their hopes on creating enough chaos and death to persuade Washington of the futility of its endeavors. In this, they have the tacit support not only of local Arab and Muslim despots rightly fearful of the democratic genie but of all those in the West whose own incessant theme has been the certainty of American failure. Among Bush-haters in the U.S., just as among anti-Americans around the world, predictions of civil war in Iraq, of spreading regional hostilities, and of a revived global terrorism are not about to cease any time soon.

But more sober observers should understand the real balance sheet in Iraq. Democracy is succeeding. Moreover, thanks to its success in Iraq, there are stirrings elsewhere in the region. Beyond the much-publicized electoral concessions wrung from authoritarian rulers in Egypt and Saudi Arabia, there is a new democratic discourse to be heard. Nationalism and pan-Arabism, yesterday's hollow rallying cries, have given way to a big idea of a very different kind. Debate and dissent are in the air where there was none before a development owing, in significant measure, to the U.S. campaign in Iraq and the brilliant if still checkered Iraqi response.

The stakes, in short, could not be higher. This is all the more reason to celebrate, to build on, and to consolidate what has already been accomplished. Instead of railing against the Bush administration, America's elites would do better, and incidentally display greater self-respect, to direct their wrath where it properly belongs; at those violent and unrestrained enemies of democracy in Iraq who are, in truth, the enemies of democracy in America as well, and of everything America has ever stood for.

Is Iraq a quagmire, a disaster, a failure? Certainly not; none of the above. Of all the adjectives used by skeptics and critics to describe today's Iraq, the only one that has a ring of truth is messy. Yes, the situation in Iraq today is messy. Births always are. Since when is that a reason to declare a baby unworthy of life?

Mr. BOND. This follows closely the story we found when on a codel with my colleagues, Senators BAYH and OBAMA, in Iraq in January. We talked to our people, military and civilians. We had a great meeting with President Talabani and top-elected Sunni and Shi'a officials at the time who all pledged they were going to work together for a unity government.

Now that the President and Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki have formed a Cabinet, this is one more significant step. It is a big step, and it has been completely overshadowed by the killing of al-Zarqawi. But for the long term, this formation of a government is one more step that is vitally important. I am delighted the President was there to highlight it.

It doesn't mean the violence is over. The killing of al-Zarqawi was widely celebrated by our troops abroad and at home because they knew this ruthless butcher was the face, the media darling of al-Qaida in Iraq. There is a supreme irony that he went out with his spiritual adviser. Good time to have your spiritual adviser with you. For al-Zarqawi, he and his spiritual adviser are going to find out at the same time just how good the spiritual advice Sheik Rahman gave him was.

We know his loss will be a significant loss because of his ability to play the media with his ruthless killings. But we know he will be replaced. They are bringing up another successor to him already. Let us hope that successor has the same short shelf life that al-Qaida's operation commanders, such as Khalid Shaykh Muhammad, Abu Faraj al-Libi, and Hamza Rabia, have had. They have all been captured or killed. We hope we will be able to continue that effort.

We hear some of our colleagues from the other side saying what a few in the media are saying, that we need to bring our troops home immediately. We have sorrowful parents who are very much concerned about their children going into harm's way. They want them brought home immediately. Let me speak to that directly. As a father of a son who was in Iraq and is preparing to go back, I can tell you that it is not without a good bit of concern that we see our young people going into harm's way. But we are very proud of them. We are very proud of them to know that they are willing to stand up and take the risk of going to war to defend our freedom and peace and security in the world. They are doing a good job. Yes each death of an American soldier or marine or airman is a tragedy. As a parent, you suck in a little wind and say a prayer when you hear about them. But these brave young men and women who are volunteers go there because they know they have a higher mission. By carrying the fight to the terrorists, they help make our country safer.

It is no accident that our country has not had a major attack since September 11, not only because of homeland security but because of the strong efforts we have taken in Afghanistan and Iraq to disrupt terrorist strongholds, the safe havens for terrorists.

Our young men and women over there are in harm's way. But they are not afraid of taking the risk of war. Let me tell you what they really fear. They fear that a lack of political will in this body and in the United States will cause a premature withdrawal of our troops before the Iraqi Government has adequate military and police in place to provide the security that country needs to continue to grow and flourish and be safe from terrorism. They worry that if we bring our troops back before the Iraqi military and police are able to secure the country, there will be chaos—chaos which fosters the rejuvenation of terrorist groups, chaos which will permit a form of state-sponsored terrorism, preparation of chemical and biological weapons that could be used against us, so the next 9/11 might be with a weapon of mass destruction. They know there is a danger that violence between the factions, the Shi'a and the Sunnis, could engulf Iraq and maybe the rest of the Middle East.

They want to complete their mission. They didn't go there and take the risk and make the sacrifice and see some of

their colleagues lose their lives and have to take inventories of their personal belongings and send them home. Yet they fear the lack of political will to continue and succeed in the necessary battle more than they fear the dangers of the battlefield. If we walk away, the sacrifices of these brave men and women will have been in vain. We have to complete the transformation and the transition in Iraq to a functioning government of national unity, able to defend the country against terrorists and insurgents.

I hear some of my colleagues talking about how tragic the activities were in Haditha. They have seized on reports of horrible incidents. They are presuming the American soldiers are guilty without having a hearing. They want to set up a 9/11-type commission. What a tragedy it would be if we were to follow the political game plan to make guilty parties out of soldiers who have not even had their day in court in order to win political points against the Department of Defense and the President.

As we all well know, these events will be thoroughly investigated. If there was wrongdoing, it will be prosecuted. We prosecuted the out-of-line soldiers who were at Abu Ghraib. We don't tolerate those things. We don't tolerate misconduct. Our military justice system will prosecute any who are guilty. But please, let us not jump to the conclusion that they are presumed guilty because of reports of outrageous actions. There are other sides to the story. Let the normal process work. There could be hearings in the appropriate committees, the Armed Services Committee or the Appropriations Committee, if they are warranted. But to set up another commission now is a dangerous political game and one I hope we will not accept. Instead of demanding more commissions, we should be demanding that the facts come out. If any wrongdoing took place, those who did it will be punished accordingly.

There are those who want to continue to take cheap shots at the administration over anything that goes wrong in the war. When you have wars, unfortunately, things go wrong. There is no guaranteed success rate. It is not an unbroken path of success. We need to look at what went on in Haditha. The negative news reports will continue, and we expect the news media, when there are negative things, to report on them. But we would hope they would also report on the positive things that are done. If we had followed the advice of all the naysayers earlier this year who dominate our television with their defeatist political rhetoric, we would not have seen free elections in Iraq, a unity government, or the elimination of al-Zarqawi. He would be running free, plotting his next attack and seeking to reach out beyond Iraq to neighbors, possibly in the United States. Thankfully, we did not pull out of Iraq. Iraq is a much different place, a much more hopeful place because America and its brave men and women are committed to making the world a safer place.

I sincerely and deeply urge my colleagues not to let our troops down, not to bring them home because parents are concerned about them. We value and honor their service. Let them do their jobs and let the process of the military justice system go forward before we jump to the conclusion that American soldiers are guilty because we don't happen to agree with the war or the efforts they are making.

I thank the Chair and yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho is recognized.

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to proceed for no more than 5 minutes.

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

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, like my colleague from Missouri, I come today to address the Senate and my fellow countrymen on the developments in Iraq and to speak to the American public about the war and our efforts in the Middle East.

Before I begin, let me quickly state that, like many Americans across the country, I have and will maintain steadfast and strong support for our men and women in uniform. Also, like many Americans across the country, I, too, over the last good many months have had moments of doubt regarding the progress in Iraq and the overwhelming challenges that the Iraqis and Americans and coalition forces have faced there. When I go out to Walter Reed Hospital to visit with our young men and women who are having new parts put on their bodies as a result of the explosions and bombings in Iraq, and I feel their spirit and desire to continue to serve and I speak to them of the mission they were involved in, I come back to my office on Capitol Hill more dedicated than ever to assure that these young men and women are allowed to continue to work to finish their mission.

However, seeing through the fog of war, seeing through the interpretation by the liberal media is a frustration that most Americans are consumed with at this moment. Only the bad is reported and rarely the good. But the other day something good happened that could not be denied by the media of this world. That was the annihilation of Zarqawi and the unquestionable proof that intelligence and informants have the al-Qaida on the run in Iraq. The liberal media could not step away from the reality of that message. Two 500-pound bombs delivered it loudly around the world. While it says a lot about our own intelligence, it is my opinion and I am told it says a great deal about the Iraqi people who are fed up with the way they are being treated by the insurgent forces in Iraq, and many of those forces are from outside their country.

Some in this country, and even some in this body, are saying: Well, that was just then, and we have to deal with now and into the immediate future. Let's get out of there, let's cut and run. It is time we bring our soldiers home.

I suggest that it may be time to adjust tactics. They have a new government in Iraq. It is now whole, it is stood up, it is running, and it is putting its own people out in front in defense of its country, both in the military and in the civilian police. Now is not the time to leave this fledgling new country standing alone. Our tactics may change and we may step back a bit, but I believe we have to be there to continue to strengthen and allow them to grow. The message of turning away from the recent successes and turning away from Iraqi men and women and children who are on the verge of freedom for the first time sends a phenomenal ill-fated doomsday message to the Iraqi people and speaks loudly to the world. And, most importantly, it sends a strong message to the terrorists that all they have to do is be patient, take their losses along the way, because America's will will melt and we will leave.

First and foremost, if we cannot and won't finish the job we set out to do, we will forever question our own future, and the people around the world will question our resolve. Simply put, we are at, I believe, a defining moment not only in the future of Iraq, but in the future of our own Nation with the message we send around the world. Therefore, it is imperative that this country and the people of this country stand up and send a message to the terrorists and to the Iraqi people that we will not be deterred, we will finish our job in cooperation with the Iraqi Government. I believe that is the message our President delivered in the last 24 hours as he flew to Iraq to visit with the new Government and our troops.

Right now, there is a new al-Qaida leader somewhere in Iraq. I will bet he is not sleeping at night. I will bet he is running from house to house. My guess is that his immediates around him are doing the same thing because we receive now thousands and thousands of informant messages, and this man, while he has a new title of leader, is being hunted by a young man from Twin Falls, ID, or from Manchester, England, or from Kirkut. Those are the realities of war.

That is why we stand on the Senate floor talking on behalf of this country's future and the men and women who wear our uniform and the mission we have sent them to do.

Removing U.S. forces, that are standing side-by-side with Iraqi and coalition forces, will effectively and instantly remove the fear that we have now embedded within al-Qaida members now on the run in Iraq.

I am certain that those Members in this body advocating for the U.S. to pull out fully understand and appreciate the role foreign assistance played in helping our colonies become the great Republic it is today. Without

French military and economic assistance the will of the American Revolutionaries would have been broken long before our final push was fought to gain a free, independent, and sovereign republic.

To cut and run today, especially in light of our recent successes, would be equivalent the U.S. colonies fighting without French assistance.

Simply put, without foreign military assistance to this country none of us would be standing here today in the world's greatest deliberative body and the bell of liberty would never have rang.

So, today, I ask my friends on the other side of the aisle to step up, look in the mirror, and recall how our very own country was established. Failure to stay the course on this endeavor is short-sighted, hypocritical, and goes squarely against the principles and the very reason this country was conceived and founded upon.

Mr. President, we have much to be thankful for today. As such, I urge my colleagues to help give the Iraqi people what this country so desired in 1776, freedom.

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

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND HURRICANE RECOVERY, 2006—CONFERENCE REPORT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 4939, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4939) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes, having met, having agreed that the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate and agree to the same with an amendment, and the Senate agree to the same, signed by a majority of the conferees on the part of both Houses.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the supplemental appropriations bill has had a long and arduous course getting here. I congratulate the chairman and ranking member for working so hard to get it here.

This legislation will provide funds to support the brave men and women who risk their lives every day in Iraq and Afghanistan on behalf of our country. The legislation will provide assistance to those in the gulf coast still struggling to recover from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and also will help bolster border security and prepare for the threat of bird flu. These matters are all vitally important, so I expect the conference report to win broad support in the Senate. It should.

But while I strongly support the goals of this legislation, I also have real concerns about the many Senate-backed provisions that have been left out of this conference report.

For example, the Senate included $648 million to bolster port security. One would think that protecting our ports would be a priority for this Congress, given the ongoing threat of terrorism and the grossly inadequate safeguards for our Nation's ports. But the House leadership completely rejected any additional funds for port security. That is a serious mistake.

We learned during the Dubai Port debacle, the Dubai Port what I call scandal in our country, of the inadequacy of the security of our ports. We knew it before that, but it was certainly much worse than we ever expected.

The House conferees almost completely eliminated the relief the Senate proposed for farmers who have been suffering from recent drought conditions. Many of these farmers, particularly in the Midwest, are struggling financially, just as farmers in regions directly affected by Katrina. Yet they will be shut out from any assistance under this legislation.

This is very typical. Always the farmers, it seems, when there is an emergency, look to the Democrats for help, as they should, because if history is any example—and it usually is—Republicans simply don't pay attention to farmers' and ranchers' problems.

I have talked about port security, I have talked about the ranchers and farmers, but there is something else that was dropped in conference, and that is the proposal to beef up VA medical care for our Nation's veterans. As Senator MURRAY said yesterday and Senator AKAKA today, our Nation's veterans are in peril, but in this bill the move to help them was dropped.

Another proposal to include compensation to health professionals, first responders, and others who may be harmed in the future by experimental flu vaccine has also been dropped.

I wonder why the majority leadership is so opposed to improving port security and helping farmers and veterans. I don't understand. They say they are concerned about cost. It is hard to take such statements seriously when we consider what else has happened in the Senate this week. Costs? At the same time the majority was stripping a few hundred million dollars to bolster port security, to help our farmers, and to help veterans, they, the majority, proposed spending $1 trillion to provide a windfall to a handful of our Nation's wealthiest families. When I say ''handful,'' I mean that of a country of 285 million or 290 million people, they want to help, at the most, 12,000 individual estates, less than two-tenths of 1 percent. At the same time they are asking for this trillion dollars that would have to be borrowed—of course, we have borrowed from China, Japan, Saudi Arabia; more than half the money we use to finance our country's operations is borrowed from foreign countries. At the same time they are dropping help for veterans, farmers, and port security, the majority has proposed a tax break worth—for example, they say Paris Hilton's tax break alone would be in the $14 million–$15 million bracket.

At the same time they are eliminating these programs I have mentioned for farmers, ranchers, veterans, and security for our country, they are proposing a tax break for the family of the former Exxon CEO worth $164 million, all paid for by more debt, largely from countries, as I have indicated, such as China, Japan, and Saudi Arabia.

So I think we should erase from the equation the majority's commitment to fiscal responsibility. The Republican majority in the Senate has proven, along with President Bush, that fiscal responsibility is not part of their mantra. When it comes to helping average Americans and the middle class, Washington leaders are all for spending cuts. When it comes to handing out tax breaks that explode the deficit, they insist no billionaire be left behind.

I am disappointed by what has been left out of this conference report and by the values and priorities these decisions reflect. Still, at the end of the day, the items contained in this legislation are vitally important. We must support our troops. We must assist the gulf coast. We must tighten border security and prepare for a possible bird flu outbreak. But this legislation should never be here. Why? Because it should have been included in our regular budget. We are in the fourth year of the war in Iraq—the fourth year—but he didn't put it in his budget. Why? Because it would demonstrate clearly when that budget was given to us how much more red ink there was in the budget.

I read in the papers that Senator JOHN MCCAIN of Arizona is going to offer legislation on the bill that we will have before us this afternoon, the Defense authorization bill, to no longer let the President do that, to no longer use the unusual procedure; that is, we are in the middle of the war, we have ongoing expenses, not to include these expenses in his budget.

As I read the paper this morning, Senator MCCAIN said he is going to

offer legislation to stop that. If that is the case, and I understand it, I would certainly join with him. What was done to make this an emergency spending bill is wrong. We ought to have that part of the budget and debate it like we do everything else.

I am sorry it took so long to get to the point where we are to get the money for the troops, but it is here. I accept that.

I want to make one other point about what is so unusual about this legislation. The Senate voted that they would have an extra $7 billion to take care of education and labor issues. That is the Health-Education-Labor Subcommittee that is operated by Senator SPECTER and Senator HARKIN. We have an extra $7 billion. Even with that money, it wouldn't keep up with last year's numbers. But the House didn't want that. Therefore, the House and Senate couldn't agree in an open hearing, like we usually have with a conference report. So what happened—sometimes in the middle of the night—is that item was dropped, and they came up with something called a deeming resolution, which is a mechanism for setting the total level of discretionary spending for the upcoming fiscal year, totally apart from the normal budget. It is used only when the normal budget process breaks down. It obviously hasn't broken down.

A deeming resolution is an admission of failure and used as a last resort. Yet here we are only a few weeks after the House completed its budget, and the majority is already throwing up hands in defeat. Apparently, they are not even going to produce a budget. That is a sad commentary on the state of affairs.

Mr. President, I will use my leader time.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, that is a sad state of affairs in Washington. It is very clear that a point of order lies against this supplemental. That means someone could raise a point of order, and it would take under rule XXVIII a simple majority to overrule because it is clear it would properly lie. It remains to be seen if anyone is going to raise that point of order, but clearly it is available to anyone in the Senate.

I hope in the future we can have a regular process for budgeting and a regular process for conference committees to meet. We have talked about doing that before. Under the Republican majority, conferences are not really the way we used to do them—publicly. The Republicans run these committees privately. There are no public votes most of the time. It is a sad commentary how they have run things here, but as I said before, during the 4½ years the President has been in office—I guess it is 5½ years now, I am sorry—we have not had three branches of Government. We haven't had legislative, executive, and judicial branches of Government. We have had two. We have had the executive and judicial branches. There have been no Presidential vetoes. There has been no need for a Presidential veto because the President gets anything he wants, as indicated with this legislation going forward now.

I hope my friends in the majority will once again recognize congressional oversight is important, to have some oversight hearings to find out what is going on in Iraq, to find out what is going on with domestic spying, to find out what is going on with global warming and other issues of that nature, and not have a deaf ear to our responsibilities as a legislative branch of Government, a separate but equal branch of Government, as so defined by our Founding Fathers.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, we are here today discussing the emergency supplemental conference report, which appropriates over $70 billion for Iraq and Afghanistan. Tomorrow we will return to the Defense authorization bill that will include more discussion of our efforts in those countries. The last week had events that this Senator considers very positive: the finalization of a new government in Iraq with the naming of Ministers of Defense and Interior, the U.S. military's success of killing Al-Zarqawi, and the safe return of the President just today from Iraq. While we have had these successes, I think it is important for Congress, as we discuss both the supplemental bill and the DOD authorization legislation, to keep in mind the challenge ahead of us.

While Prime Minister Maliki has moved forward with his new government, we know that national security experts warn that Iraq is still in bad shape. I believe that Congress must do its job in holding the administration accountable as we consider these two pieces of legislation and make sure that 2006 is a year of significant transition in Iraq. That is, specifically, that while we have understood the challenges and mistakes that have been made, that we need to make sure we are moving forward, and we need to make sure we are turning the security efforts over to the new Iraqi Government.

While we have seen some promising developments in Iraq in the last week, we need to remind ourselves that sectarian violence in the last several months has been on the increase, and that the challenge for Iraqi and U.S. forces remains high. The challenge before us as a Congress is to remain vigilant on the accountability of the administration as we consider this legislation I believe is paramount.

U.S. ground forces have been stretched and placed under enormous stress. Sectarian militias are responsible for waves of increasing violence, and there are now over 1.2 million internally displaced persons throughout Iraq. And as I said, while we have had some successes, not everything has gone as planned. There has been mismanagement, contract abuses, fraud in various levels of our reconstruction, and some lack of accountability on exactly how U.S. taxpayer dollars have been spent. Electricity and oil production are below prewar levels. This all has to change.

This year the United States has been spending about $8 billion per month in Iraq, and Congress has appropriated to date about $320 billion for Iraqi operations. We need to know where the President is going from here.

Everyone should be thankful that Saddam Hussein is gone, but we should learn from the mistakes that have been made so far and rebolster our efforts to get more international support for what the Iraqi Government and the United States are trying to accomplish. No matter where the world community was prior to the U.S. involvement in Iraq, everyone should rise to help the new Iraqi Government meet our growing challenges. So this Senator wants to make sure that we are reaching out and being effective at a broader international effort.

I call on President Bush to name a special envoy to Iraq to promote regional diplomacy and to make sure the United Nations and the World Bank are fully engaged. The President could name someone with the stature and leverage of former President Bill Clinton or former President George H.W. Bush, who was so instrumental in building an international coalition before the first gulf war. I believe that again today diplomatic collaboration is vital. A special envoy could help garner the international support for both Iraqi reconstruction and security. As I said, regardless of what foreign governments thought about the administration's decision to go to war, everyone should share the same desire to help Iraq succeed as a sovereign nation. The international donor community has pledged approximately $13.5 billion for Iraq and for reconstruction efforts but has only delivered about $3.5 billion of that total. That must change. If nothing else, a U.S. envoy could make its primary mission the financial contribution by these countries to help shoulder the burden of stabilizing this very important region of the world.

Second, I believe the United States should not hesitate in calling a Dayton-like summit with our allies, with Iraqi neighbors, with the United Nations, to make sure we are moving forward on answering any political and security questions that will help in stabilizing the region. We should also support the Arab League's plan to hold its own international conference on reconciliation in Iraq. The international community should work together to help the Iraqis reach a comprehensive agreement to guarantee regional security, protect Iraq's borders, supplant the militias with Iraqi Security Forces, and revive the reconstruction efforts, especially in Baghdad. We cannot allow the political process to drift. The international community must demand that

Iraqis continue making compromises necessary to end the sectarian violence and to make sure that any amendments to the Iraqi constitution, if necessary, take place in short order.

Third, I believe that the United Nations should become more involved. The United Nations should encourage the creation of a U.N. High Commissioner for Iraq similar to the U.N. High Representative for Bosnia, which was created to work with the international community to ensure a peaceful, viable state in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Creating a U.N. High Commissioner of Iraq could open up the doors for countries that might have otherwise been hesitant to participate. The U.N. can call on its wide network of trained personnel and specialized resources, saving U.S. taxpayers money and providing a genuine boost for our efforts in Iraq.

We must also make sure that we are serious about last year's amendment, the Warner-Frist amendment, which declared that ''2006 should be a period of significant transition to full Iraqi sovereignty with Iraqi security forces taking the lead for the security creating the conditions for phased redeployment of the United States from Iraq.'' We pushed for greater oversight and required the administration to provide Congress with quarterly reports, and while we have received some information, the latest reports have not had sufficient information about sectarian divisions and the risk of civil war and our response to those risks.

The Department of Defense aims to train and equip about 325,000 Iraqi troops and police by the end of the year. I want to make sure that Congress, in our budget process, holds them accountable for meeting these goals. For the sake of the U.S. troops that are on the ground, we must make sure that the Iraqi government knows that we want the security responsibilities transitioned to them. And we must make it clear that the United States is not going to stay in Iraq indefinitely.

I take Prime Minister Maliki at his word. He basically has said that the Iraqi forces could take complete control of security within the next 18 months and that the new Iraqi Government could deal with the militias and that the Iraqi Security Forces would take control as quickly as possible. I think we need to continue to push that issue and to make sure that we are meeting the milestones that will help that to occur as soon as possible.

We also need to make sure that the efforts on reconstruction move forward. The United States should help the Iraqis concentrate on security and development efforts in certain areas to ensure that we are demonstrating meaningful economic progress. I think again particularly in Baghdad.

Protecting the Iraqi people and the civilian infrastructure should be our highest priority. Sunnis, Shiites and Kurds alike must have faith in their government's ability to provide access to reliable electricity, clean water, and proper sanitation.

We must remember that we have to honor our commitment to our troops—the U.S. military who have sacrificed so much. And no one on the Senate floor will ever forget the awful cost of war. In Iraq, the loss of nearly 2,500 members of our Armed Forces, and I am deeply concerned about the 18,000 that have been wounded.

And just as our troops have been stretched to the limit, it is time for us to realize that our capacity for veterans' health care has also been challenged. Based on credible projections from the independent budget, composed by Veterans Service Organizations, the Federal Government is underfunding veterans' health care by at least $2 billion and the demands on the system are growing.

In March, the VA told Congress they are seeing 38 percent more Iraq war veterans than they had budgeted for. So what is the impact? Some veterans are waiting more than 18 months just to get access to VA health care, and thousands of others across the country are waiting for access to care. As of the last month, more than 2,900 veterans in Washington State were waiting over 30 days to gain access to outpatient care that they deserve and have not been able to get because we have not adequately funded the veterans' health care system.

Some experts suggest that one-third of the soldiers coming home from Iraq seek mental health services, and we need to make sure that we are adequately funding mental health. A lack of capacity in the veterans' mental health system has caused a VA official recently to remark that when it comes to mental health the waiting list renders care virtually inaccessible. I believe this is unacceptable and that we have to do our job and do not shortchange veterans' health care. We must give those who have stood up for us the access to care that they deserve.

The United States must make sure that it does not ever condone indiscriminate or deliberate killings of civilians. The overwhelming majority of men and women in uniform are honorable and understand the rules of war and requirements of the Geneva Conventions. Any accusations of misconduct must be handled fairly by the military justice system. We should also play our oversight role here in Congress and make sure that Congress is not leaving the investigation of this issue simply up to the Department of Defense.

We need to make sure that Congress is also investigating this issue and providing the accountability and oversight that everyone deserves. Whether it is detainee abuse or Haditha, we need to make sure that the U.S. image is not damaged and our efforts to win the hearts and minds both in Iraq and the war on terror are not hurt. We must make sure that we have aggressive oversight and accountability of all agencies of the Federal Government.

The United States should be an example of leadership committed to treating people humanely and abiding by the rule of law and promoting opportunity and a common vision.

I know that recently when British Prime Minister Tony Blair was here, he gave a speech that said: This should be a moment of reconciliation not only in Iraq, but the international community. The war split the world. The struggle of Iraqis for democracy should unite it.

I believe that is what we must move forward on now too as we consider these two pieces of legislation. Congress must be aggressive in its oversight and accountability on these goals for 2006 and in turning over control to the Iraqi people. And we must make sure that we engage the international community to help us move forward in this effort. The United States should lead the way, but it should do so with sufficient international support.

And then I believe we must get on to our larger goals, one that the 9/11 commission recommended to us when it said: Just as we did in the Cold War, we need to defend our ideals abroad vigorously. If the United States does not act aggressively to define itself in the Islamic world, the extremists will gladly do the job for us.

So besides these objectives, we need to move forward in fighting terrorism by promoting American ideals.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois is recognized.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I would like to commend my colleague from the State of Washington for her statement. I believe that she has outlined several things that should be taken into serious consideration by this administration. A special envoy would be I think a dramatic and important step forward in changing the battlefield in Iraq to a more constructive environment. I also think the idea of the United Nations appointing a high commissioner for this purpose will also be extremely helpful. I associate myself with her remarks, and I thank her for her observations on this war in Iraq.

The President visited Iraq yesterday. It was a surprise visit. I am sure it did a great deal to help the morale of our soldiers to know that our President would take this dangerous journey to be there with them, even if it was for a brief period of time. I am looking forward to the President's report to the American people today on what he found and what he proposes. We are all hopeful that this war will come to an end soon, that American troops will come home, and that at some point very, very soon, we truly will have our mission accomplished.

This morning's newspaper informs us that we have lost 2,493 of our best and bravest young men and women serving this United States in Iraq. I asked a member of my staff to check when we lost 2,000 soldiers, and the date was October 25 of last year. It appears that in

a very short period of time, we will pass the 2,500 mark. At the time that we recorded the 2,000th military death in Iraq, I asked, along with other Senators, for a moment of silence on the floor of the U.S. Senate to acknowledge their great contribution to our country and in respect for their memory. When the time comes that 2,500 have given their lives, I will make that same unanimous consent request. Since there are no Republican Senators on the floor at this moment, I won't make it at this time, but I want the majority to know that I think, on a bipartisan basis, Senators from both parties should come to the floor when we have recorded the 2,500th death in Iraq and observe a moment of silence in memory of our fallen warriors and in prayer for their families whose lives will never be the same because of their loss.

At that time too we should reflect on those who have gone to serve and have returned broken in body and some in spirit. Over 2,000 have come back from Iraq with serious head injuries. Many of them are struggling now to regain the basic faculties and strengths which they need to lead a normal life. Another 15,000 or 16,000 soldiers have returned who have lost an arm or leg or other grievous injury. They, too, are struggling with their families and with the help of the Veterans Administration to get back to a position where their lives can return to normal.

We know we are not spending enough money at the Veterans Administration. We promised these men and women, if you swear an oath to the United States, if you wear our uniform and our colors, if you will march behind the flag for America's security and interests, we will stand with you. When you come home, we will be there. If you need help in a hospital, we will provide it. If you need help paying for your education or your future, we will help you.

We are not keeping our promise. In too many cases across America, the Veterans Administration is not adequately staffed, not adequately prepared to meet the returning veterans' needs.

I have seen it in my State. Post-traumatic stress disorder is a serious problem. Men and women who are in combat are under extreme stress. They are involved in actions which can leave a lasting imprint on their minds. They are separated from their families, some for long and repeated periods of time, and some come back needing a helping hand. They need to sit down with a friendly counselor, a professional who can bring them back through some of the terrible experiences they have had.

I have met with these soldiers, these Marines and others. They are brave enough to stand up and say, I need help, and we need to help them so that their lives will be restored to normal. Unfortunately, the bill we are now considering, the supplemental appropriations bill, doesn't include an adequate amount for our Veterans Administration. We tried to add it in the conference committee. There was a motion made by the Senator from Washington, PATTY MURRAY, to put more funds into the Veterans Administration so we would not shortchange our soldiers. It was defeated.

We have been through this before. It was only last year we went through the same debate, and finally, after several months, the Bush administration came in and said: I guess we just don't have enough money for the veterans. And we added some. Why do we go through that every year? We know these veterans are returning and they need our help and we need to have the professionals there to give them that helping hand.

It is unfortunate that this supplemental appropriations bill is the way we fund this war. This is at least the fourth time we have had such a bill. These bills are supposed to be for unforeseen emergencies—hurricanes, earthquakes, things that occur that God has wrought and we have to deal with but not for things that we can ordinarily anticipate; that is what our budget is for.

The administration every single year takes the cost of the war and puts it in an emergency bill, saying: We were surprised; we still have a war going on.

We should not be surprised. We know that we have been in Iraq now for over 3 years and that we are likely to be there for some time to come. Putting this in a supplemental appropriations bill allows the administration to say it is not part of the ordinary budget; therefore, it is not part of the budget, not part of the budget deficit. That is not true.

This $90-billion-plus bill is added to the debt of this Nation, and we should be honest with the American people about it. This bill is not an honest portrayal of the true cost of this war.

I am also really disappointed; when there are natural disasters across America, one of the first victims is usually an American farmer. These are people trying to make a living growing our food and fiber, and changes in the weather, whether it is a drought or a flood, can make all the difference in the world in their success. I cannot tell you how many times in my congressional career I have been asked to come to the rescue of farmers across the United States in virtually every State in the Union, and I have done it because I know my agricultural community is vulnerable as well and a time may come when they need help.

This is such a time. Last year we had a drought in the State of Illinois, a terrible drought that cost us dramatically when it came to our corn crop and other production. I sat down with the Secretary of Agriculture and said, Why don't you help our farmers? We always help farmers in these situations.

He said: I looked at the statistics and, on average, the farmers in Illinois are just fine.

On average? Farmers don't farm on average. They farm their acreage. On average you may have one prosperous farmer near one who was wiped out in the drought. On average both of them did just fine, but we know the reality. The reality is that one farmer and his family are suffering.

I urged this administration to do their best to help when it came to this disaster assistance. Over 6,000 producers nationwide wrote to my office and the offices of Senators PRYOR, LINCOLN, DORGAN, SALAZAR, DAYTON, and JOHNSON urging this disaster assistance. Major farm organizations supported us. This drought we faced last year was the worst in over a century. At least 10 counties in Illinois sustained a 20 percent loss in corn yield. The value of the Illinois corn crop was down $1.1 billion. The Illinois Department of Agriculture estimates that drought of 2005 lowered yields and resulted in a $443 million loss to producers.

Now the farmers, coming back in the field, face extraordinarily high energy prices because America does not have an energy policy. There has been no leadership in Washington. The cost of fertilizer, the cost of diesel fuel, the cost of gasoline has gone up dramatically, up to $25 an acre for farmers over the last several years right out of the bottom line.

What we asked for in this bill was to give the farmers a helping hand as we have for the farmers in the Gulf Coast States. I see my colleague and friend, the Senator from Louisiana. The farmers in that State we have helped, as we should, and Mississippi and Alabama, as we should. But I think, when it comes to this national challenge, that we should have stepped forward to help farmers across the board. This bill does not do that, and I am disappointed.

There is another element in this bill which I think needs to be addressed.

Mr. President, how much time do I have remaining?

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GRAHAM). There are 5 minutes and 48 seconds remaining.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, that element relates to what is known as the deeming resolution. That is Senate talk for the budget resolution, which is kind of the broad outline of how we will spend money this year. Instead of passing the budget resolution as we ordinarily do, at the last minute in this conference committee the Republican leadership in the House and Senate plugged this resolution into this spending bill. It has been done before but not very often. It is an unusual approach. What it means is the overall spending limitations for the whole budget are now plugged into this special appropriations bill.

There is nothing sinister or wrong about that on its face, until you look at the resolution itself. What they put in as the resolution is President Bush's budget. Let me tell you that budget, sadly, is some $16 billion below the budget resolution that the Senate approved on a bipartisan basis.

Let me give an example of what the President's budget will cut. These are choices that have been made and will be made in the weeks ahead. One of the areas that troubles me most is President Bush's proposal to cut funding at the National Institutes of Health. That is the agency of our Government that does research on medical diseases and challenges: Lou Gehrig's disease, autism, heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes—the list goes on and on. President Bush's budget cut $1 billion from the National Institutes of Health since 2003 and continues to cut funding there.

There was a bipartisan commitment in Congress that we would dramatically increase medical research, believing that most families in America would applaud that expenditure of their tax dollars, and I think they would. Now, if we are going to follow the President's budget, we will be cutting back on medical research. Any family that faces a serious medical illness understands that research is the one lifeline you cling to. You pray for the best outcome, you hope for the best doctor, but you are also counting on the National Institutes of Health and other medical research to be looking for that cure.

Why would we cut back on it? And we do.

This President's budget also lowballs the spending for the Veterans Administration. As I said before, last year they were proven wrong. It means that instead of acknowledging the obvious, when we promise our soldiers we will be with them when they come home we try to shortchange it and then catch up with them later. It is no way to run a government. It is no way to keep your promise to the men and women in uniform who served our country so well.

There is one another particular issue as well that the President's budget threatens about which I am concerned. We passed the budget resolution and the Senate recognized that the global AIDS epidemic was a major priority. Our budget included a bipartisan amendment to increase funding for the global fund to fight AIDS, TB and malaria by $566 million. On average, $100 million contributed to the global fund will mean 630,000 people around the world will have chemically treated nets around their beds to avoid malaria, one of the No. 1 killers of children in the developing world; 150,000 treatments for malaria for each $100 million to the global fund; 80,000 treatments for tuberculosis; 370,000 people with HIV tests; 11,000 people with AIDS treatment.

This resolution strips $16 billion out of the budget that we just passed, and that means there will be less money to fight these global epidemics.

Why should we care? We should care, not just because of basic values that many of us hold that they are our neighbors, they are our brothers and sisters, but also because if disease is rampant in the world it will visit the United States. If the avian flu becomes an epidemic moving from animals to humans in some part of the world, we will have 21 days before it spreads around the world.

A century ago many of these diseases didn't survive the voyage on the trip from the old world where now they survive the 8, 10, and 12-hour airplane trips and come into cities and towns and counties all around the world, including the United States, so our efforts on public health around the world are not only for the right reason, they are also to protect us.

As this President's budget cuts back on spending, threatens the spending for the global fund, unfortunately, people will die as a result of it and, unfortunately, we will live in a more vulnerable world.

Budgets are about choices and usually hard choices, but the Senate made those choices in March. Unfortunately, the bill before us from this conference committee reverses that decision and makes threatening cuts in the National Institutes of Health in the areas of veterans care and in global AIDS, to mention just a few.

This President's budget had the deepest cuts in education of any President in the last several years at a time when we need schools to be the very best for the 21st century to create the opportunity that our people and our children certainly deserve.

Members of the Senate are faced with a quandary. Here is a bill that funds the war. Even those of us who voted against the war believe we have to provide the resources so our soldiers have the equipment and training and supplies they need to come home safely with their mission accomplished, and I voted for every penny the President has asked for that purpose. But within this is a budget resolution with which I do not agree. If you could split your vote on this, I certainly would, voting for the money for the soldiers but voting against this budget resolution which will force us to make cuts in critical areas of importance for America's future.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana is recognized.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I come to the floor to speak about the supplemental.

As I begin, I would like to underscore some of the points the Senator from Illinois just made about the disturbing deficiencies in this particular supplemental relative to the underfunding of many ongoing critical issues that he so eloquently outlined. But I would like to say that there are some extraordinarily helpful items in this supplemental, which is why I am going to support it, why I was pleased to be a part of crafting the supplemental through the appropriations process as a member of that committee, and why I would like to say a particular thank you to the senior Senator from West Virginia, ROBERT BYRD, and—I see the chairman of the Appropriations Committee on the floor—to thank the Senator from Mississippi, Mr. COCHRAN, for his work in fashioning through this Senate a bill that will bring so much help and urgently needed support to the gulf coast.

It is not too soon for us to do this, considering hurricane season started last week and there is a tropical storm out in the gulf as we speak here on the floor. Throughout all the gulf coast, from Pascagoula all the way to Beaumont and in parts of Florida as well, of course, people are sitting on pins and needles, hoping and praying that this season that we are entering is not as catastrophic as the one we just left and looking to this Congress, looking to this Senate, looking to the House, looking to our Governors of our States, to give them support and encouragement. That is what this supplemental bill will do.

Within this supplemental bill, despite the real shortcomings that Senator DURBIN has outlined and the real dilemma for those who want to support the troops in Iraq and support real disaster funds, there is an unfortunate choice of having to cut some overall funding that is critical to the country. But, from our perspective, representing the State of Louisiana—and trying to speak as well as I can for the whole gulf coast—we have to get this supplemental passed today.

The leadership of the Appropriations Committee has tried, on the Senate side, to push a robust, strong supplemental bill through to help the people of the gulf coast.

I would like to spend just a moment talking about some of the things that we were successful with in this bill, starting with $3.7 billion to repair and armor hurricane-protected levees throughout Louisiana, in the southeastern part of our State as well as other parts of our State.

The reason this is so critical is, as I have said many times, it wasn't the hurricanes which necessarily did us in in Louisiana, Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, but what really put us at risk and what really caused substantial damage and loss of life—1,300 people died in the last hurricane season in the United States, a record we could not even believe we would hit or a number we would hit, not in the year 2006, not with the warning we have, not with all the sophisticated technology we have today, but 1,300 people lost their lives in large measure because the Federal levee system collapsed. It broke in multiple places because of underfunding over the years and because of lack of integrity in the design. That report was released only 12 weeks ago. Repairing those levees, armoring them, and building them better, we are not able to do on a wish and a prayer. We need to do that with real money, and the real money is in this bill.

I thank Senator COCHRAN and the administration for stepping up and realizing that their original request was

billions of dollars short. Without this extra money, the people of south Louisiana and in large measure the gulf coast of Mississippi—which, by the way, is protected by the levee systems and the coastal system of Louisiana—would be very vulnerable. We have added almost $2 billion through the process from the original $1.9 billion. Without the strong support of Senator BYRD and Democratic Members as well as the leadership of Senator COCHRAN, this would not have been possible.

I also wish to say that a very strong part of this bill we will find in the $5.2 billion for community development block grants. The original request by the administration was only about $4 billion. While we were extremely happy for that because it was directed to Louisiana, we were able to put an additional $1 billion for community development block grants to make sure that Texas, Mississippi, Alabama, to some degree Florida, and, of course, Louisiana get the help they need, not through FEMA, which even on its best day is not working very well, not through other agencies that have not been designed or are not functioning well, but directly to our Governors and to our legislators and local officials who can put this community development block grant to good use—rebuilding 200,000 homes in Louisiana that were destroyed, 10 times more than Hurricane Andrew, which was the most expensive storm to hit Florida or the United States prior to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. We are very grateful and very hopeful that this community development block grant funding can go to rebuilding, to setting up a new approach to rebuilding houses.

The saddest thing was that many people didn't have insurance because they weren't in the flood plain. They didn't have insurance because they had already paid for their homes. Their homes were paid in full, on high ground, not in a flood plain. Then the levees broke, and middle-income families, wealthy families, and poor families lost their largest asset—their security for their retirement, their emotional security, having worked a whole lifetime to build assets of a home, washed away. For some parents and for some grandparents, this was the way they were going to send their children or grandchildren to college. Gone. Without this community development block grant, they have no hope of restoring their asset or rebuilding their equity—no hope.

Mississippi has developed a plan that is slightly different from Louisiana's plan. I am not sure either one of them is perfect, but it is the plan they came up with. Our job is to get them the money and urge them to do the very best they can with giving people a start.

This is just a picture of one house. I am sure Senator COCHRAN and Senator LOTT have others. I will literally show you pictures of homes of all different shapes and sizes. Over 275,000 of them look like this. Again, it wasn't just a regular hurricane, which we are used to in the gulf. When the levees broke and a tsunami, a wave of 20 feet of water, poured into the city of New Orleans out of Lake Pontchartrain, this is what was left. That is what people came back to.

People ask: Senator, why isn't everybody scurrying around rebuilding? Well, if this were my house—and my brothers' and sisters' houses look like this; four of them lost their houses; this is what they look like. When they showed up, I, frankly, know how they felt. They do not know where to begin. Even if they can clean up their house, every house to the left and every house to the right and every house as far as the eye can see looks like this, and they are not sure they want to be the only one back in the neighborhood, with no water, no lights, et cetera.

This is a problem of huge magnitude for the gulf coast. As I said, this is not a place which is inconsequential to the Nation; this place is the heart of America's energy coast. One of the reasons the price of oil is so high is because these hurricanes shut down the oil and gas industry for the most part in the gulf when they hit. Anytime a hurricane comes to the gulf, we have to relocate within 24 hours about 6,000 to 7,000 oil workers who make their living on these platforms out in the gulf. These are cities out in the gulf. Every time those waves kick up, to great credit to the industry, I am not sure we had one loss of life. I could be wrong, but I am not sure. I am almost sure there was no loss of life to the workers here because we got them off of those rigs, tied those rigs down, and buckled down for those storms. When the storms pass, we all go back out and we set this up again.

Not only were these storms category 4 and 5 and we are still only 75 percent up, but the communities that serve them—like the community of St. Bernard where a lot of people live who work in these oilfields lost 59 percent of their houses, and 90 percent of all their businesses were destroyed because the levees broke. We are asking these people who live in those houses which you just saw to go out to these rigs every day to work to turn the lights on in this Chamber. They do a real good job of that. I am proud of the work they do. But this supplemental will help them rebuild their homes, rebuild their schools, and rebuild their businesses. The least we can do is pass it without any more time lapse to give them a chance to get back.

I hope members of the Appropriations Committee and the authorizing committees will really grab this opportunity; that is, we fought to get some additional money in this bill, and we ended up with $400 million for some alternative housing.

Let me say as a Senator from Louisiana that I have been through these storms. Can we please move past the plan to put people in trailers? It is costing the Federal Government $70,000 to put people in a trailer. We could practically build a house for $70,000 and let people live there temporarily until they can get back into their real houses. It is an extraordinary waste of money. We are wasting it at rates that stagger people. We have to think about a new way of not putting everybody in trailers.

Another problem with putting people in trailers is when the next hurricane season comes along, their trailers could literally blow away if they are not tacked down the way they should be, or secured. And FEMA has just let all the people living in trailers know that they are not to take the trailers with them. Even though they are travel trailers, they cannot take them with them if they have to evacuate because they might steal them.

Here we are going to have thousands of people who are living in trailers which cost $70,000 each to hook up—and contractors made a lot of money off of this system—and the people who have to live in them only get a little bit of space to live. Some are living in them with three or four children, which makes for an exciting opportunity for families. These trailers cannot be moved when the hurricane comes. I hope the winds don't get up to 150 miles an hour because we will have a lot of trailers flying around. I don't know what is going to happen there.

I am so happy that we could fight for this $400 million. That sounds like a lot of money, but considering we are spending billions of dollars on trailers, to think maybe we could do this a better way next time—that is in this bill.

Another part in this bill which we fought hard to keep—and we got knocked down quite a bit, but we managed to save a piece of it—was for the colleges and universities. Mississippi has two colleges that were very severely damaged. I believe that is correct. I could be wrong. If I am, I will correct the record. But Louisiana has 12 major universities—Tulane, Loyola, the University of New Orleans, Xavier, Dillard, McNeese on the western side—and 45,000 people are employed by these universities, and there are 40,000 students at these universities. Dillard University, one of the historic Black colleges in our country, a private college with an excellent reputation, small—the kids are still at the Hilton Hotel taking classes and eating their meals in the dining room of the Hilton Hotel because their whole campus was destroyed. Their insurance is slow. They are having a hard time getting back. But it is a beautiful, historic campus.

We have $50 million in this bill to try to give out grants. They have borrowed as much as they can. Their boards of directors are fighting to keep these universities up and running. Besides the great history of these universities, they are the economic engine that is going to pull the gulf coast up from its knees and pull it back. If not our universities, who is going to do the job?

Instead of having our universities lay off people, our universities should be hiring people. These are people getting good jobs that pay $50,000 and $100,000. We need our researchers, teachers, and our professors leading the way, and we need our students leading the way to rebuild this great part of America. We have some money in this bill for that. I am proud that we got bipartisan support for that effort on the Senate side.

Finally, I wish to mention two other things. In the city of New Orleans, where the water flooded 80 percent of the east bank of the city, one of the facilities we lost was the veterans hospital. We have over 400,000 veterans in Louisiana. I think we probably have about 300,000 in Mississippi. Between the gulf coast of Mississippi and New Orleans, we had a very good system of health care for our veterans, who really deserve our very best. All Americans deserve good health care, but for men and women who spent their early years, their teenage years, in their early twenties in foxholes, the least we can do for them for defending this country and holding up the flag—today is Flag Day—is make sure when their hospitals and clinics are destroyed that we not only build them back but we build them back better and stronger. If they were too close to the coast, we will move it back.

This hospital was safely in downtown New Orleans, not anywhere near a coast, not anywhere near a lake, not anywhere near the ocean. Because the levees broke, that building was flooded, and now we have veterans without a hospital.

The money for that hospital is in this bill. My colleagues have committed to pass the prerequisite authorization we need to get that done. We will build up in the next couple of months a better health care system for veterans in the gulf coast, and do it smartly with taxpayer money because we are partnering with LSU and perhaps even with Tulane to do a very interesting build of this new hospital that serves veterans and the public alike as we rise up with a better health care system for the gulf coast.

Finally, small businesses. I don't know what makes me sadder. I can't even decide what is the saddest thing about this because it is all so sad. We lost 20,000 businesses. Just as people lost their home, their greatest asset, people struggle their whole life to build a business. It might not have been a huge business, but it was their business. It might not have been a $50 million business, but it employed three or four people. It made a living for the business owner, and it contributed to the society and to the strength of the community. Many of those businesses are gone.

We have been very slow to recognize the extraordinary magnitude of this disaster, saying to our businesses: Just go to the Small Business Administration and get a loan.

I will spend 1 minute on this. Senator KERRY and I sat through 3 hours of testimony, 7 hours on the ground at a small business tour in New Orleans. I want to tell you what people said: Senator, this makes no sense to me. I got my loan. I asked for a $400,000 loan. I applied for it. After 4 or 5 months, I finally got approved. But I don't really need $400,000. My husband and I decided we really only want to borrow about $200,000 because we do not want to take on that much debt. We are afraid we can't really pay it back. But the Small Business Administration told us we have to borrow the $400,000 because if we don't, we cannot get a loan.

That is what is going on whether people want to believe it or not. And it gets worse. Not only are they forced to borrow more money than they need and more money than they really want, the Small Business Administration only sends them, say, $20,000 of the $400,000. Guess what their monthly amortization payment is on. It is not on the $20,000 that they have in hand, they have to pay based on the total amount. Every month, they are paying principal and interest on the $400,000, not the $20,000 they have in hand. That is the system under which our small businesses are operating.

I am begging the Senate to send more money, not through the regular channels, but this money will go through a different channel to give different grants and loans to these businesses in hopes we can save many of them. Some of them have been lost and can never be rebuilt. The business owners have moved and gone to other places. But there are many extraordinarily brave business owners who not only want to build their businesses back but build their communities back. The least we can do is give them programs that actually meet them halfway, that really work, and stop burying them in paperwork and redtape, rules that make no sense. It is enough to make someone want to quit. I would not blame them. But people are not going to quit in the gulf coast.

As we pass the supplemental, it adds to some additional funding we already passed. We will keep working until we get it right, building a better school system, a better health care system, building levees and support to protect this area because the people of the gulf coast contribute much more than they take to the strength of this national economy.

Off of this coast, wealth is created not just for the people who live there but for this Nation. We are going to prepare ourselves for this next hurricane season, pass the supplemental, and look with confidence to the future as we continue to make progress.

Mr. COCHRAN. Has the time allocated under the order for the Democratic side been used?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator HARKIN has 15 minutes.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I am happy to proceed at this point to point out some of the changes made in the conference committee which enabled us to get a conference report agreed to between the House and Senate conferees and to be consistent with the requirements of the administration.

The administration had sent a pretty clear message that a veto of this conference report could be expected if the total amount exceeded the amount requested by the President for emergency appropriations for the war on terror and other needed expenses to help with the recovery from the hurricanes that damaged the gulf coast area of our State.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations had numerous amendments offered during the markup of this legislation, many of which were related to other issues and other needs, all of which our committee thought were legitimate and requests which should be met.

In the conference with the House, it became apparent we were going to have to yield on some provisions we agreed to and put in our bill. The House, likewise, recognized their bill was not perfect either, it could be improved, and some of the Senate suggestions for additional funding in some areas were agreed to by the House.

We wound up with a conference report which recommends $94.43 billion for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, principally in connection with the war on terror; hurricane recovery benefits are made available, principally to the gulf coast region of our country; preparations for a possible pandemic flu problem, which has been a cause for concern in which funds were requested by the administration specifically for that purpose; and other activities related to these principal subjects.

The level of funding is $14.47 billion below the Senate-passed bill but is $2.48 billion above the House-passed bill.

There are some specific areas of interest that were debated in the Senate which I am pleased to report were recognized by the conference committee as worthwhile expenditures and investments of Federal funds. Principally, in our State of Mississippi, the Navy retirement home located in Gulfport, MS, which was virtually destroyed by the hurricane, there was no specific request made by the administration for funding of that. The House hadn't put money in the bill to deal with that specific issue. The Senate did include substantial funding, over $100 million, to deal with that problem. The conferees agreed, yielded to the Senate on that issue. The administration has indicated it will not veto the bill over that provision.

There are other similar provisions along the line where the Senate had insisted that funds be included. Agriculture disaster assistance, for example, had not been requested by the administration.

While keeping with the challenge to restrict the funding for benefits related to damages caused by hurricanes, we did provide, for example, $37.5 million

for the Foreign Service Agency to respond to damages caused by the hurricanes of 2005. Neither the President's request nor the House-passed bill included similar funding.

Of this spending, $5 million is for additional salaries and expenses incurred by the Foreign Service Agency to respond to damages, and $32.5 million is for the Emergency Conservation Program. Real benefits are going to flow from this conference report because of action the Senate had taken and defended successfully in conference with the House. We are assured the administration will use these funds to try to help those landowners and those involved in production agriculture recover from the devastation of these hurricanes.

There are other individual accounts, including one for $25 million for the working capital fund of the Department of Agriculture. This was requested by the President, I point out.

This conference report reflects a fair compromise between what we were trying to do in the Senate bill, point out some areas we thought had been underfunded or left out of other requests by the administration for disaster relief, and still deal with the reality that we have to be responsive and we have to stay within the restraints dictated by good conscience, good government.

This conference report meets that challenge. I am pleased to be able to present it on behalf of the Committee on Appropriations for the Senate and urge it be agreed to.

I don't know if any Senators have requests for time for debate of this bill, but inasmuch as there is time remaining on the Democratic side, I will reserve the remainder of the time allocated to our side of the aisle.

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. HARKIN. 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. HARKIN. Mr. President, parliamentary inquiry: Are we under an order right now with a time limit? I have the floor, but I would like to know how much time I am allotted.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has 15 minutes.

Mr. HARKIN. Fifteen minutes?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Yes.

Mr. HARKIN. I thank the Presiding Officer.

Mr. President, first of all, I want to say I have a great friendship with, a liking of, and respect for the chairman of our committee, the distinguished Senator from Mississippi. It is always a tough job when you are bringing an appropriations bill out on the floor, especially a supplemental. And I respect the effort that has gone into this. However, I must say that there are a lot of things that I find very, very problematic about this appropriations bill.

Again, there are some critical provisions included in this bill. There is funding for our Nation to prepare for a possible avian flu pandemic. Obviously, there is funding for our men and women in Iraq and Afghanistan, and we want to support them in every way, with the equipment they need to maximize their safety. There is also funding for the U.S. Institute of Peace democracy-building activities in Iraq and Afghanistan. So there are things in here that are very necessary that we must provide.

On the other hand, however, there are some very disturbing and I think sort of ominous precedent-setting things that are in this bill that could lead to some real problems down the road.

I am extremely disappointed this bill includes a deeming resolution for the budget. First of all, it should not be in here. Now, I tried to explain a deeming resolution to one of my constituents the other day. Try to explain it to someone. Try to explain it to someone who is not sort of in this body—a ''deeming'' resolution. You see, we pass a budget, but then the budget cannot get passed by the House, so, therefore, we then are going to pass a deeming resolution to deem something that we cannot pass as passed because we deem it passed.

Now, just try explaining that to the average citizen of this country. They would think we have lost all our marbles in trying to do something like this. I am hopeful we will reach some point in the Senate and the House where this is absolutely forbidden in the future: putting something like a deeming resolution on an emergency supplemental.

Now, we want to pass an emergency supplemental for the reasons I just mentioned, but then to have to swallow something which makes no sense whatsoever and which, quite frankly, is harmful and which the Senate rejected before flies in the face of what I think is legitimate legislative activity.

So the Senate voted 2 months ago overwhelmingly in favor of an amendment that Senator SPECTER and I offered—bipartisan—to add $7 billion to the President's budget. The Senate voted 73 to 27. That is a pretty overwhelming vote around here: 73 to 27. The aim was clear: to allow Congress to fund our education, health, human services, and labor bill. And it was not an increase but just to fund it at the same level as in fiscal year 2005, 2 years ago. It was not radical. We were not asking for a lot, not asking for the keys to the Treasury.

We said: Let's just spend the same amount of money we did 2 years ago, not even accounting for inflation.

The Senate said: Let's stop cutting the programs that support working families, people with disabilities, and students who cannot afford college. Let's end the cuts to research on cancer and other diseases.

Seventy-three Senators agreed. They voted that way. Then the Senate reconfirmed its position in conference. When this deeming resolution was proposed, Senator BYRD offered an amendment that proposed the same thing as what we passed in the Senate—the Specter-Harkin amendment. Again, a majority of the Senate conferees voted to add the $7 billion. Two times the Senate demanded this additional funding for health, education, and labor programs, and human services.

Now, where is the $7 billion? Where did it go? It just vanished—vanished. It is gone. The deeming resolution—again, try explaining that to someone, to the average person. The deeming resolution that is in this bill is at exactly the same level as the President's budget, which we rejected in the Senate 2 months ago.

So what happened? The conferees from the majority party went behind closed doors and stripped out the $7 billion. It is as if the 73-to-27 vote in the Senate never even happened.

So what does this mean? What is the impact? Well, let's look at what happens. Under this now, the President's budget will cut funding for cancer research by $40 million. Eighteen of the 19 National Institutes of Health will face reductions.

This deeming resolution will now cut Social Services Block Grants by $500 million. It completely eliminates the Community Services Block Grant program. These are the two biggest discretionary programs for the poor. They are kind of the glue that holds the human services delivery system together.

The number of children served by Head Start will be reduced. The Meals on Wheels Program will be cut.

In education, this deeming resolution, now following the President's budget, will have the largest cut to Federal education in 26 years. The No Child Left Behind Act will be underfunded by $15.4 billion. Title I, serving our most needy children in school, will be frozen at last year's level.

I could go on and on, but this is what we mean by passing a deeming resolution on the supplemental.

At a time when Congress has just passed an additional $70 billion in tax cuts, mostly for the wealthiest in our country—and we had an effort a week ago to eliminate estate taxes, but, fortunately, we stopped it. But I hear it may come back, another tax cut that will benefit only 3 families out of every 1,000 families in America. We are going to have another attempt, and that will cost us, I understand, a half trillion dollars over 10 years. And it will go only to the wealthiest in our society. Yet we are going to cut Meals on Wheels, Head Start, cut education, title I, eliminate Community Services Block Grants, cut funding for the National Institutes of Health.

What is going on here? Have we taken leave of our senses? This deeming resolution, as I said, was not in the House bill, and it was not in the Senate bill. There is a rule. We are supposed to

live by rules in our society. We have laws. People obey laws. We have rules to live by so we know what the game is, so we know what we are expected to do.

We have a rule that says anything that is added in conference that was not in either bill is subject to a point of order. A point of order now lies on this floor against this bill.

Now, why isn't anyone raising the point of order? Well, I am told that the point of order will not be raised because the Chair, you see, will have to agree with the point of order that this violates rule XXVIII; therefore, the whole bill then falls.

What does that mean? Why, it means they would have to go back to conference and strip out the deeming resolution. That might take a couple of hours. Then it would come back, and then we would have a supplemental appropriations without this ''deeming resolution.''

So why isn't rule XXVIII being invoked? Why aren't we raising the point of order? I understand that what would happen is the Chair would uphold the point of order, the majority party would move to override the ruling of the Chair—and that takes 51 votes—and I am told the majority party would have the 51 votes to override the ruling of the Chair, and that would do away, basically, with rule XXVIII.

Well, what is so wrong with that? What is the good of having a rule if you do not abide by the rules? I am reminded of one of my favorite lines from ''Finnegan's Rainbow.'' It is a play. It goes like this: For life is like cricket. We play by the rules. But the secret which few people know that keeps men of class far apart from the fools is to make up the rules as you go.

That is what we are doing around here. We are making up the rules as we go. You never know from one year to the next what the rules are going to be. The rules are only what the majority party deems the rules ought to be at any given point in time. That is no way to run a democracy. It is no way to run a legislative chamber. It is no way to run the Congress.

So we have this threat: If you raise a point of order—which should be raised—that whole rule falls. I question whether the rule is even worth having any longer.

A couple of other notes.

How much time do I have remaining, Mr. President?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Three minutes 50 seconds.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, let me just note that upon the passage of this supplemental appropriations bill, Congress will have provided over $318 billion for the war in Iraq—almost all of it through emergency supplemental appropriations.

Now, again, we must support our troops. They have no control over how their operations and equipment are funded. So we want to support them. But I have grave concerns about the way the Bush administration has gone about funding the war—only through emergency supplemental appropriations.

The war in Iraq has gone on for 3 years now. There have been eight separate emergency supplemental appropriations measures to fund our operations in Iraq.

This is how an emergency is defined by our own budget rules: ''Suddenly, quickly coming into being . . . not building over time . . . an urgent, pressing and compelling need requiring immediate action . . . unforeseen, unpredictable and unanticipated and not permanent.''

That is how our budget rules define ''emergency appropriations.'' Three years? War in Iraq? It is unforeseen, unpredictable, unanticipated, sudden? Wait a minute, this does not meet the definition of ''emergency.'' It is not unforeseen.

Why isn't the President sending us, then, a regular budget at the beginning of the year to fund the war in Iraq and Afghanistan? Because they do not want to admit how much money they are spending there. They want to mask it.

I am going to support this bill. I will vote for it because it has some things in it and because I want to make sure our troops have the equipment. But I want to go on record as saying I also have a resolution that I introduced in the Senate that says three things. It says: No. 1, we will not establish permanent bases in Iraq; No. 2, we will not seek to control the oil in Iraq; and, No. 3, that we ought to begin redeploying our troops out of Iraq by the end of this year.

So this may be the last time I will vote for any appropriations for the Iraq war, because I believe we should start withdrawing and redeploying our troops by the end of this year. I want to give them everything they need for their safety and their well-being, but enough is enough. And I also want to make it clear that this may be the last time I will ever vote for an emergency supplemental appropriation for the war in Iraq.

If it comes to the regular appropriations process, we will have our hearings. We will see what is happening. But under an emergency, we don't do that. The war in Iraq, we were told by Mr. Wolfowitz before it started, would be paid for by oil; the cost to the American people would be minimal. That is what Secretary Rumsfeld told us. We are up to $318 billion and counting. It is time that Secretary Rumsfeld and this administration start making some tough decisions about what they can cut out of the Pentagon's bloated annual budget in order to fund the war in Iraq.

Quite frankly, we know there is a lot of waste, fraud, and abuse going on in Iraq. It has to end. As long as we keep having emergency supplemental appropriations, we will never eliminate the waste, fraud, and abuse.

We all strongly support our troops. I will vote for this bill because it contains funding for the troops, for avian flu, and other items, but it is time that the war in Iraq only comes through the regular appropriations process. It is time for us to start getting our troops out of there by the end of this year.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The time of the Senator has expired.

The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. GREGG. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. COCHRAN. I am happy to yield to the Senator from New Hampshire.

Mr. GREGG. Will the Senator allow me to propound a unanimous consent request for the purpose of getting time? I ask unanimous consent that upon all time being yielded back or all time being used relative to the supplemental, that I be recognized for 15 minutes under morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, may I ask what the unanimous consent request was? I couldn't hear.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator requested 15 minutes as in morning business at the conclusion of the debate on the supplemental.

Mr. HARKIN. I reserve the right, only if I could ask that the same 15 minutes be allotted to the ranking member of our Budget Committee, the Senator from North Dakota.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. GREGG. I withdraw my request, then. I find that to be a request that has very little relevance.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The request is withdrawn.

The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, it is not my intention to use all of the time available to this side. I have had no requests for speaking time for any Senator on our side on the conference report. So the disagreement can be obviated very quickly with my assurance that I am going to speak for no more than 3 or 4 minutes, and then I was going to yield back all the time remaining under this conference report under my control. I advised the Senator from New Hampshire of that. That is why he made the request, because it was not going to infringe on anybody's time, considering the order under which we are operating.

I will proceed to conclude the debate on the conference report and let everybody work out their differences on who speaks next and for how long.

I am pleased we were able to get a bipartisan agreement on this conference report. Senate conferees worked together, Republicans and Democrats, to identify the priorities, to have suggestions fully considered and fairly considered. I am proud of the work product of our Committee on Appropriations in the Senate. I am particularly grateful for the support of the distinguished Senator from West Virginia, who is the ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations. He cooperated in every respect in terms of scheduling hearings, working to make sure that our

committee had all the facts we needed to proceed to making a decision on the President's request.

Our staff members are the very best. We are very fortunate in the Senate to have the benefit of the services of Keith Kennedy, who is staff director of the Appropriations Committee, and his counterpart on the other side, Terry Sauvain, is equally dutiful and dependable in his efforts on behalf of our committee. Chuck Keiffer managed much of the floor activity and was at the markup session that we had that ran way past midnight the night we were completing action on this conference report. He was very supportive of the efforts and the needs of our committee. Senator TED STEVENS, former chairman of the full committee, is chairman of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee. He and his counterpart, DAN INOUYE, are two of the finest Senators who have ever served in the Senate. Their responsibility was to deal with the request relating to defense issues. This was mainly a Defense appropriations request the President submitted for the war on terror. But there were other provisions as well related to that conflict and our effort to defend our security interests. There were State Department accounts involved. We had the benefit at the hearings of the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, all talking about the needs for funding of our activities to protect our country's security.

The chairman of the subcommittee that has responsibility for those accounts in the State Department and foreign operations is MITCH MCCONNELL, who is a distinguished Senator from Kentucky and our assistant leader. He turned in yeoman work, along with his counterpart on the other side, PAT LEAHY of Vermont. These are examples of how the committee came together, Republicans and Democrats, and made the decisions that had to be made, negotiated hard and diligently with the House to work out differences between our two bills and considered every request the administration made of the Congress for these appropriations.

I want to single out two other subcommittee staff members. All of the clerks worked hard because almost every subcommittee had a role to play in shaping the final outcome. But on the Defense Subcommittee, Sid Ashworth, who is the clerk, Charlie Houy, who is the Democratic counterpart on that committee, are so dependable and so experienced and dedicated to their jobs, it reflects great credit on the Senate for people such as those I have mentioned today who worked so hard on this conference report. I am delighted to be associated with them and honored to chair the committee. They make my job so much more easy than could possibly be imagined because of their skill and their professionalism and the hard work they turned in to achieve the result we did, not just to pass this bill but to serve the interests of our country.

I am happy to recommend this conference report to the Senate. I yield back the remainder of the time available under the order.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, under the standing order, is not the Senate now to return to the annual authorization Defense bill?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the pending business.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2766) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Levin (for Lautenberg) amendment No. 4205, to provide a temporary prohibition on an increase in copayments required under the retail pharmacy system of the pharmacy benefits program of the Department of Defense.

Warner amendment No. 4211, to name the CVN–78 aircraft carrier the USS Gerald Ford.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, we are ready to proceed. The work achieved yesterday resulted in unanimous acceptance of a bipartisan amendment sponsored by the Senator from Virginia and the joint leadership. We then proceeded to an amendment under an arrangement whereby the minority was able to offer an amendment by Senator LAUTENBERG. I had the opportunity to speak briefly with him this morning. There was some indication that he would be willing to accept a proposal I had to make a slight modification, in which case I would hope we could proceed to either an acceptance by voice vote or schedule a vote at a time so desired by the leadership of the Senate.

I assume at some point in time I will be able to obtain information on that point. Absent that, I see my distinguished colleague, the Senator from Michigan. I was advising the Senate that the pending amendment is the Lautenberg amendment. On another committee where we were together in a markup session, there was some indication that he would be amenable to a modest modification to bring his amendment in parallel with what the committee had done. That is the pending business. We then turn to an amendment by the Senator from Virginia which I would like to discuss with my senior colleague in a minute or two before we turn to that. Unless there is a matter to address the Senate on, I would suggest we place a quorum call in for a few minutes.

Mr. LEVIN. If I may ask the Senator from Virginia, did the Senator from New Jersey want to debate his amendment further?

Mr. WARNER. I was not able, in a busy markup session, to ascertain that.

Mr. LEVIN. Maybe we could ascertain that. He is on his way to the floor. I know he was willing to make the modification. It is helpful to put the date of his amendment in line with our bill, the fiscal year, as I understand it.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. MURKOWSKI). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, I rise to speak in support of the Lautenberg-Stabenow amendment. I understand Senator LEVIN has offered it and Senator LAUTENBERG will be coming shortly to speak on our amendment.

This is an incredibly important amendment for the men and women who are currently serving us so bravely, courageously around the world. We all know that prescription drug costs are one of the largest drivers of health care costs, rising every year at double or even triple the rate of inflation. This is certainly an area where I have been focused for much of my Senate career—on the high cost of prescription drugs. We all know that is the case.

Like every manufacturer, small business, and State Medicaid Program, the military is facing the same challenges of controlling prescription drug prices. Instead of supporting policies that would lower prescription drug prices, such as reimportation of prescription drugs from other countries like Canada, which is very close to Michigan, or focusing on more generic, lower cost drugs that can be brought to the market and create competition to bring down prices, or allowing Medicare to negotiate pricing, unfortunately, this administration wants to put the costs on the backs of our men and women in uniform and their families. I strongly oppose that policy.

The President's budget proposed increasing the prescription drug copays for our troops and their families, almost doubling copays for both generic and brand-name drugs.

The proposed pharmacy copay increases represent a 70-percent increase for military beneficiaries over the next 5 years—far in excess of the 24-percent increase in military pay, or the 14-percent increase in retiree pay over the same period. These increased copays will affect Active-Duty members of the Armed Forces and their families, members of the Guard and Reserve and their families, and retired members of the Armed Forces and their families, as well as surviving spouses who are enrolled in TRICARE and get their prescription drugs from retail pharmacies.

Unfortunately, the Senate Defense authorization bill only rejects the increases if people use mail order pharmacies for their prescriptions. While

mail order may work for some, many military families cannot wait 2 weeks or more to get the medicine they need right now. The vast majority of our military families purchase their drugs at pharmacies. Of all TRICARE prescriptions filled, about 43 percent are through retail, going to local pharmacists, 51 percent are through military pharmacies, and only 6 percent are through mail order.

Unfortunately, in Michigan, there are no military pharmacies for the 64,000 military men and women and their families who call Michigan home. So this will impact the families in Michigan who are serving us abroad—the troops as well as their families.

Are we going to tell an Active-Duty mother to wait 2 weeks to get the antibiotics that her children need? Are we going to say to our troops that their family should have to pay more for prescriptions while they are serving and protecting us in Iraq?

The Lautenberg-Stabenow amendment makes sense. It would temporarily freeze retail copays at their current rate through the end of next year. I understand there has been a request from the chairman of the Committee on Armed Services to change that to the end of the fiscal year. I don't object to that. The amendment is consistent with the committee's findings that military beneficiaries should be held harmless from TRICARE fee increases until Congress is satisfied that the Defense Department has done all it can to constrain health care costs, without shifting the costs to our military families.

Clearly, Madam President, we have not done all we can to cut health care costs, and we ought not to be shifting this burden to our military families. If we don't pass this important amendment, our soldiers and their families will be asked to pay an additional $200 million next year for their medicine.

I was fortunate enough to spend Memorial Day with our troops in Iraq and saw firsthand, as so many of my colleagues have, their dedication and courage under incredibly difficult circumstances. We have an obligation to support these men and women, and that means not raising their prescription drug copays while they are fighting to protect us.

I hope the Senate will unanimously support this effort that would stop the doubling of copays for our military families for their medicine. I am hopeful that we will be able to do that as soon as possible.

I yield the floor.

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

Mr. GRAHAM. Madam President, I will give a little background, if I could, about this subject matter and area of inquiry.

The Department of Defense initiated early on this year, and part of last year, a fairly dramatic increase in TRICARE premiums for military retirees and family members. The TRICARE program is, I think our membership knows, a military health care system for Active-Duty people and also for those who are retired, up to age 65. This is a provision for those 65 who can continue during Medicare eligibility.

The health care part of the military budget is just growing leaps and bounds. Our chairman is sort of the champion of the TRICARE program, and it has been a wonderful program for military members and their families and retirees. But in 2015, it is going to be 12 percent, if nothing changes in the entire military budget. It is on an unsustainable course. We have not had a premium increase since TRICARE's inception.

I will take a back seat to no one in wanting to help the troops, but the best thing we can do is create a benefit that is sustainable and not have to pick between health care benefits and armament and new weapons and all of the operational needs of the military, which are going to be eventually squeezed. In committee, Senator NELSON and myself, along with the chairman and ranking member, said to the Department of Defense: Stop, don't pass go, no fee increases.

We are going to have the GAO and other groups look at ways to save money before you have to ask for fee increases. And, secondly, give us some idea if the Department of Defense numbers are accurate. Are they accurate in terms of the growth explosion in the cost of this program? So we are going to get information to make a good decision and basically put a hold on the fee increases for participation of TRICARE.

That got us into the area of prescription drugs. One of the things that we have done for military members, and retirees in particular, is we have made prescription drugs very affordable and reasonably priced. What we are trying to do to save money is to allow an increase in retail prescription drug costs, which have again been static since the inception of the program, from $3 to $5 for a 30-day prescription for generic drugs, from $9 to $15 for a 30-day prescription of brand drugs. To counter that, we were going to have a zero copayment for those who chose to get their prescriptions filled through the mail. If you had a maintenance prescription, a drug need that would be recurring, and you used the mail system, there would be no copay at all.

What we are trying to do there is get people into purchasing drugs in a way that is cost effective for the military and have some cost increase to keep the program sustainable. That is what this debate is about.

I appreciate the chairman, who has been a great leader in this, working with Senator LAUTENBERG to try to find a way to get us past 2007.

I will end on this note. This problem is going to get worse. Over time, the military health care footprint within the Department of Defense budget is on an unsustainable course. TRICARE is a great program, but we are going to have to look at ways to make it more efficient, look at cost savings and, eventually, we are going to have to go back to the military community and ask for some increased participation to make this sustainable for the next generation of military retirees and their families. If we don't, we are going to be in a dilemma we would not want to be in as a nation, having to pick between operational needs and health care needs.

As a member of the Guard and Reserve—and I have done some time on active duty—I want to be as generous and as fair with the benefit package as the country can afford, but no benefit can be locked in time without some reevaluation and adjustment. After 2007 passes, we are going to have to start making hard choices. I promise all the Members of this body and those who may be listening to the military community that we are going to do it in a way that is acceptable, humane, rational, and not ask more than people can bear. The idea of trying to have a zero copayment if you would get your prescriptions filled through the mail is a great idea. It will be good for the military members participating in the prescription drug program, and I am convinced—and we will see after this year—that it will save a lot of money, specifically for those drugs recurring in need.

The increases on the generic and brand names through the retail system are appropriate, and we will revisit that issue after this year.

I just want the Members of the body to know that if we don't get ahead of the growth of TRICARE and try to implement changes in a systematic, incremental way, we are going to wind up one day where this body in the next decade is going to have to make some draconian choices. The way to prevent making draconian choices is to phase in changes that the force can accommodate and that will relieve the pressure on TRICARE. It is a wonderful program, and it needs to be on a sustainable footing. Right now it is on an unsustainable path. We will find out more information about how to reform it at the end of this year.

Madam President, I say to the chairman of the committee, I appreciate all the effort he has given to create TRICARE. He worked in a bipartisan manner to create a health care program that has been very valuable to the men and women in the military, their families, and particularly retirees. This program, like every other program at the Federal level, is going to have to be looked at anew in terms of sustainability. I look forward to working with the chairman and others to make it sustainable.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I thank my distinguished colleague. For years, Senator GRAHAM has been on the Armed Services Committee and has

really specialized in health issues and other issues relating to the welfare of the men and women of the Armed Forces and their families. I, like him, share concerns about the rising costs of these programs. How well he and I understand that there is only so much money allocated under the process of our budget to the men and women in the Armed Forces. They need equipment. They need training. They need housing. They need medical care. If we constantly begin to chip away, it ends up those moneys are withdrawn from the modernization account.

I thank the Senator.

Mr. GRAHAM. Madam President, if I may add, the projections are that the military health care program will be $65 billion in costs by 2015, 12 percent of the DOD's budget. We will be getting a real hard look to see if those moneys are accurate and ways to save money. Madam President, 2007 will be a year in which we look at the true cost component of TRICARE projected out in the future and try to think of ways to make it sustainable, because if the projections are anywhere near accurate, this program becomes unsustainable over time. It is worth saving, and I think anyone in the military would want it to be saved. We are just going to have to be honest with them about the cost. They cannot be locked in time forever.

AMENDMENT NO. 4205, AS MODIFIED

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that my amendment be the pending business.

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

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Madam President, I send a modification to the amendment to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is the Senator asking consent to modify the pending amendment?

Mr. LAUTENBERG. I am.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the modification? Without objection, the amendment is so modified.

The amendment (No. 4205), as modified, is as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title VII, add the following:

SEC. 707. TEMPORARY PROHIBITION ON INCREASE IN COPAYMENTS UNDER RETAIL PHARMACY SYSTEM OF PHARMACY BENEFITS PROGRAM.

Subsection (a)(6) of section 1074g of title 10, United States Code, as amended by section 702(b) of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(D) During the period beginning on October 1, 2006, and ending on September 31, 2007, the cost sharing requirements established under this paragraph for pharmaceutical agents available through retail pharmacies covered by paragraph (2)(E)(ii) may not exceed amounts as follows:

''(i) In the case of generic agents, $3.

''(ii) In the case of formulary agents, $9.

''(iii) In the case of nonformulary agents, $22.''.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Madam President, I wish to now discuss my amendment, which is fair and simple. It prohibits increases in the pharmacy copayments of our military families and military retirees they purchase at retail pharmacies.

These families are part of the military's health insurance program called TRICARE.

The price of everything going up so rapidly now hardly seems the time to ask the people who have sacrificed for our country—many who have been in harms way—to pay more for their prescription drugs. It is incomprehensible.

My amendment, cosponsored by Senators STABENOW, BINGAMAN, HARKIN, LINCOLN, MENENDEZ, MIKULSKI, LANDRIEU, LIEBERMAN, KERRY, and MURRAY, is very simply a prohibition on increasing, at this point in time, the copayments that veterans and active duty families have to pay for prescription drugs.

The amendment is very simple. It says no, n-o, at increase on pharmacy copays through the end of fiscal year 2007.

We ask military our families to make enormous sacrifices for our country, and now we want to saddle them with higher health care costs? It doesn't make sense. The administration is proposing to increase the cost of TRICARE prescription drug copayments from $9 to $15 for brand-name drugs. This is, indeed, a hardship. It means that over a 5-year period, prescription drug prices will rise by 70 percent for military families—far outstripping the 24-percent increase in military pay or the 14-percent increase in retirement pay over the same period. If we don't stop this increase we will have taken away those increases that they worked so hard to get.

If you can go to a military base to purchase your prescriptions you don't need to pay a copayment, but in the real world that is always not possible. Too many veterans and military families don't live on or near a base, particularly when it comes to the National Guard and Reserve.

In New Jersey, for instance, there are seven military installations, but only three have pharmacies and none of these facilities are in the northern part of the State. Driving long distances, especially with gas costing $3 a gallon or more, is not the solution.

Families and veterans have the option of getting prescription drugs at no cost by mail order. But many times people can't wait for a week or two to fill a prescription. If you have a sick child at home who needs an antibiotic right away, who will wait for mail delivery. Also, many people, especially older veterans, prefer to get their prescription drugs from the local pharmacy where they can also get consultations with pharmacists and other services. TRICARE beneficiaries deserve the ability to choose where they want to go to get their prescriptions.

Retail pharmacies account for about 43 percent of the prescription drugs purchased through TRICARE. One large pharmacy chain estimated that it fills more than 7 million TRICARE prescriptions every year. Close to 9 million individuals are enrolled in the TRICARE program. The increases proposed by the administration would affect a large number of military families and veterans.

We know how the Guard and Reserves have been disproportionately affected by deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan. To raise their health care costs, I think that is unconscionable.

John F. Kennedy said:

To govern is to choose.

Last Thursday, all but two Republican Senators voted to repeal the inheritance tax permanently, a move that would cost $989 billion over 10 years. Remember that fewer than one-half of 1 percent of all estates incur tax liability. We are talking about a tax break for the wealthiest Americans, the very people presumably who benefit the most from the freedom that our men and women in uniform protect. Now we are being told that we cannot afford to freeze these copayments that these men and women have to make and their families have to pay for the medicines they need. It is really unbelievable.

CBO, the Congressional Budget Office, says my amendment will cost $290 million in fiscal year 2007.

In good conscience can we repeal the inheritance tax on the super-rich while imposing a pharmacy tax on our men and women in uniform, our veterans, and their families.

American's appreciate so much the sacrifices asked of our Nation's military families and veterans. I'm certain they would be willing to cover the cost of my amendment.

This amendment freezes pharmacy copayments at their current levels. It will send a message to our military men and women. It will tell them that just as they protected us, we are concerned about them and their families. I urge my colleagues to support my amendment.

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I wish to advise the Senator that we have carefully examined the amendment and we are prepared to accept it on this side.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Madam President, I appreciate that and am pleased that we are going to make a statement here that we don't want those people who are on TRICARE, to have to pay more at this time. It just would be the wrong thing to do.

I am not surprised that the Senator from Virginia, with a sound military record and having been involved in Government for many years in terms of military affairs, stands up and delivers that agreement. I thank him very much, and I thank my colleague from Michigan also, for the opportunity to introduce this amendment. Without further ado, I assume that it will now be accepted.

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, for those following the debate, I certainly would acknowledge that the Senator

from New Jersey had a distinguished record in World War II in the U.S. Army in Europe and understands very well, through firsthand experience, the hardships faced by those particularly in the enlisted ranks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. First let me commend the Senator from New Jersey for his leadership in this matter and for his identifying a real problem which needs to be corrected. It would be, it seems to me, unconscionable for us to be increasing these copays in the middle of a conflict. For the men and women in the military and their families to face additional copays at this point is very, very inadvisable. I thank Senator LAUTENBERG of New Jersey for identifying this problem, and to all of his cosponsors, the same thank you and gratitude is owing. I very much support the amendment, and I hope it will be promptly adopted.

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I urge the adoption of the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate on the amendment? If not, the question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 4205), as modified, was agreed to.

Mr. WARNER. 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. 4211

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I believe we now return to amendment No. 4211.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is the pending amendment.

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the distinguished President pro tempore of the Senate, Senator STEVENS, be made a cosponsor, and the distinguished ranking member of the Armed Services Committee, the Senator from Michigan, Mr. LEVIN, be made a cosponsor of amendment No. 4211.

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

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, we are going to accept this amendment by voice vote. I urge the adoption of the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate on the amendment? If not, the question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 4211) was agreed to.

Mr. WARNER. 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. WARNER. Madam President, I rise today to speak on this amendment that will direct the first ship of the Navy's future class of air carriers, heretofore known as CVN–78, shall be named the USS *Gerald Ford*, in honor of our great statesman and leader, whose distinguished career of service to our Nation has spanned more than six decades. I can think of no finer tribute to our Nation's 38th President and indeed to the United States Navy than to add his name to a warship.

Gerald Ford joined the Navy in February of 1942, along with millions and millions of other Americans who responded to the call following Pearl Harbor. It was just weeks after Pearl Harbor that he volunteered, in those first dark hours of the United States' entry into World War II. Leaving behind a family and a profession to serve in a distant corner of the globe, he exemplified his generation often referred to as the greatest generation and truly all generations of young Americans who have sacrificed to defend our freedom—be it freedom from tyranny or freedom from terror.

As a young lieutenant, Gerald Ford came within inches of being swept overboard while selflessly performing his duties in the raging storm that battered Admiral ''Bull'' Halsey's fleet during action in the Philippine Sea. He was aboard a small aircraft carrier at that time. It was the USS *Monterey*, CVL–26. That ship, the *Monterey*, earned 10 battle stars for her role at Makin Island, Kwajalein, Truk, Saipan, the Philippines, and other major engagements in the Pacific theater. Lieutenant Ford had volunteered for that service aboard that ship and sailed in harm's way with many others. This memorable footnote in history of that one action where he selflessly performed lifesaving duties aboard his ship would instill in the future President a lifelong respect and appreciation for the hardships and dangers that surround our brave men and women in uniform. His military experience proved invaluable to his service as commander in chief and President of the United States.

Following World War II, Gerald Ford again answered duty's call, gaining election in 1948 to the House of Representatives where he would ultimately serve our Nation for a quarter of a century. During those tumultuous years in our history, as Congress acted on grave and often divisive issues surrounding the Cold War, nuclear weapons policy, war in Korea and Vietnam, the assassination of a beloved President, the civil rights movement, and the resignation of a Vice President of the United States, Congressman Ford distinguished himself by his calm, steady guidance, his plain-spoken wisdom, his extraordinary character, and his openness. He was respected by all for his decency.

These qualities propelled Gerald Ford to the forefront of his party. From 1965 to 1973, as minority leader of the House of Representatives, he was a unifying force in the Congress, serving not merely his party and constituency, but reaching across the aisle to find common ground and resolve for the greatest issues of the day.

The history of the ensuing years is well known as a turning point in our modern history as a Nation, when the great system of checks and balances forged into our Government framework by the Founding Fathers met one of its greatest challenges. There was neither past precedent nor a clear path forward for the change of power that would take place. There was only certainty that the man who was to ultimately assume the responsibility of the office of the President of the United States must be a leader of uncommon integrity, one who would reach ably across the aisle as a leader of all the people, and one whose credibility at home and abroad would be a unifying force—a foundation for the future.

In that hour of crisis, when public confidence in the Office of the President had ebbed, and the division between the executive office and the Congress had widened to its greatest extent in a century, our Nation placed its hope and trust in Gerald Ford to restore the faith of the people of the United States in the Office of the President of the United States and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces.

President Gerald R. Ford brought closure to the crisis with characteristic straight talk at his inauguration in August of 1974, when he humbly declared to the American people that: ''Our long national nightmare is over. Our Constitution works.'' With those words, our Nation moved forward under his leadership.

During his administration, President Ford's policies at home pursued the path of healing and rebuilding—addressing the wounds of Watergate and the end of the war in Vietnam. He halted the postwar decline of our Armed Forces and set an early course for our Nation's defense posture, which proved a well-placed step toward ending the Cold War.

Abroad, President Ford worked to achieve peace in the Middle East, to preserve detente with the Soviet Union, and to limit the spread of nuclear weapons. Furthermore, with a clear vision towards a prevailing freedom in Eastern Europe, President Ford advanced the cause of human rights and perhaps charted a way and new course for these people long oppressed under the Soviet regime with the signing of the final act of the conference on security and cooperation in Europe, commonly known as the Helsinki Agreement.

In the three decades since departing the White House, President Ford has continued his relentless pursuit of the ideals which mark America's greatness. To this day, Gerald Ford remains an international ambassador of American goodwill, a champion for higher education, a strong supporter of human rights, an ardent proponent of strong national defense and international leadership by the United States, and a trusted adviser to the succession of Presidents who have built upon his foundation.

I believe my colleagues will agree that it is entirely fitting that CVN–78 be named for a former carrier sailor, the USS *Gerald Ford*.

I acknowledge the help and guidance and assistance of many in bringing up this amendment, notably among them John March, a friend of mine and an acquaintance, a fellow public servant. We both came out of World War II and met at Washington and Lee University. He went on to become a distinguished Member of the House of Representatives, serving there for 14 years. Then he was counsel to President Ford at the time of these difficult decisions that I have referred to. He then served as Army Secretary, and I think to date he is the longest serving Army Secretary in the history of our country.

Likewise, a wonderful man, former Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird. He was Secretary when I was privileged to serve under him as Under Secretary and Secretary of the Navy, again a lifelong friend and admirer of Gerald Ford. Also, the Ford Foundation members, and so many others. I spoke with Vice President DICK CHENEY yesterday. Indeed, he was Chief of Staff to President Ford in his years of the Presidency, and Don Rumsfeld also served and was appointed by President Ford as Secretary of Defense when he first served with great distinction.

So I introduce this amendment, now acted upon by the Senate, with the deepest sense of humility and gratitude to this fine man who touched my life, who helped form my career, who held a Bible on the steps of the Senate with me when I was sworn in as head of the Nation's bicentennial, having then just stepped down as Secretary of the Navy; again served under President Ford in that capacity, to take on the direction of that brief chapter of America's history where our country, together with 22 other nations, recognized the magnificent achievement of our great framework of Government beginning in 1776.

So I do so, and I am very heartened that I am joined by the distinguished President pro tempore of the Senate, Senator STEVENS, who has been a lifelong friend. It is not entirely coincidental that I am joined by my distinguished colleague, friend, and coworker here in the venue of the Armed Services Committee for these 28 years that we have served together, the distinguished Senator from Michigan, from whence Gerald Ford came to serve his country as Congressman and Vice President.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the timeline of President Gerald R. Ford's life and career be printed in the RECORD.

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

TIMELINE OF PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD'S LIFE AND CAREER

July 14, 1913—Gerald R. Ford is born as Leslie Lynch King, Jr. in Omaha, Nebraska.

February 1, 1916—Dorothy King marries Gerald R. Ford, Sr., a Grand Rapids businessman.

1918–1925—Young Ford attends elementary school at Madison Elementary in Grand Rapids, MI. He briefly attends East Grand Rapids Elementary while the family lived there.

1925—On his twelfth birthday, Ford joins the local Boy Scout Troop 15 of Trinity Methodist Church in Grand Rapids, MI. In November 1927 he attains the rank of Eagle Scout.

1925–1931—Ford attends South High School in Grand Rapids, MI for junior high and high school. He excels at football, being named to the ''All-City'' and ''All-State'' teams. He also works at his father's paint factory and a local hamburger stand.

1931–1935—Ford attends the University of Michigan. He plays center on the football team and is named Most Valuable Player on the 1934 team. He also joins the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

1935—Ford plays in the East-West Shrine Game and receives pro football contract offers from the Green Bay Packers and the Detroit Lions.

June 1935—Ford graduates from the University of Michigan with a B.A. in Economics.

September 1935—Yale University hires Ford to be an assistant football and boxing coach.

December 3, 1935—He legally changes his name to Gerald R. Ford, Jr.

Summer 1936—Ford works as an Intern Forest Ranger at Yellowstone Park's Canyon Station.

Summer 1937—Ford attends law classes at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

February 1938—Ford is accepted to Yale University Law School. He begins classes in the fall while continuing to coach. While at Yale, Ford supports the isolationist America First Committee as America sees war spread across Europe.

Summer 1938—Ford attends law classes at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill.

Fall 1940—Ford volunteers for the Wendell Willkie presidential campaign in New York City. As a volunteer, he attends his first Republican convention in Philadelphia.

Spring 1941—Ford graduates in the top third of his law school class at Yale.

May 1941—Ford returns to Grand Rapids and partners with friend Philip Buchen to open a law firm located in Suite 621 of the Michigan Trust Building. He also becomes active in local politics helping launch a reform group opposed to the Republican political machine of Frank D. McKay.

February 1942–May 1942—With the U.S. entrance into World War II, Ford volunteers for the Navy. He is assigned to the Navy's V–5 pre-flight program in Annapolis, Maryland to become a physical training instructor. Upon completion, he is sent to Chapel Hill, North Carolina as an athletic training officer.

Summer 1943–December 1944—Ford is assigned to sea duty aboard the carrier USS Monterey as the ship's athletic officer and one of the ship's gunnery officers. He sees action in the Pacific Theater aboard the USS Monterey in the Battle of Makin. The ship also takes part in attacks against Kwajalein and Eniwetok, New Guinea, Saipan, Guam, and Formosa. He also survives a typhoon in the Pacific that batters the Monterey on December 18, 1944.

Spring 1945—Ford is promoted to Lieutenant Commander and assigned to Glenview, Illinois, to train new naval officers for sea duty.

Fall 1945—Ford returns to Grand Rapids and rejoins his friend Philip Buchen with the law firm of Butterfield, Keeney, and Amberg. He becomes active in many civic affairs and charities including chapters of the Red Cross, the American Legion, and the VFW. Influenced by his experience in the war and the internationalist views of Senator Arthur Vandenberg, Ford resumes his involvement in reforming Grand Rapids politics.

August 1947—Ford is introduced to Elizabeth (Betty) Bloomer Warren by mutual friends.

June 1948—Ford announces his candidacy for the Republican nomination for U.S. House of Representatives, Fifth Congressional District of Michigan. He challenges the isolationist foreign policy approach of incumbent Bartel Jonkman, a McKay associate.

September 14, 1948—Ford defeats Jonkman 23,632 to 14,341 in the Republican primary.

October 15, 1948—Ford and Betty Bloomer Warren wed at Grace Episcopal Church in Grand Rapids. Marrying in the middle of his congressional campaign, the couple honeymoon briefly in Ann Arbor, attend the University of Michigan-Northwestern football game, and then drive to Owosso, Michigan to attend a rally for Republican Presidential candidate Thomas Dewey.

November 2, 1948—Ford is elected to his first term as a U.S. Congressman from Grand Rapids, receiving 60.5% of the vote.

January 3, 1949–1950—Ford is sworn in as a member of the Eighty-First Congress. During his first year in the House, he is assigned to the Public Works Committee. As a member he is invited to tour the White House by President Truman. He also helps organize the ''Chowder and Marching Club'' of young Republican Congressmen with fellow House member Richard Nixon.

March 14, 1950—The Fords' first child, Michael Gerald Ford is born.

November 7, 1950—Ford wins his second term as Congressman from the fifth district with 66% of the vote.

January 1951–1952—At the start of his second term in the House, Ford is appointed to the Appropriations Committee. Ford invites Richard Nixon to Grand Rapids to give the annual Lincoln Day Speech. In February 1952 he and other young Republican Congressmen send a letter urging General Eisenhower to enter the Presidential race.

March 16, 1952—The Fords' second son, John Gardner ''Jack'' Ford is born.

November 4, 1952—Ford wins his third term as Congressman from Grand Rapids with 66% of the vote.

1953–1954—Ford is a member of the only Republican controlled House from 1949 to 1995. He is appointed to the Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense Spending, and is made Chairman of the Army Panel on spending. As a member of this committee he witnesses test firings of project NIKE that developed the first operational anti-aircraft missile, the Nike-Ajax.

August 1953—Ford takes a three week tour of U.S. military installations in Asia and the Pacific. He visits Saigon in French Indochina, and during a visit to Korea, witnesses a POW exchange.

November 4, 1954—After declining a run for U.S. Senate, Ford wins his fourth term as Congressman.

1955–56—Ford continues to serve on the Appropriations Committee in the House, and in 1956 is appointed to the Intelligence Subcommittee, which oversees

the CIA's budget. He serves on this subcommittee for ten years and learns of programs such as U–2 and Bay of Pigs. He also visits NATO headquarters in Paris, and the Allied and Russian Zones of Berlin. He visits a Hungarian refugee camp in Austria.

Spring 1955—The Fords move into their newly completed house in Alexandria, Virginia.

May 19, 1956—The Fords' third son, Steven Meigs Ford is born.

November 6, 1956—After declining an opportunity to run for Michigan Governor, Ford wins election to his fifth term as Congressman.

1957–1958—During his fifth term, Ford is appointed to the ''Select Committee on Astronautics and Space Exploration,'' chaired by Senator Lyndon Johnson, which would recommend the creation of NASA. He also attends an address of South Vietnamese President Ngo Dinh Diem to a joint session of Congress in May 1957.

July 6, 1957—The Fords' youngest child, daughter Susan Elizabeth Ford is born.

November 4, 1958—Ford wins his sixth term as U.S. Congressman.

1959–1960—In January, Ford joins the Republican colleagues in replacing their House leader Joseph Martin with Charles Halleck. In September 1959 Ford spends 3 days touring Moscow and 10 days in Poland on fact-finding missions.

July 1960—The Michigan delegation at the Republican Convention in Chicago supports Ford as a favorite son candidate to Richard Nixon's running mate. Ford gives the nominating speech for the eventual Vice-Presidential nominee, Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge.

November 1960—Ford is re-elected to a seventh term in Congress.

1961–1962—Ford becomes the ranking Republican on the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee. However, he supports many of President Kennedy's foreign aid initiatives. He is also awarded the Congressional Distinguished Service Award from the American Political Science Association.

January 26, 1962—Ford's stepfather, Gerald Ford, Sr., dies in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

November 6, 1962—Ford is re-elected to his eighth term, despite declining Republican numbers in the House.

January 2, 1963—In a Republican caucus revolution led by Congressmen Charles Goodell and Robert Griffin, Ford defeats Charles Hoeven of Iowa for House Republican Conference Chairman.

November 29, 1963—A week after President Kennedy's assassination, President Johnson appoints Ford to the seven member Warren Commission to investigate Kennedy's death. On September 27, 1964 they would publish their conclusion that there was no evidence of a conspiracy in the assassination of President Kennedy. Ford would later publish a book about the assassination, Portrait of an Assassin, with friend Jack Stiles.

November 3, 1964—Lyndon Johnson is elected President in a landslide over Barry Goldwater. Ford is elected to his ninth term as Congressman.

December 19, 1964—After meeting with fellow Republican House members Donald Rumsfeld, Robert Griffin, and Charles Goodell, Ford announces that he will challenge the incumbent, Charles Halleck of Indiana for the post of House Minority Leader.

January 4, 1965—Ford unseats Halleck as House Minority Leader by a vote of 73–67.

1965–1966—In his first term as House Minority Leader, Ford offers Republican alternatives to the Great Society legislation of the Johnson administration. He appears with Senate Minority Leader Everett Dirksen of Illinois in weekly press conferences (known as the ''Ev and Jerry Show'') to offer critiques of Johnson administration policies. He also campaigns on behalf of Republican candidates during the 1966 midterm elections.

November 8, 1966—Ford wins his tenth election as Congressman with 68 percent of the vote. Republicans make strong gains in the mid term elections.

1967–1968—Ford in his second term as House Minority Leader begins attacking Johnson's position on the war in Vietnam asking in an August 8, 1967 speech, ''Why are we pulling our best punches in Vietnam?''

September 17, 1967—Ford's mother, Dorothy Gardner Ford, dies in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

August 5, 1968—Ford presides as Permanent Chairman of the Republican Convention held in Miami Beach, Florida. Following Richard Nixon's nomination, Ford supports New York City Mayor John Lindsay for running mate in conversations with Nixon. Nixon, however, chooses Maryland Governor Spiro Agnew.

November 5, 1968—Nixon is elected President; Ford is elected to his eleventh term as House member.

1969–1970—As House Minority Leader under a Republican President, Ford consistently supports Nixon's polices in the House.

April 15, 1970—In a speech on the House floor, Ford calls for the removal of Justice William O. Douglas' from the Supreme Court for what Ford believes to be inappropriate judicial conduct. The matter is later turned over to the House Judiciary Committee where the issue dies.

November 3, 1970—Ford is elected to his twelfth term.

June 17, 1972—Five burglars break into Democratic National Headquarters at the Watergate Hotel in Washington, D.C.

June 23–July 7, 1972—Building upon President Nixon's trip to the People's Republic of China in February 1972, Ford and Congressman Hale Boggs of Louisiana visit and meet with Premier Chou En-Lai.

August 19–22, 1972—Ford chairs the Republican National Convention in Miami Beach, Florida, where President Nixon and Vice-President Agnew are re-nominated.

November 7, 1972—Ford is elected to his thirteenth and final term as a Congressman from Michigan. Despite Nixon's landslide victory, the Republicans do not gain many House seats. Realizing he may never achieve his goal to become Speaker of the House, Ford contemplates retirement after 1976.

October 10, 1973—Spiro Agnew, under investigation for accepting bribes and income tax evasion, resigns as Vice President of the United States.

October 12, 1973—Ford is nominated to be Vice President by Richard Nixon. He is the first Vice President nominated under the 25th amendment to the Constitution.

November 1, 1973—The Senate begins hearings on Ford's nomination as Vice President.

November 15, 1973—The House Judiciary Committee begins its hearings on Ford's nomination as Vice President.

November 27, 1973—The Senate approves Ford's nomination by a vote of 92–3.

December 6, 1973—The House approves Ford's nomination by a vote of 387–35. Ford takes the oath as the fortieth Vice President of the United States in front of a joint session of Congress.

January–July, 1974—With Nixon embroiled in the growing Watergate scandal, Vice President Ford travels the country speaking on behalf of the administration's policies. Ford remains an advocate and spokesman for the Republican Party, attending fundraisers and campaign events for Republican candidates.

April 30, 1974—Nixon releases edited versions of the Watergate tapes containing White House conversations.

May 9, 1974—The House Judiciary Committee begins impeachment proceedings against President Nixon.

July 24, 1974—The Supreme Court orders Nixon to turn over the unedited versions of the White House tapes.

July 27–30, 1974—The House Judiciary Committee approves three articles of impeachment against Richard Nixon.

August 1, 1974—Nixon's Chief of Staff, Al Haig, advises Ford that he should prepare for a transition to the Presidency.

August 6, 1974—Ford attends a cabinet meeting and tells Nixon that while he will continue to support Nixon's policies, he can longer speak on the issue of Watergate to the media and the public.

August 8, 1974—Nixon announces his decision to resign in a televised address.

August 9, 1974—Ford is sworn in as the 38th President of the United States. In his swearing-in remarks, Ford announces ''Our long, national nightmare is over.''

August 12, 1974—Ford addresses a Joint Session of Congress. He states, ''I do not want a honeymoon with you. I want a good marriage.'' He also states his first priority is to bring inflation under control, declaring it ''public enemy number one.''

August 19, 1974—Ford delivers a major speech to the Veterans of Foreign Wars convention in Chicago, supporting earned clemency for Vietnam War draft evaders.

August 20, 1974—Ford nominates Nelson Rockefeller, former Governor of New York, to be Vice President.

August 28, 1974—Ford holds his first press conference as President. Many of the questions concern unresolved issues surrounding Watergate.

September 8, 1974—Ford pardons Nixon for any crimes he may have committed as President. The surprise announcement stuns the country and Ford plummets in the polls.

September 26–28, 1974—Betty Ford is diagnosed with breast cancer and undergoes surgery.

September 27–28, 1974—The White House convenes a ''summit conference'' on inflation and the economy.

October 8, 1974—Ford announces his Whip Inflation Now program to a joint session of Congress.

October 15, 1974—Ford signs the Federal Election Campaign Act Amendments of 1974, which seek to regulate campaign fundraising and spending.

October 17, 1974—Ford appears before the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Criminal Justice to explain the facts and circumstances that were the basis for his pardon of former President Richard Nixon.

October 17, 1974—Ford vetoes the Freedom of Information Act Amendments believing not enough protection is given to sensitive and classified intelligence documents. Congress overrides Ford's veto on November 21, 1974 making the bill law.

November 1, 1974—Ford meets with an ailing Richard Nixon in a Long Beach, California hospital.

November 5, 1974—Republicans lose 40 seats in the House and 4 in the Senate, widening the Democratic majority in Congress during the mid-term elections.

November 17, 1974—Ford departs for a visit to Japan—the first visit to that country by an American President—and to South Korea and the Soviet Union.

November 23, 1974—Ford and Leonid Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Communist Party of the U.S.S.R., meet in Vladivostok, U.S.S.R.

December 19, 1974—Following Congressional approval, Nelson Rockefeller is sworn in as the forty-first Vice President of the United States.

January 1, 1975—Ford signs the Privacy Act of 1974.

January 4, 1975—Ford names a Blue Ribbon panel, chaired by Vice President Rockefeller, to review CIA activities within the United States in response to allegations made in a December New York Times article by Seymour Hersh.

January 13, 1975—Ford delivers a ''fireside chat'' to the nation, outlining his proposals to fight inflation, the economic recession, and energy dependence.

January 15, 1975—In his first State of the Union Address, Ford announces bluntly that ''the state of the Union is not good: Millions of Americans are out of work. Recession and inflation are eroding the money of millions more. Prices are too high, and sales are too slow.'' To remedy these problems, Ford proposes tax cuts for American families and businesses, and strongly advocates for the reduction of government spending.

February 7, 1975—Ed Levi is sworn in as the new Attorney General of the United States replacing William Saxbe, whom Ford appoints as U.S. ambassador to India.

April 10, 1975—As North Vietnamese Army Divisions approach Saigon; Ford addresses a joint session of Congress to request, unsuccessfully, financial assistance for South Vietnam and Cambodia. During the speech two freshman Democrats, Toby Moffett of Connecticut and George Miller of California walk out in protest.

April 12, 1975—Ford evacuates the U.S. mission in Cambodia as the communist Khmer Rouge advance on the capital Phnom Penh. The Khmer Rouge take over the country on April 17, 1975.

April 23, 1975—In a speech at Tulane University, President Ford declares that the Vietnam War ''is finished as far as America is concerned.''

April 28, 1975—Ford orders the emergency evacuation of American personnel and high-risk South Vietnamese nationals, as Saigon falls to Communist forces.

May 12, 1975—Newly Communist Cambodia seizes the U.S. merchant ship, Mayaguez. Ford orders Marines to rescue the ship's crew.

May 28, 1975—Ford departs on trip to Europe for a NATO summit meeting, to visit Spain and Italy, and to meet in Austria with President Sadat of Egypt.

July 8, 1975—Ford formally announces his candidacy for the Republican presidential nomination in 1976.

July 26, 1975—The President departs on his second trip to Europe—''a mission of peace and progress''—for visits to West Germany and Poland, and finally Helsinki to meet leaders of 34 other nations to sign the final act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. He concludes his trip with visits to Romania and Yugoslavia.

September 1, 1975—Ford announces a joint Egyptian-Israeli agreement on troop disengagement in the Sinai Peninsula. The agreement is the culmination of 34 days of shuttle diplomacy by Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

September 5, 1975—Charles Manson follower, Lynette ''Squeaky'' Fromme attempts to assassinate President Ford in Sacramento, California.

September 22, 1975—Sara Jane Moore, a woman with ties to leftwing radical groups, attempts to assassinate President Ford in San Francisco, California.

October 2–3, 1975—Ford hosts Japanese Emperor Hirohito and Empress Nagako for a state visit. This is the first state visit for an Emperor and Empress of Japan to the United States.

October 29, 1975—Ford urges financial restraint and a financial review for New York City during its budget crisis. Ford refuses to support Federal help for New York at this time. He proposes bankruptcy legislation to ensure the City undergoes an orderly default process. On November 26, 1975, after he believes city leaders have begun to adequately address the crisis, he authorizes Congress to extend the City a line of credit.

November 4, 1975—In what the press dubs the ''Halloween Massacre,'' President Ford orders a reorganization of his cabinet. He names Donald Rumsfeld as Defense Secretary, Elliot Richardson as Commerce Secretary, George Bush as CIA Director, and Richard Cheney as White House Chief of Staff. Henry Kissinger remains Secretary of State; however, he turns over his duties as National Security Advisor to Brent Scowcroft. Under pressure from Republican Party Conservatives, Vice-President Nelson Rockefeller withdraws his name from consideration as Ford's 1976 running mate.

November 15–17, 1975—Ford attends an economic summit at Rambouillet, France with President Valery Giscard d'Estaing of France, Chancellor Helmut Schmidt of West Germany, Prime Minister Aldo Moro of Italy, Prime Minister Takeo Miki of Japan, and Prime Minister Harold Wilson of the United Kingdom.

November 20, 1975—Former California Governor Ronald Reagan announces that he will challenge Gerald Ford for the Republican presidential nomination in 1976.

November 28, 1975—Ford nominates Judge John Paul Stevens of the Seventh Circuit of the Court of Appeals in Chicago to the United States Supreme Court to replace retiring Justice William O. Douglas. The Senate unanimously approves Stevens by a 98–0 vote. He is sworn in on December 19, 1975.

November 29, 1975—Ford departs for visits to People's Republic of China, the Philippines, and Indonesia.

December 19, 1975—Ford opposes to the Tunney Amendments of the Defense Appropriations Bill but the Senate passes them. The amendments prohibit funding for US covert operations in Angola aimed at defeating the Soviet and Cuban backed MPLA factions in the Angolan Civil War.

January 2, 1976—Ford vetoes the Common Situs Picketing Bill.

February 18, 1976—In an effort to reform the U.S. intelligence community, Ford signs Executive Order 11905 to ''establish policies to improve the quality of intelligence needed for national security, to clarify the authority and responsibilities of the intelligence departments and agencies, and to establish effective oversight to assure compliance with law in the management and direction of intelligence agencies and departments of the national government.'' This executive order also prohibits the United States from engaging in political assassination.

February 26, 1976—Ford edges Reagan by 1,250 votes in New Hampshire primary, taking 17 of 21 delegates. This begins a string of primary victories for Ford which include Florida and Illinois before a series of losses from challenger Reagan in North Carolina, Texas, Georgia, Alabama, and Indiana.

March 25, 1976—Ford sends a message to Congress requesting a special appropriation for the National Swine Flu Immunization Program. He signs the measure into law on August 12, 1976.

June 20, 1976—Ford orders the evacuation of the US embassy in Beirut, Lebanon following the assassination of embassy officials on June 16.

July 4, 1976—America's Bicentennial of independence. The year is marked by numerous head of state visits and state gifts to the United States. On July 4, President Ford attends events at Valley Forge, PA; Operation Sail in New York City; and in Philadelphia, PA.

July 7, 1976—President and Mrs. Ford welcome Queen Elizabeth II to the White House for a state dinner as part of the Bicentennial celebration.

August 18, 1976—When North Korean soldiers axe-murder two U.S. soldiers on a tree-pruning mission in the Demilitarized Zone, Ford weighs strong military action but decides on other measures.

August 19, 1976—Ford is nominated at the Republican Convention edging out former California Governor Ronald Reagan. Ford names Senator Robert Dole of Kansas as his running mate. Public opinion polls following the convention have Ford trailing the Democratic nominee Jimmy Carter by wide margins. The Gallup poll favors Carter 56% to 33% and the Harris poll favors Carter 61% to 32%.

September 13, 1976—Ford signs the Government in the Sunshine Act requiring that many government regulatory agencies must give advance notice of meetings and hold open meetings. The new law also amends the Freedom of Information Act ''by narrowing the authority of agencies to withhold information from the public.''

September 15, 1976—Ford kicks off his general election campaign at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

September 23, 1976—First presidential campaign debate between President Ford and Governor Jimmy Carter in Philadelphia. This is the first presidential candidate debate since the Nixon-Kennedy debates in 1960.

October 6, 1976—Second presidential candidate debate, on foreign policy and defense issues, in San Francisco. During the debate Ford comments that, ''there is no Soviet domination of Eastern Europe and there never will be under a Ford administration.'' This misstatement is fodder for the press and public for the next several days.

October 22, 1976—Third and final presidential candidate debate in Williamsburg, Virginia.

November 1–2, 1976—President Ford attends his final campaign rally in Grand Rapids, Michigan at the Pantlind Hotel. He casts his vote on November 2 and attends the unveiling of the Gerald R. Ford mural by artist Paul Collins at the Kent County Airport before returning to Washington.

November 3, 1976—Ford concedes the Presidential election to Jimmy Carter of Georgia. Ford loses the Electoral College 297–240 and receives 39,147,793 votes (48% of the votes cast) to Carter's 40,830,763 (50.1 % of the votes cast).

December 14, 1976—Ford sends a letter to the Archivist of the United States and the President of the University of Michigan offering to deposit his papers in a Presidential Library to be built on the University of Michigan campus.

January 12, 1977—In his final State of the Union Address, Ford tells Congress and the American People, ''I can report that the state of the union is good. There is room for improvement, as always, but today we have a more perfect Union than when my stewardship began.''

January 20, 1977—Carter is sworn in as the 39th President of the United States. In his inaugural address, Carter states, ''For myself and for our Nation, I want to thank my predecessor for all he has done to heal our land.'' Ford retires to Palm Springs, California and Vail, Colorado. During his retirement, Ford serves on various corporate boards, participates in many charitable causes, remains involved in many national and international causes and issues, participates in many Republican Party functions, and is called to service several times by later Presidents.

March 9, 1977—President and Mrs. Ford sign contracts to publish their memoirs.

March 24, 1977—Ford returns to the White House for the first time since he left office and meets with President Carter in the Oval Office. They meet for an hour and a half discussing a range of national and international issues.

June 6, 1979—Ford's memoir, A Time to Heal, is published.

Fall 1979—Ford considers another run for the Presidency in the 1980 election.

March 16, 1980—Ford officially takes himself out of consideration for the Republican Presidential nomination, stating ''. . . America needs a new President. I have determined that I can best help that cause by not being a candidate for President, which might further divide my party.''

July 1, 1980—At the Republican National Convention in Detroit, Michigan, representatives of Ronald Reagan and Gerald Ford attempt to work out the details of having Ford on the ticket as Vice Presidential nominee, but to no avail. However, many newspapers inaccurately report that Ford has been selected for the post.

November 1, 1980—Ford appears on NBC's Meet the Press to discuss the Iranian hostage situation and stump for candidate Reagan.

April 27, 1981—Ford dedicates his Presidential Library in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

September 18, 1981—Ford dedicates his Presidential Museum in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

October 10, 1981—At the request of President Reagan, Ford joins former Presidents Richard Nixon and Jimmy Carter as part of the official American delegation attending the funeral of assassinated Egyptian President Anwar Sadat.

October 3, 1982—The Betty Ford Center is dedicated.

November 10, 1982—Ford hosts a conference on the Presidency and the War Powers Act at the Ford Library in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

December 1983—Ford makes a cameo appearance with Henry Kissinger on the ABC show Dynasty.

November 15, 1984—Ford joins former President Carter for a symposium at the University of Michigan on ''New Weapons Technologies and Soviet-American Relations.''

September 17–19, 1986—Ford hosts the symposium ''Humor and the Presidency'' at the Ford Museum in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

January–February, 1987—To mark the bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution, Ford participates in conferences with former President Carter at both the Carter and Ford Libraries entitled, ''The Presidency and the Constitution.''

October 1, 1987—Ford publishes Humor and the Presidency drawn from the September 1986 conference at the Ford Presidential Museum.

November 18, 1988—Former Presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford meet with President-elect George H.W. Bush to present the recommendations of the American Agenda Group, an organization of experts and former administration officials who studied the most critical issues confronting the United States.

April 6–8, 1989—Ford and many members of his administration participate in a conference at Hofstra University that examines the Ford presidency.

October 8, 1994—The University of Michigan retires President Ford's football jersey number 48 at halftime of the Michigan State game. It is only the fifth football number to be retired by the university.

August 12, 1996—Ford speaks at the Republican National Convention in San Diego, California on behalf of his former running mate and Republican presidential nominee, Robert Dole.

December 22, 1998—Following the House of Representatives' impeachment of former President Clinton, Ford co-authors a New York Times Op-Ed piece with former President Carter. They argue for a bipartisan resolution of censure as an alternative to an impeachment trial.

August 8, 1999—Ford writes an Op-Ed piece in the New York Times defending the University of Michigan's system of admission standards that use affirmative action.

August 11, 1999—Ford is awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Nation's highest civilian award, by President Clinton.

October 27, 1999—Ford receives the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest award bestowed by the Legislative branch.

September 12, 2000—Ford is present as The University of Michigan's School of Public Policy is renamed for him.

May 21, 2001—The John F. Kennedy Foundation presents Ford with the Profiles in Courage Award for putting the Nation's interest above his own political future with the pardon of Richard Nixon.

January 30, 2001—Former Presidents Ford and Carter are honorary Co-Chairmen of the National Commission on Federal Election Reform. The Commission presents its findings to the White House on July 31, 2001.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, first let me thank the chairman of the Armed Services Committee for his wisdom in identifying an appropriate way—one of the many, but very appropriate ways—we can honor President Ford. Jerry Ford is a dear friend to Members of Congress and probably thousands of others. Regardless of party, he was someone who knew how to reach across the aisle. It was a matter of pride for him to reach Democrats as well as Republicans, to pull together in common causes.

We are particularly proud of Jerry Ford in Michigan. He is a proud son of Michigan. He went to the University of Michigan. He represented a district in west Michigan for a long period of time in the Congress. His Presidential library and his Presidential museum are both in Michigan, and they are the objects of a great deal of reverence, not just for the people of Michigan but for people who visit Michigan as well.

He came to be President at a time when we needed a healer, when we needed someone who would unify this Nation in a time of great turmoil.

We were in the middle of the Watergate crisis and the Watergate crimes. It was fortuitus that it would be Jerry Ford who would become President when President Nixon resigned.

Senator WARNER has read from one line of Jerry Ford's remarks on taking the oath of office as President. I thought I would close by reading a few other lines because he captured the sentiment and the feel of our Nation at a very critical moment in our history. Jerry Ford started his remarks on taking his oath in August of 1974 by saying:

> The oath that I have taken is the same oath that was taken by George Washington and by every President under the Constitution. But I assume the Presidency under extraordinary circumstances never before experienced by Americans. This is an hour of history that troubles our minds and hurts our hearts.

He went on to say:

> I have not sought this enormous responsibility, but I will not shirk it. . . . It is only fitting then that I should pledge to [all of the people] that I will be the President of all of the people.

A little later in his remarks, in addressing the people of other nations, he said:

> I pledge an uninterrupted and sincere search for peace. America will remain strong and united, but its strength will remain dedicated to the safety and sanity of the entire family of man, as well as to our own precious freedom.

And then he said:

> I believe that truth is the glue that holds government together, not only our Government but civilization itself. That bond, though strained, is unbroken at home and abroad. In all my public and private acts as your President, I expect to follow my instincts of openness and candor with full confidence that honesty is always the best policy in the end.

And then he added, as Senator WARNER has quoted:

> My fellow Americans, our long, national nightmare is over.

The only other line I would choose to quote from his remarks is the following. It speaks so much of Jerry Ford and what he stood for and the reason he is held in such affection and esteem by all of our people, particularly by the people of Michigan.

> As we bind up the internal wounds of Watergate, more painful and poisonous than those of foreign wars, let us restore the golden rule to our political process, and let brotherly love purge our hearts of suspicion and of hate.

So spoke Jerry Ford, and that is the way he lived his life.

I am delighted that Senator WARNER has taken the lead, as he has, to so identify this new class of nuclear-powered aircraft carrier. I thank him again for his graciousness, his sensitivity, and his wisdom in identifying this specific class of aircraft carriers to be named after a truly great man and wonderful son of Michigan, Jerry Ford.

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I thank my dear friend, Senator LEVIN. I am deeply moved by this occasion, as you can tell. This is my last opportunity as chairman of the committee to present a bill to the Congress, and to have this amendment a part of the bill is very special, and to be joined by the distinguished Senator from Michigan to share in the honors of putting this to the Senate. You and I earlier discussed the traditions of naming ships. I draw on my knowledge as former Secretary of the Navy that it more often originates in the executive branch, for which I have the greatest respect. But somehow I felt it appropriate, since President Ford is a truly remembered part of the legislature of America, the legislative branch, having served so long there, that the naming of this ship have its origin here in the Congress which he so dearly loved. So we have joined together for that purpose.

Mr. LEVIN. And as Vice President, we will also claim him as a Member of the Senate as well.

Mr. WARNER. Oh, yes, once upon a time he occupied that chair, I say, with respect to the Presiding Officer, the President of the Senate, the one and only function and duty enumerated in the Constitution of the Vice President.

Madam President, I invite any other Senators who so wish to be added as cosponsors. I have asked unanimous consent that their names be added as they indicate to the Chair, the Presiding Officer, their desire and that be kept open until the hour of, say, 5 o'clock tonight.

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

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I think we are concluded on the amendments. We are proceeding in an orderly fashion. The amendment pending is that of the Senator from Illinois, Mr. DURBIN; am I correct, or has that been put forward yet?

Mr. LEVIN. I wonder if we could inquire of the Chair whether the Durbin amendment has been offered. I don't believe it has yet. We agreed yesterday it would be next in line; however, there is an effort being made to work out the Durbin amendment, and I suggest Senator DORGAN be recognized.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Durbin amendment has not been entered.

Mr. LEVIN. We asked Senator DORGAN to come over and take over that spot.

Mr. WARNER. We ask that following that, we try to alternate amendments. The next amendment would come from our side, and I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from Pennsylvania be recognized for purposes of offering an amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEVIN. If the Senator will yield, I wonder if we could keep Senator DURBIN in line after Senator SANTORUM, subject to the work being completed on his amendment?

Mr. WARNER. Sure, the amendment would come next.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. DORGAN. Let me thank Senators WARNER and LEVIN for their leadership on this legislation. This is a very difficult task, to put together the authorization for military expenditures and military operations.

I want to especially say I just walked in while they were talking about naming an aircraft carrier after former President Gerald Ford. That is a wonderful thing to have done. Gerald Ford gave great service to his country in the Congress, as Vice President, and as President of our country. I join them in acknowledging the significant achievements of President Ford and what he accomplished not only for himself but for this country as well. It is a great way to honor him, by naming an aircraft carrier for him.

Mr. WARNER. I thank the Senator.

AMENDMENT NO. 4230

Mr. DORGAN. Madam President, I send an amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration. This amendment is sent to the desk on behalf of myself and Senators BINGAMAN, BOXER, DAYTON, FEINGOLD, JOHNSON, KERRY, KOHL, LAUTENBERG, LEAHY, MIKULSKI, NELSON of Florida, PRYOR, REID of Nevada, HARKIN, and WYDEN. I ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from North Dakota [Mr. DORGAN] for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KOHL, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. REID, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. WYDEN, proposes an amendment numbered 4230.

Mr. DORGAN. 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 printed in today's RECORD under ''Text of Amendments.'')

Mr. WARNER. Would the Senator allow me a brief unanimous consent request? The distinguished Senator from Michigan and I wish to alert the Senate that following Mr. DORGAN's amendment comes the amendment of Mr. SANTORUM and then Mr. DURBIN. So the order of amendments is Dorgan, Santorum, then we come back to Senator DURBIN, and then I ask unanimous consent that Senator MCCAIN be recognized for the purpose of offering an amendment.

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

Mr. WARNER. I advise the Senate we are, as we say in the Navy, well underway on this bill. The Senator from Michigan and I are anxious to learn from Senators their desire to have amendments. We will do the best we can to accommodate them because it appears now we will be able to remain in session somewhat longer this evening than originally anticipated due to the cancellation, I understand, of the White House picnic. I will consult with the leadership. It is my hope we can work on into the early evening.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. DORGAN. This amendment is a rather comprehensive amendment. I offer it on behalf of a good many of our colleagues.

I wish to describe why I offer this amendment. As I do that, I wish to acknowledge the outstanding work done by my colleagues, Senator WARNER and Senator LEVIN, in dealing with all of these issues. There is an area, however—given what has happened with respect to wartime expenditures in the military and also contracting outside of the military in the issue of reconstruction spending in the country of Iraq—there is an issue which I believe is of great seriousness. I think we have had some of the most significant waste, fraud, and abuse in the history of this country just in recent years, with a massive amount of money that is pushed out of this Congress, pushed out of the administration into the hands of contractors, into the hands of subcontractors, and then subcontractors, and subcontractors from them in the country of Iraq. There is a massive amount of waste, fraud, and abuse. The fact is, we are not dealing with it the way we should.

I want to show a picture. This picture shows a fellow standing here whom I have actually met. This is a picture that was taken in the country of Iraq. These are one-hundred-dollar bills, wrapped in Saran wrap. This is $2 million. These one-hundred-dollar bills were wrapped in Saran wrap to be the size of a small football. This fellow, by the way, said they actually threw some of these around as a football there in this office.

What they were doing here as they took this picture, they were preparing to pay a contractor in Iraq named Custer Battles, named after two men, Mr. Custer and Mr. Battles. Why were they paying in cash? Because, according to this fellow, the word was: You bring a bag, we pay in cash. He said it was like the Wild West. So here is a couple of million dollars. This was going to go to Custer Battles. Let me just tell the story of Custer Battles. I will abbreviate it, but the story is these two guys show up in Iraq. They don't have a great deal of experience, have very little money, but they decide they are going to be a company now. They are going to be a company in Iraq, and they are going to provide security. They start bidding on security contracts. All of a sudden, they are given

a contract to provide security at the Baghdad airport. The money starts rolling in. It turns out, before this is all over with, from what I have learned, Custer Battles Company got more than $100 million in contract money for various things. This is just a part of the payment—in cash.

They have been charged with criminal behavior and fraud and other things. The allegations were that they took the forklift trucks off the Baghdad airport, put them in a warehouse, repainted them blue, and then sold them back to the Coalition Provisional Authority which was then running Iraq, which, of course, was us because the CPA was created by a document signed by the Secretary of Defense. So this company allegedly took the forklift trucks that existed at the Baghdad airport, for which they were providing security, put them in a warehouse someplace, repainted them, and then sold them back to the CPA. They also then created offshore subsidiaries in Lebanon and elsewhere to run money through and beyond.

We had a hearing on this subject. Here is what the director of security at the Baghdad airports said in a memo to the Coalition Provisional Authority that hired Custer Battles:

> Custer Battles have shown themselves to be unresponsive, uncooperative, incompetent, deceitful, manipulative and war profiteers. Other than that, they are swell fellows.

That is a direct quote, yes. Let me read it again.

> Custer Battles have shown themselves to be unresponsive, uncooperative, incompetent, deceitful, manipulative and war profiteers. Other than that, they are swell fellows.

Why do I raise this issue? It has been on ''60 Minutes.'' We have had a hearing about it. It is an example of what has been happening in contracting, particularly in Iraq.

Let me just say that the minute you talk about contracting in Iraq, you have to talk about Halliburton. The minute you talk about Halliburton, there will be those who will say: Aha, you are trying to talk about Vice President CHENEY, aren't you? No, not true. Vice President CHENEY is long gone from Halliburton. This is all about Halliburton in Iraq. It has nothing to do with Vice President CHENEY.

I want to go through some stories because they are very important.

There is a woman who was the top civilian contracting official at the Corps of Engineers over at the Pentagon. Her name is Bunnatine Greenhouse. Some have written about Bunnatine. She received a top evaluation over two decades from her superiors as one of the top procurement people in this country. She knew the law. She knew the procedure. She had worked over two decades and had always received top recommendations from her superiors. She was tough as nails and dedicated to safeguarding the taxpayers' money.

Then the Pentagon decided to award a very large no-bid, sole-source contract to a Halliburton subsidiary, Kellogg, Brown & Root, something called ''Restore Iraqi Oil,'' or the RIO contract, which a number of my colleagues are familiar with.

Mrs. Greenhouse protested that the way this was done was in violation of proper contracting procedures. She later found that Halliburton was found by auditors to have overcharged $61 million on a piece of the contract for fuel delivery, and instead of taking the company to task for Defense Department auditors finding $61 million in overcharges, the top leadership of the Corps of Engineers rushed to Halliburton's assistance and provided the company with a waiver for the overcharges, a waiver of normal cost reporting rules, concluding that the prices were fair and reasonable. That waiver was provided without the approval of the top contracting official who was required to have signed it.

They kept the top contracting official, Mrs. Greenhouse, in the dark, and did so deliberately. She learned about the waiver when she read about it in the newspaper. When she spoke up, she was bypassed, ignored, and then ultimately forced to resign or be demoted.

This is what she told us. This relates to meetings that were held in the Pentagon prior to bidding. Halliburton was present in the meeting. She complained about the meetings being in violation by the way of the rules. Here is what Bunny Greenhouse said:

> I can unequivocally state that the abuse relating to contracts awarded to KBR represents the most blatant and improper contract abuse I have witnessed during the course of my professional career.

This from the top civilian contracting official in the Corps of Engineers.

Does anybody care about this?

This woman, by all accounts, was judged to be at the top of her profession, with outstanding reviews always, until she blew the whistle on what she believed were abuses in contracting. When she blew the whistle, then things started to change very, very quickly.

She was demoted for having the courage to tell the truth. When she spoke out, they decided that they would replace Mrs. Greenhouse with a different Pentagon official. That different Pentagon official is now in this job. That person has over 40 years of Government service, but has none of that service related to procurement. So that person was selected to take this job knowing nothing about the job. They now have that person in training, going to school and training.

We have had plenty of examples of cronies. I believe seven of the top jobs in FEMA were filled not with people who knew anything about disasters but with cronies, people who needed a job. Stick them at FEMA. And then a hurricane hits and we have an agency that does not know what it is doing because you have a bunch of cronies involved in that agency.

Now we have a woman who was the top procurement official who blew the whistle on improper contracting, on both the Pentagon and also the company, and for that she was demoted and replaced by someone who is not certified as an acquisition professional and doesn't have the ability. She is now, according to General Strock, ''being brought up to speed on what it is she needs to know as a contracting official.''

That is absurd.

Let me describe some of the firsthand eyewitness issues in Iraq.

Brand new $85,000 trucks that were left on the side of the road because of a flat tire and then subsequently burned; 25 tons, 50,000 pounds, of nails ordered by Kellogg, Brown & Root, the wrong size, that are laying in the sands of Iraq; ordering hand towels for soldiers embroidered with the ''KBR'' logo, so they could double the price of the hand towels paid for by the American taxpayers; 42,000 meals a day charged to the taxpayers by Halliburton, by KBR, 42,000 meals a day being served to the troops each day paid for by taxpayers for the soldiers and only 14,000 are actually served; leasing an SUV in Iraq for $7,500 a month; serving food at a cafeteria in Iraq for the soldiers, and a man named Roy who was the supervisor in the food service kitchen said that the food was date-stamped ''expired.'' In other words, it had a date stamp, which meant the food wasn't good anymore, and he was told by superiors that it doesn't matter. Feed it to the troops. It doesn't matter that they had an expired date stamped—feed it to the troops.

What we have discovered is pretty unbelievable. I will not go on at great length because I have done it before about the water contracts. We have direct testimony from physicians, Army doctors, and others about providing nonpotable water for shaving, brushing teeth, and so on that is in worse condition as water than the raw water coming out of the Euphrates River.

What was going on with respect to this contracting is unbelievable. I have just mentioned a couple of companies. There are more. I will not go on at great length.

I think when you are at war, when a massive quantity of money is being pushed out the door, that we ought to decide to get tough on those who would be engaged in war profiteering. The amendment I have offered has a number of provisions in it.

First, it punishes war profiteers with significant punishment. It is a piece of legislation that has been introduced separately here in U.S. Senate. That legislation was previously introduced by Senator LEAHY, but it is now made a piece of this larger piece of legislation.

We have a provision that would crack down on contract cheaters by restoring a rule that this administration rescinded, which the previous administration put in place as a rule, that says that if a contracting company exhibits

a pattern of failing to comply with the law, they can be debarred and suspended. That ought to be the rule. If you have a pattern of cheating you ought to be suspended.

I have seen circumstances where we have had major defense contractors over in criminal court being judged guilty on the same day that they were over in the Pentagon signing a new contract. It is a slap on the wrist, a pat on the back. That isn't the way we ought to be dealing with this.

Punishing war profiteers, cracking down on contract cheaters, forcing real contract competition—it gets back to what Mrs. Greenhouse indicated. You can't do these no-bid, sole-source contracts for billions of dollars and decide it does not matter to the taxpayer. Of course, it matters. They are going to end up paying through the nose—and that is exactly what has happened.

There is another provision that would end cronyism in key positions. I know it doesn't deal just with defense with respect to that, but we ought to be expecting that people have some qualifications when they come to their job. The top procurement official at the Corps of Engineers has to be sent to training because she doesn't have the background. Why do they have the opening? Because they demoted the person that had the background, was given excellent recommendations in every performance evaluation, but was demoted because she had the courage to stand up and call the old boys network wrong when they tried to violate contracting rules.

The amendment also strengthens whistleblower protection. I think it is really important that we strengthen protections for those who have the courage to stand up as whistleblowers and are willing to tell us what is happening when waste, fraud, and abuse occurs. I think we need to know about it and take action.

I have offered previously—and will again—legislation that would establish a Truman committee here in the U.S. Senate. The Truman committee was established in the 1940s when the Senator from Missouri went around this country to military bases and discovered substantial waste and fraud.

We should do that again. I believe we ought to have a Truman committee. I have offered it I think three times on the floor. I will offer it again.

But this amendment is different. This amendment is called Honest Leadership and Accountability in Contracting. It is a separate bill by over 30 my colleagues here in Senate, and I offer it in total as an amendment to the underlying Defense authorization bill.

My hope is we can have a discussion about this. I have simply scratched the surface about waste, fraud, and abuse that we have uncovered. It is pretty unbelievable. The American taxpayer shouldn't stand for it, and neither should the U.S. Congress, and we ought to take action right now on this piece of legislation. There is no better time than right now to decide we are going to do something about this on behalf of the taxpayers of this country.

I yield the floor.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, the ranking member, together with our leadership, had hoped to have a vote. That will not occur at this time. We are contemplating having that vote, which would be on the Dorgan amendment, at 3:45 today. At this time, I cannot speak to the finality of that. The leadership is considering that issue. In the meantime, I will address the Dorgan amendment.

The committee has been active in exercising oversight on the Department of Defense contracting, particularly in Iraq, and held a hearing earlier this year focused specifically on recent findings of the Special Inspector General for Iraqi Reconstruction. In addition, the committee held several acquisition reform and general contract oversight hearings this year.

I was particularly taken by some of the remarks of the distinguished Senator from North Dakota, Mr. DORGAN. We do not take lightly the message that he spoke to today. The Special Inspector General for Iraqi Reconstruction was established by Congress in October 2004 to provide oversight of the Iraqi relief and reconstruction fund and all obligations, expenditures, and revenues associated with reconstruction and rehabilitation activities in Iraq.

The SIGIR oversight is accomplished via independent audit, field inspections, and criminal investigations into potential fraud, waste, and abuse funds. The SIGIR submits quarterly and semiannual reports to Congress, the latest of which contains 29 audits of specific projects and activities. The SIGIR operates a hotline for reports of possible waste, fraud, and abuse and has uncovered criminal activity that has been referred for prosecution.

There are three separate GAO reviews ongoing specifically to review contracting practices in Iraq—DOD's efforts to identify and resolve cost issues on Iraqi reconstruction contracts, Iraq reconstruction contracts, and agency competition requirements for Iraq reconstruction contracts since fiscal year 2004.

The proposed amendment covers a range of policies introduced under the jurisdiction of multiple committees, including Homeland Security, Governmental Affairs, Judiciary, and Armed Services. Careful consideration and deliberation is required on a number of proposed provisions in the amendment. For example, one provision in the amendment addresses the issue of the role of contractors in performing inherently governmental functions. Definitions of ''inherently governmental functions'' and the role of contractors in supporting the Federal workforce in a variety of duties is an important issue, the resolution of which would have wide-ranging consequences and impacts. It deserves investigation and debate, not a few pages with a larger amendment attached to a major bill.

Another provision addresses broad workforce policy issues. The amendment contains a number of other problematic provisions with undefined terms of statutory requirements and disclosure requirements with questionable benefits. I know the committees of jurisdiction, including Judiciary and Governmental Affairs, will also want to review the details and impact of the proposed legislation and to relate it to the current statute and regulations. The Armed Services Committee conducted oversight on the larger policy issues related to emergency or contingency contracting and held a previous hearing in May 2004 specifically on contract management in Iraq.

The committee has also held a number of Iraqi related hearings and briefings where Iraqi contracting issues have been discussed.

Frequent bipartisan staff briefings on Iraqi contracting have been conducted with DOD, GAO, DOD IG and SIGIR officials. Issues identified in the May 2004 hearing and in these briefings related to security contractors in Iraq and insurance costs have been the subject of legislation in the last two authorization bills. This year's authorization bill builds on these reforms with legislation specific to effective and accountable management of large programs and projects in hostile environments.

Problems identified such as improper billing, overcharges, and fraud against the government are addressed through existing mechanisms to identify these acts and punish those who defraud the government. For example the False Claims Act provides for criminal and civil sanctions. It is important we adhere to due process protections for debarments and suspension of contractors.

Department of Defense 7640.2—Contract Audit Followup system—implements OMB Circular A–50—requires tracking of all audit reports with significant audit findings and is monitored by the DOD Inspector General, and includes semi-annual reports to Congress. Virtually all Defense Contract Audit Agency audits are subject to this followup tracking system.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. THUNE). The Senator from Pennsylvania is recognized.

AMENDMENT NO. 4234

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the pending amendment is set aside.

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Pennsylvania [Mr. SANTORUM] proposes an amendment numbered 4234.

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under ''Text of Amendments.'')

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, this is an amendment that I spoke about yesterday and which I wanted to bring to the floor. I think it is a very important one. It is an amendment that is embodied in the bill I introduced last year dealing with Iran. It now has 61 cosponsors.

We have had lots of debates on the floor of this Senate. We have not had a debate on what I believe is the greatest foreign policy threat to this country at this time; that is, Iran, what our policies should be toward Iran, and what we as a Congress and the Senate should do with respect to supporting the President's policy or modifying the President's policy with respect to Iran.

This legislation which I have introduced as an amendment brings together a couple of pieces of legislation into this one amendment. Before I describe what the amendment is about, let me describe what I believe is the problem that faces us and then lay out a prescription of what Congress can do in the interim to support the process of a diplomatic or peaceful solution to the problem that I am about to describe.

It is not a surprise to anyone reading the papers that Iran is in pursuit of a nuclear weapon. They are fairly clear about their desire to gain more nuclear technology. They have been very clear about their desire to enhance their ability to reprocess uranium. It is also clear to observers that they are doing so with the intent of developing nuclear weapons.

As a result of that, the United States has been engaged in discussions, both with multinational organizations, as well as with some of our allies who are similarly concerned about this attempt by Iran to develop this type of capability, to get them to cease to do so. We have had attempts by the Russians to get them to rely on them for this technology. We have now seen recent efforts by the United States and a group of countries to approach Iran in multilateral talks about the possibility of getting a different type of nuclear reactor there that does not lead to the potential for development of nuclear weapons. We have seen a whole host of attempts on the part of the world to keep nuclear weapons out of the hands of this regime.

The question is, Why? What is the great concern about Iran? Why do we have more concerns about them than, say, other countries in the Middle East and in southeast Asia which have, in fact, developed nuclear weapons?

The answer to me is obvious, but it is important we lay that out as to what the great threat to this world is if Iran has the nuclear capability they seek to develop.

We are fighting a war right now and everyone focuses on the war in Iraq. Certainly that is important and that is the major field of battle right now, but the war in Iraq is part of a broader war. The President described it as a war on terror. I prefer to describe it as a war on Islamic fascism, Islamic extremism. The President has referred to it as Islamic totalitarianism. It is a movement within Islam, within the Middle East, within southeast Asia, but it actually goes beyond the Middle East and southeast Asia that believes in, eventually, the domination of the entire world, the Islamization of the entire world under this rather radical ideology, this fascist ideology.

This is not one particular group or one particular faction that is in charge. This is not one group—al-Qaida or Islamic jihad or the nation State of Iran—but it is a mosaic of different organizations, some of which are not necessarily allied with each other but coordinated with each other.

We saw that the other day when Abu Mus'ab al-Zarqawi was killed. We saw Hamas come forward and call this al-Qaida leader a brother in the struggle. These are not organizations, at least from all of our intelligence, that are closely tied, but they have a common theme. Even though they have different views of Islam, they have a general idea of a war, a jihad, against the West and against the infidels, if you will.

So we have this mosaic of different organizations, different Islamic fascist organizations. They are commonly called within the media terrorist organizations. Terrorism is just the tactic they use. What ties them together is not just their terrorism but their ideology. Although there are different strains and different ideas, they are tied together in a common theme at a common enemy, more importantly.

The largest piece of this mosaic, the dominant piece of this mosaic—and it is the dominant piece because it happens to be the biggest piece with the biggest wallet, the most resources—is Iran. The mosaic is a big mosaic, but the major piece which tends to touch all of the other pieces in one way or another is Iran. Iran not only supports these organizations—some of them very directly, others very indirectly—but it is itself a threat to the world.

How do we understand what this threat is to America? We only need to look at the new leader of the country: Ahmadinejad is the new President. To Americans, the President is the leader of the country. In Iran, the President is an important position but traditionally has not been the most important position within the country of Iran. However, it seems to be that Ahmadinejad has taken that position to a new level because of his support from the ruling clerics within the country. As we know, this is a country ruled by these clerics, these mullahs. And the lead mullah is a spiritual adviser to Ahmadinejad, a supporter of his. He has been very forthright about what his design is. He has been very forthright. He has stated publicly that he would like to wipe out Israel off the face of the Earth. This is a leader of a country that is trying to develop nuclear weapons, that has the resources and the capability if not stopped to do so, that has been very clear about its desire to use these weapons to eliminate the State of Israel.

He has also made a lot of other comments that would lead one to believe he does not want to stop there with respect to his designs on the war against the ''infidels.''

So we have in the person of this President a character that has the resources, is developing the technology, has the desire, and wants to use this capability if it was developed, and has said so publicly, repeatedly. That is a pretty serious threat. In fact, I can think of no other threat that is more serious than that. This man and this country is actively pursuing the development of these weapons. I don't know of anyone in the world who does not believe that is what Iran is doing.

The Senate has, so far, not taken any action to try to deter that development, to try to change the political dynamic within Iran. Obviously, we have not taken any action to pursue any military force to stop them from doing so.

These are our three options, the way I see it: to get some sort of political dynamic going on within the country to change the regime; to impose sanctions or to get collaboration with other governments to stop them from developing these weapons; or, third, a military option.

I don't think we are prepared at this point to offer a military option, but with this amendment I am offering the other two. I am offering an amendment that will both support and codify Executive Order sanctions already in place against Iran; impose additional sanctions, not on Iran but on other entities that are doing business with Iran; and then try to impose a prohibition on importing into this country nuclear fuel assemblies made outside of this country if they do business with Iran.

Companies have to make a choice whether they want to do business with Iran or whether they want to do business with the United States. That is the sanctions part of it. So we need to enact these provisions because a lot of what is in place right now is done through Executive Orders. Part of the amendment directs the President to cut off foreign assistance to the host country of a company investing more than $20 million in Iran's energy sector; allow the President to waive that under certain circumstances—and, by the way, that is a prospective investment. It is very important we send a signal to companies and countries that if they are going to continue to support this development within Iran, there are consequences to the country and to the company for continuing to do that.

There are a variety of different sanctions we place in this legislation. By the way, the sanctions portion of this legislation has already passed the House of Representatives. It passed by a vote of over 300 votes in the House—well over 300 votes in the House. So the

House has already spoken on this issue, has already said we want to codify the sanctions that are in place. We want to impose new sanctions on companies and countries that do business with Iran, particularly in their energy sector, and we want to make companies choose between doing business in the United States with respect to the nuclear program versus Iran and the nuclear program.

Mr. WARNER. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. SANTORUM. I am happy to yield.

Mr. WARNER. Could the Senator state the time when the House cast that vote?

Mr. SANTORUM. April of this year.

Mr. WARNER. It seems to me that vote preceded some remarkable developments which have taken place in the international forum within our country. With the great leadership of the Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice, we have taken some strong initiatives to try and resolve primarily the issue of the desire to proceed with the weapons of mass destruction effort, but there are a lot of collateral ramifications to these important talks.

The House vote is of record, but we should let our colleagues know that vote took place way before what I regard as rather dramatic developments with respect to the international consortium of nations—Great Britain, France, United States, and now recently both Russia and China participating in some way.

Does the Senator think the amendment is wise in light of what is taking place now?

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I would say that the developments have been—I would not call them dramatic. I would say they are modest in this respect: they are modest in the sense that the United States, for the first time, has decided to join with other countries in making an offer to Iran. The wisdom of that can be debated.

What would be dramatic is if Iran would seriously consider doing what is being suggested, and I don't see any indication they are willing to do so nor do I anticipate their willingness to do so.

My concern is—and the President has been very clear about this—that Iran is already jockeying around, seeming to extend the time for consideration and drawing this out, certainly, to their advantage. If you are developing a program, and you are actively pursuing developing a capability, the longer you can stall any action by your adversaries to stop you from doing so, buying that time is of great value to Iran.

What we are seeing with this development already, Iranians are trying to buy time.

The President has said, and I am not sure the other countries have been quite as firm as the United States has—that they have weeks, not months, to make this decision.

However, I have seen no indication that the Iranians are anywhere near accepting this proposal. I will make the argument that this is actually a very good time for the Senate to speak and say we see this as a very serious issue, that we need to at this point speak into this very critical juncture.

I would say it is more important now that we have this vote, or more important now that we pass this, to show the Iranians that both Chambers support this President in his desire, our country's desire, a bipartisan desire, to see that Iran does not develop this capability. The Senate going on record, codifying sanctions, increasing sanctions and, the point I did not get a chance to discuss but I will momentarily, funding prodemocracy, authorizing funding for prodemocracy groups, and for more communication, public diplomacy within the country of Iran to communicate to the dissidents within Iran and encourage the dissidents within Iran is exactly the kind of message we want to send if we want to force the Iranians' hand to actually come to the table.

I think pulling this back, in my mind, would be seen by the Iranians as a sign that the U.S. Senate does not support this President, does not support getting tough. Because the President has been very clear: If the Iranians do not come to the table here, they are going to seek resolutions at the U.N. to begin the process toward a different way of resolving this dispute—maybe that is the best way to put it—in a way that could be a lot more confrontational.

So I think the Senate speaking at this moment is actually critical for us to force the Iranians' hands. I am not particularly hopeful, by the way, that the Iranians will come to the table or will agree to any of the provisions that the groups have laid out. I understand why the President has done so. I do not believe they have any desire to comply.

I think it is important for us not to blink. I think this is a moment for us to deal with this issue, to debate it here, and to vote on it or to approve this amendment to send a very clear message to the Iranian Government that we stand four square behind this President and this administration in doing what we can here at this point in time both from the standpoint of sanctions as well as supporting a change of regime from within Iran.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I thank my colleague.

Yesterday, the Senate had an opportunity to visit with the Secretaries of State and Defense. I believe my distinguished colleague from Pennsylvania was there, as was I. And while those discussions are private in nature, I just simply say that with those discussions, combined with other discussions and communications I have had with the Department of State, I am somewhat more encouraged about the prospects of the negotiations now taking place than perhaps my colleague from Pennsylvania.

My main concern is, given the fragility of the situation with regard to these negotiations, the almost overriding importance of the question of the weapons-of-mass-destruction issue, and the need to have Iran publicly begin to cooperate with the IAEA and other organizations to prevent the proliferation of that type of weapon—I just wonder, had the Senator thought about maybe an effective date of this amendment to give some reasonable period of time for these negotiations to take place as to the effective date of the amendment?

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, what I would certainly say to the chairman is, this is the Defense authorization bill. We will probably be here the remainder of this week and maybe going into next week finishing this bill. Usually, the Defense authorization bill takes months to be able to discern the differences between the two bodies, of which this amendment, pending in this legislation, will be part of that discussion.

So I do not anticipate there will be any final resolution to this particular amendment that I am offering until several months. If the President is serious about what the President has said, that they do not have months but weeks, I do not anticipate that anything we do here today will have any impact on the deadline or any of these negotiations.

I think what they will do is signal to the Iranians that not only is the House serious about this, but even now that they are engaged potentially in a negotiated settlement, that the Senate is serious about pursuing this if, in fact, the Iranians do not come forward with an agreement.

If there is an agreement, we may want to take another look at this. But I do not think any harm is done by passing this legislation and putting us in the conference so if, in fact, things do not go well or if, in fact, we believe—whatever the result is of these negotiations—that it is important for us to go on record on some of these or all of these things, that we are in a position to produce a bill relatively quickly and send that message.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I certainly respect the views of my colleague who once served on the Armed Services Committee. I regret that the Senator felt there were other areas where he could serve his country other than in our committee. But we still consider him a member of the committee.

The Senator is quite accurate that it is likely that this bill will be before this body into next week. I am hoping to conclude next week. Then, of course, there will be a period of time thereafter in which we will have a deliberation between the two bodies in the conference.

But I would like to have some additional time today for purposes of consultation. I assure the Senator, he has a right to move forward, as he has sought to do at this time. I say to the Senator, if you can indulge the chairman in trying to schedule such action

as may take place on this amendment at some point today, a little later than now, I would be appreciative of that.

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I have tremendous respect for my former chairman. I say to the Senator, I served 8 absolutely remarkable and wonderful years on your committee, and got to serve under Senator Thurmond and then your great leadership. I certainly will do everything I can to work with you to make sure we can come to some agreement as to how we can dispose of this amendment, whether it is a vote or whether it is accepted or whatever the case may be. I am certainly not going to push for a vote today if that is not what you desire. But, obviously, this is a very important issue.

I remind the chairman there are 61 cosponsors on a similar piece of legislation, and it has very broad support here in this body from both sides of the aisle. It passed, as I said, with well over 300 votes in the House. And this issue is quite timely. So I would be happy to suspend any request for votes until we can negotiate how we would dispose of this amendment.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I thank my colleague. He is recognized as one of the leaders of our party, and he is very cooperative with regard to all legislative matters.

My understanding is the Dorgan amendment is the pending amendment; is that correct?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Santorum amendment is now pending.

Mr. WARNER. I see. And we did not move on the Dorgan amendment as of yet.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Dorgan amendment was set aside.

Mr. WARNER. Set aside. At the appropriate time, will the distinguished Senator from Pennsylvania, when he completes his remarks, move to have this amendment set aside for the time being?

Mr. SANTORUM. I would be happy to do so after we have had discussions about how we can dispose of this amendment, absolutely.

Mr. WARNER. I thank the Chair.

Mr. President, I see our colleague from Maine, a member of the committee, and in due course I expect, after the completion of the Senator's remarks, the Senator from Maine can be recognized.

Mr. SANTORUM. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. President, if I can just finish the explanation of the legislation, I talked about the sanctions portions of this legislation. The final component of the legislation deals with what we call the pro-democracy side. This is very interesting. I introduced this legislation last year. Actually, I introduced it 3 years ago. It provided, at the time we introduced it 3 years ago, $10 million for the pro-democracy component of this.

I felt very strongly this was really the key to this legislation. In fact, just meeting a few weeks ago with a student dissident who had recently escaped from Iran, I am even more convinced there is a strong anti-regime movement within Iran. There is a very strong pro-American component of the Iranian population that understands the tremendous effort that our country has put forward in Iraq and Afghanistan, and, like most people around the world, seek self-determination and freedom. It is very important for us to communicate that in unequivocal terms.

One of the concerns I have with the diplomatic efforts being taken right now is that we are potentially muddying the waters somewhat with respect to our opinion of the regime in Iran. I want to make it very, very clear that personally that regime is the greatest threat to this country and must be removed. That is how I feel. Now, that is not in this legislation. But that is, to me, one of the highest national security priorities of this country.

I think the best way to do that under the current circumstances is to support pro-democracy groups, to support groups that would like to see changes within Iran and peaceful changes.

The one gentleman I met with just recently, a couple weeks ago, was very clear about the intention of at least the student movement within Iran to be a peaceful movement, similar to what happened in the old Soviet Union. They believe they can, in fact, rally support. But they need support. They need resources. They need to communicate. One of the things this legislation does is provide not $10 million but $100 million for that purpose. The reason I talk about the difference is that in the interim the President, thankfully, took some of the provisions of the Iran Freedom Support Act, which is the bulk of this amendment that I am proposing today, and proposed that in the emergency supplemental that he sent up and that we will be voting on, in all likelihood, tomorrow. So that money is being appropriated, in this case, before it is being authorized. But this is the authorization, and sets an authorization level of $100 million, which is what the President's request was.

Excuse me, the President's request was $75 million. We make it $100 million.

So we think this is important to send another strong signal that we support efforts for peaceful change within Iran, that we support those who on the evening of 9/11 stood in the city of Tehran in candlelight vigils in support of Americans. We support the Iranian people who would like to see the oppression end in that country that they have suffered under now for over 25 years. So this is a vitally important component of this authorization, and it is a very important signal to the people of Iran.

When I met with that student leader a few weeks ago, he told me how evil this regime was on a personal level, not only with his imprisonment for leading student protests, but also with the current group of students who are, in the eyes of the regime, a great threat to the future of that regime. He talked about how his sister, who is a student at one of the universities in Iran, recently had to sign a document as a condition of attending the university. The document was a commitment to be a suicide bomber.

So now every student in colleges within Iran has to sign a document pledging their commitment to be a suicide bomber. In fact, shortly after those documents were signed in every university in Iran, they conducted training courses for the students on how to strap on and detonate a suicide bomb.

This is the enemy we are confronting. This is why I think it is important for us to step forward now and have this debate, to step forward now and pass this legislation, to send a signal now, while they are deciding whether to engage the United States and the free world in the pursuit of peaceful nuclear energy as opposed to nuclear warheads. It is important for the Senate to act. This is our moment in history. This is the great threat that faces us. This is the war we are currently engaged in, and this is the principal player on that stage today. We must act.

I thank the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine is recognized.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, is the floor open to debate on the underlying bill, or would the Presiding Officer advise me as to the pending business?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator may debate the underlying bill.

Ms. COLLINS. I thank the Chair.

I rise in strong support of the fiscal year 2007 National Defense Authorization Act. This legislation provides essential resources to our troops, whether they are engaged in combat in Iraq and Afghanistan, in training and service at home, or in deployments in other countries around the world. I thank my colleagues, the distinguished chairman and ranking member of the Armed Services Committee, Senators WARNER and LEVIN, for putting together an excellent bill and also for their strong commitment to our Nation's Armed Forces.

Through the leadership of Chairman WARNER and Senator TALENT, the Seapower Subcommittee chairman, the legislation before us strengthens our Nation's shipbuilding program by authorizing construction of eight new ships and by providing $12.1 billion in shipbuilding moneys, an increase of $1.5 billion above the President's request. This legislation wisely focuses on the declining size of the Navy fleet and takes significant strides toward strengthening the shipbuilding program. It also provides some much needed stability for the industrial base that will be called upon to build and sustain the current force and the future fleet.

The Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Mullen, has put forward a 313-ship long-range Navy shipbuilding plan that is a genuine effort to address longstanding congressional concerns that Navy shipbuilding has been inadequately funded and has lacked stability from year to year. Past instability has made it difficult for shipbuilders to plan their businesses. That degree of instability, coupled with less-than-economic production rates, has contributed to significant cost growth in naval shipbuilding programs. The CNO's plan, combined with more robust funding from Congress, will begin to reverse the dangerous decline in Navy shipbuilding.

I am pleased that this bill provides full funding for the DD(X) destroyer program, including split funding of the first two ships' detailed design and construction. The DD(X) is so important to our future national security. This ship will have high-tech capabilities that currently do not exist on the Navy's surface combatants. These capabilities include far greater offensive and precision firepower, advanced stealth technologies, numerous engineering and technological innovations that will allow for reduced crew size and thus help to reduce the lifecycle cost of the ship and sophisticated, advanced weapons systems such as the electromagnetic rail gun.

Constructing the first two DD(X)s in 2007 and 2008 will contribute to the sustainment of our Nation's highly skilled shipbuilding workforces, including the employees at Bath Iron Works in my home State of Maine. I am very proud of these highly skilled workers and their contributions to our Nation's defense. Split funding between the first two DD(X) ships is a key component of the CNO's 313-ship plan and will make an important contribution to stabilizing a critical naval shipbuilding program, allowing for a more steady plan for the fragile dual-source service combatant shipbuilding industrial base, and achieving long-term program affordability through stability and other ongoing Navy and industry initiatives.

Split funding for the DD(X) also supports cost-effective construction activities at both of our shipbuilding yards that concentrate on surface combatants. That will help stabilize and preserve two shipyards in order to meet future Navy requirements. If there were ever any doubt about the need to have two shipyards capable of constructing surface combatants, surely those doubts were put to rest by the extensive damage that Hurricane Katrina caused at the Ingalls Shipyard. We simply cannot afford to have only one shipyard that is capable of responding to the needs of our Navy for capable advanced surface combatants. That is why it is so critical that our procurement strategies recognize that and are developed and designed to sustain both yards.

In doing so, we are helping the Navy meet its needs. Our naval fleet has been declining for far too many years. This bill will take a significant step toward stability and meeting the requirements that exist.

The high priority placed on the DD(X) program in the Senate version of the Defense authorization bill stands in stark contrast to the House Defense authorization bill that recommends full funding for the procurement of only one DD(X) and does not adopt the critical split funding approach. Failure to support the budget for two DD(X)s would exacerbate the production gap facing BIW in Maine and would pose a significant risk to the DD(X) program that the CNO has so strongly endorsed and that the committee has consistently supported. Navy officials testified before the Senate Armed Services Committee that authorizing only one DD(X) in fiscal year 2007 would result in the following negative consequences.

First, it would cause significant program delay and disruption. Second, it would increase program costs. Third, it would have a negative impact on the shipbuilder industrial base. Fourth, it would defer the planned competitive contract awards from 2009 until at least 2011. And, finally, it would force the Navy into a lead-follow scenario that would require an additional $450 million in shipbuilding funds. Approval of split funding is, therefore, critical to moving the DD(X) program forward. It strives to keep both DD(X) shipbuilders on an equal footing during this key transitional period.

Furthermore, the House version of the DOD authorization bill recommends reducing the overall DD(X) program to only two ships, a significant decrease from the Navy's requirement for a minimum of seven DD(X)s as part of the 313-ship plan. At one point a couple of years ago, the Navy said it actually needs 12 DD(X)s. I still believe the military requirements suggest that that is the accurate number. But for the House committee to slash the number of ships under this program to two would seriously jeopardize our national security. I hope we will proceed with the Senate's much better plan to proceed with a minimum of seven DD(X) ships.

I am also pleased that the committee agreed to my request for $25 million in funding to accomplish planning and engineering for the modernization of the DDG–51 Arleigh Burke destroyer class. This program, which has been in effect in the past few years, is already showing significant promise of significant savings to the Navy by applying some of the technology that is being developed for the destroyer of the 21st century, the DD(X), and backfitting the DDG. This has the potential, for example, to reduce crew size on the retrofitted DDGs by about 30 to 40 sailors. That certainly is significant as well.

The Senate's fiscal year 2007 Defense authorization bill also includes funding for other important defense-related projects that benefit Maine and our national security. For example, it includes additional funding for the Mark V fast patrol boat that is being developed at a shipyard in Maine, in conjunction with the University of Maine. It also provides $2 million to the University of Maine's Army Center of Excellence in order to continue the design and testing of lightweight ballistic panel tent inserts made from composite materials. These potentially lifesaving panels protect our troops from insurgent attacks when they are sheltered in temporary dining or sleeping facilities in hostile environments. This is particularly important to the State of Maine because we lost National Guardsmen in Iraq who were eating in an unprotected mess tent. Had we had those composite ballistic inserts for this tent, truly, I believe, lives and injuries would have been saved and avoided.

The legislation also authorizes $9.6 million for the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and Drydock Waterfront Support Facility in Kittery, ME. This will replace the current submarine support center that is more than 60 years old and poorly designed for current use.

This legislation also provides much needed funds for other national priorities. The legislation authorizes incentive payments for civilian health care providers who provide services to TRICARE beneficiaries in rural and medically underserved areas. I know that is a concern of the Presiding Officer as well. Any of us who represent rural States realize how difficult it is to ensure an adequate supply of health care providers.

It also follows on the Senate's action earlier this year by repealing provisions of the Survivor Benefit Plan that require the offset of military retirement annuity payments by amounts received for dependency and indemnity compensation. It authorizes acceleration of the effective date of the paid-up provision from October 1, 2008, to October 1, 2006, for retirees who reach age 70 and have paid premiums for 30 years.

Finally, let me again, since the distinguished chairman is now in the Chamber, commend him for his extraordinary leadership and dedication to the men and women who are serving in our Armed Forces. We are very fortunate to have such a talented and committed chairman and ranking minority member as we do on this committee. I am very proud to be a member. I offer my full support to the important legislation before us.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I thank our distinguished colleague from Maine. She is a valued member of the Senate Armed Services Committee. She has taken enormous interest in shipbuilding. Obviously, she has one of the world's finest yards in her State. Nevertheless, naval power and seapower are of great interest to the Senator from Maine. I thank her for her remarks and her strong participation as a member of the committee.

Ms. COLLINS. I thank the chairman.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, at this time, it is our hope and expectation that we will have another amendment soon brought to the floor.

AMENDMENT NO. 4230

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan is recognized.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I want to particularly commend the Senator from North Dakota for sections 1521 and 1522 of his amendment which address the issue of competition in contracting. This is an issue that I have been concerned about since I worked with Senator Bill Cohen to enact the Competition in Contracting Act in 1984.

Sections 1521 and 1522 in Senator DORGAN's amendment build on the principle that the Federal Government, taxpayers, and Government contractors all benefit from the competitive award of Federal contracts. I was pleased to work with Senator DORGAN and his staff in drafting these particular provisions of his amendment.

Over the last 10 years, the Government Accountability Office, the Department of Defense Inspector General, and others have documented numerous shortcomings in the application of competition rules by Federal agencies. These problems have included, one, numerous unjustified sole-source awards under Government-wide, multiple-award contracts. Some studies have indicated that more than 50 percent of such awards have been made on a sole-source basis. Second, the award of huge what are called indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity, or IDIQ, contracts—some of them in the billions of dollars—go to individuals, individual contractors, rather than multiple contractors.

These single awards—these indefinite delivery and indefinite quantity contracts—basically give a single contractor the right to sole-source award of innumerable highly lucrative projects. Such contracts include the highly visible contracts awarded to Halliburton relative to Iraq.

Sections 1521 and 1522 of the Dorgan amendment would address these problems by prohibiting, with limited waiver authority, the issuance of long-term, open-ended contracts, like Halliburton's LOGCAP contract, to a single company. Federal agencies would be required to issue such contracts to more than one company so that they could compete with each other for work, unless the agency makes a determination that it is not practical to do so and reports that determination to Congress. That section of the amendment would also extend to civilian agencies a legislative provision that we wrote 4 years ago to eliminate abusive sole-source awards and ensure competition when Department of Defense officials place work orders under multiple-award contracts, and we would authorize bid protests for task orders in excess of $500,000 under multiple-award contracts.

So I commend our colleague from North Dakota for offering this important amendment. I support this amendment. I hope the Senate will adopt it and not table it because it includes many important reforms and changes in our contracting process to address some of the abuses that have been identified by the expert agencies that we actually utilize and hire to do these kinds of reviews.

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

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

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WARNER. 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. WARNER. Mr. President, the Senator from Florida desires to speak regarding the National Guard. For that purpose—oh, yes, Mr. President, I had indicated to the distinguished Senator from Texas that she could speak. She wanted how much time?

Mrs. HUTCHISON. I wanted 10 minutes.

Mr. WARNER. Why doesn't the Senator from Texas go first.

Mr. LEVIN. The two Senators will be recognized in that order?

Mr. WARNER. Yes. The Senator from Texas and the Senator from Florida.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas is recognized.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I thank the distinguished senior Senator from Virginia for allowing me to take this time to speak about the supplemental appropriations bill. I certainly want to start by saying that I think the authorization bill that is before us is a good bill that will authorize the spending for our troops in the field. I plan to speak separately on that later in the week.

Today, I want to talk about the supplemental appropriations bill that the Senate will pass at 10 o'clock tomorrow because this is a very important emergency supplemental. Obviously, the majority of this bill, $70.4 billion, is for our military. It is to make sure that we support our men and women in the very important mission that we have asked them to do. I cannot imagine sending our troops into harm's way and not assuring that they have the equipment they need to do the job. So we are doing that in this bill—$70.4 billion for uparmoring of vehicles, for more aircraft, and the Bradley fighting vehicle upgrades that they so desperately need.

I am going to take this opportunity to say what a tremendous achievement we have had this week with the death of Abu Mus'ab al-Zarqawi, the head of the operation in Iraq that was behind the heinous crimes on the streets of Iraq day after day after day that we have been seeing. The man who was the mastermind of those atrocities is now gone. It is a significant victory for the intelligence capabilities of our country and our military personnel who achieved this remarkable feat. I hope this will begin another phase in the stabilization of Iraq.

Clearly we need to assure that our troops have what they need to do the job. Part of what is in this supplemental appropriations bill is money for training of Iraqi troops, because if we are going to stabilize Iraq, it is going to be with Iraqi security forces. That is what the Iraqis want, it is what we want, it is what our allies want, and it is certainly what the people of the world who believe in freedom want for the people of Iraq.

The other part of the bill is one that is very important to my home State of Texas, as well as to Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, and the other States that have suffered so much from hurricanes last season. We have never seen the ravages of a hurricane like we saw after Katrina and then Rita following so closely after that.

This bill, for the first time, has begun to acknowledge the part that my home State of Texas played in this recovery effort. We had a situation we have never had before in the history of our country. The first hurricane, Hurricane Katrina, did not hit Texas, but Texas had a major part in the disaster recovery. That is because 500,000 people were moved from Louisiana to Texas almost overnight. It was the biggest migration from one State to another in our country's history.

It has been a costly endeavor for the people of Texas, one which they have stood up and handled with grace beyond any imagination. But it is time that we reimburse the people of Texas because some of our communities are having to increase taxes to carry the burden, and that is not right. It was a natural disaster for which Texans stepped up to the plate, because we are a neighboring State, to try to handle, and now we have suffered the consequences. This bill helps us in that recovery effort.

The first part that is so important for us is the equity in reimbursement rates for the communities hit by Hurricane Rita. Since Hurricane Rita hit in September of 2005, the counties on the Louisiana side of the Sabine River have been able to put up 10 percent, with a 90-percent Federal reimbursement. This has been very helpful to the people of Louisiana. But on the other side of the Sabine River, where the same hurricane hit, our counties have had to put up 25 percent of the cleanup. The result is that much debris has never been cleaned up.

Furthermore, we have infrastructure that has not even begun to be repaired. Some counties, in doing the original cleanup, contemplated bankruptcy. They have talked now about having to raise the property tax rates to pay for the cleanup, and some have borrowed money and issued bonds to try to do the cleanup. Bond issues should never be used for that kind of an emergency or any kind of operational expenditure.

Bonds are for capital expenditures. They knew that it was not good public policy, but they had no alternative because these are counties which are rural, not rich in property values, and it was a huge strain.

In this bill, those 22 counties in East Texas will get the reimbursement rate that has been given on the Louisiana side. I am so grateful to the Senate for doing this in a way that does allow equity for the first time since last September. This has been such a relief to these counties. I have had calls from mayors and county judges who were almost giving up hope because they did not know how they would manage this crisis, and now they see light at the end of the tunnel.

I thank my colleagues for supporting this bill. I know the bill will pass. I particularly thank Senator COCHRAN, Senator BYRD, Senator GREGG, Senator COLLINS, Senator SPECTER, Senator LIEBERMAN, and Senator KENNEDY. It was these Senators who helped us get through the equity in reimbursement that will so help our East Texas counties.

The other part of this hurricane relief bill is in the educational area. When we had half a million evacuees, we were looking at, of course, educating their children. After an initial enrollment of 43,000 children, mostly in Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, and Austin, some in the East Texas counties that also were hit by Rita, we did agree in a previous supplemental to reimburse these school districts. We authorized impact aid of $6,000 per student to cover the cost of education for students displaced by Hurricane Katrina. However, they were only able to do the reimbursement at a rate of $4,000. So these school districts were taking a hit of $2,000 per student. The current supplemental bridges that gap, which is a huge help for these communities.

Just to give one an idea of the impact of Hurricane Katrina on Texas, it is normal to see a two-page ad in a newspaper that advertises polling locations for elections. One would see in any normal election in a county all of the polling places on election day. This newspaper I am holding up doesn't seem to look that unusual. It is a list of polling places for the New Orleans mayor's race. What is interesting is this is the Houston Chronicle. This same ad over two pages appeared in the Dallas Morning News. That is because the number of Katrina evacuees who were going to vote and did vote in the New Orleans mayor's race was significant enough, with a 500,000-person migration after that hurricane, to make a huge difference.

There is also a picture on the front page of the Houston Chronicle just before that mayor's race with a billboard for New Orleans mayor, Ray Nagin.

We can tell just from these anecdotal pieces of evidence that this is an evacuation which is affecting Texas to a huge extent.

The $235 million in this bill will help these school districts make up for the deficit they have been funding all year and, again, raising property taxes in Texas to pay for it will not now be necessary.

We are going to monitor the enrollment of the number of schoolchildren in these school districts this fall to see if we have large numbers of displaced schoolchildren—because schools are not yet fully open in New Orleans—and we will come back and ask for more supplemental funds for the Katrina evacuees who are not planning to make a permanent home in Texas but are still in our education system.

Because of the fairness of the conference committee—and I particularly mention Congressman KEVIN BRADY, Congressman TED POE, Congressman HAL ROGERS, and Congressman HENRY BONILLA for helping us put forward the case that needed to be made for Texas to show that we had to have some equity in the East Texas counties that were hit by Rita, as well as the educational community that was so affected by the evacuees who came to our State immediately after Katrina. This is going to go a long way toward helping them.

We are also hoping to have some of the money for infrastructure reimbursement after Hurricane Rita that is also included in this bill, but it is at the discretion of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

This is a balanced bill. It is the first time we have been able to recognize that though a State wasn't hit by the first natural disaster, it nevertheless had a huge impact on the economy of the State. Our State stepped up to the plate, and this bill begins to equalize the burden our State has carried.

I appreciate my colleagues listening to me. I appreciate their help in the original Senate bill. I appreciate the members of the conference committee who did so much to help, and I certainly appreciate the chairman, Senator COCHRAN, Senator BYRD, Senator GREGG, Senator COLLINS, Senator SPECTER, Senator LIEBERMAN, and Senator KENNEDY for helping us create the equity that will exist when this conference report is agreed to tomorrow.

I thank the Chair. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the pending amendment be set aside.

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

AMENDMENT NO. 4237

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. President, I call up amendment No. 4237, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Florida [Mr. MARTINEZ] proposes an amendment numbered 4237.

Mr. MARTINEZ. 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 provide that States likely to be effected by the hurricane season in 2007 are afforded a priority in funding for replacement equipment for the National Guard)

At the end of subtitle B of title I, add the following:

SEC. 114. REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT FOR THE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD.

In allocating amounts authorized to be appropriated by section 101(5) for other procurement for the Army for the procurement of replacement equipment for the National Guard, the Secretary of Defense shall afford a priority in the allocation of such funds to the States likely to experience a hurricane during the 2007 hurricane season.

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator BILL NELSON of Florida be added as a cosponsor of the amendment.

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, will the Senator yield? It was my understanding that the Senator from Florida was going to speak on an existing amendment or some other subject, and he now has offered an amendment?

Mr. MARTINEZ. Yes.

Mr. LEVIN. There is a lineup of amendments to which we had previously agreed. It was not my understanding the Senator would be offering an amendment.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, if the Senator will yield, I have been trying to work with the Senator from Florida to revise a draft I saw.

Mr. MARTINEZ. Correct.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, it seems to me, if the Senator withdraws the amendment, the managers can work with him and then the Senator from Florida can speak to the generic substance of the amendment, which I believe is a very important amendment.

Mr. MARTINEZ. I have no problem doing that. I will be glad to withdraw the amendment.

AMENDMENT NO. 4237, WITHDRAWN

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw amendment No. 4237.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment is withdrawn.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I wonder if the Senator has additional copies of the amendment he can share.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I say to my colleague, the Senator from Florida is now in the process of rewriting it. I suggest we wait until he has decided on the version he would like to submit at the appropriate time.

Mr. MARTINEZ. That will be fine. I was under the impression Senator LEVIN had seen the amendment. I will make sure he gets a copy.

Mr. LEVIN. I very much appreciate it.

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes on the subject of the amendment and come back to the issue of calling it up at the appropriate time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from Florida is recognized.

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. President, the issue of the ongoing war on terror and the very important role the National Guard is playing in this effort is the subject of my amendment. I wanted to start first by congratulating President Bush, who visited Baghdad yesterday. The President once again is showing his commitment and his leadership in this difficult fight. He went to Iraq to show his support for the now-formed Iraqi Government and again to offer his support to the brave men and women who are fighting this war and offer his support to them and their families.

The last 7 days have been historic. The bringing to justice Abu Mus'ab al-Zarqawi, al-Qaida's No. 2 figure in the world, second only to Osama bin Laden, was great news for freedom-loving Iraqis and for the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces who have patiently and methodically hunted this terrorist to his end, and most of all a crucial step for us in winning the war on terror. For U.S. special operations forces, this was yet another impressive victory in removing an enormous obstacle to peace in Iraq and victory of our Armed Forces. By capturing Saddam Hussein, tracking and killing his sons, Uday and Qusay, and now killing Zarqawi, our special operations forces continue to effectively serve the cause of freedom. Iraq is a better place for these actions, and America will be safer as well.

The President recently reminded us that the fight is far from over. As he has said from the beginning, this war on terror will not be easy or short. Blindly hoping for victory will not result in victory. As Americans, we must be firm in our determination to the task at hand. As the President said while talking to the troops in Baghdad yesterday, the sooner Iraqis can take up the fight, the sooner our soldiers can come home.

Defeatism and hand-wringing and finger-pointing does not constitute a strategy for victory. We cannot and will not be defeated militarily. The only way we will be defeated is by our own lack of resolve. If we had listened to detractors who told us to cut and run, al-Zarqawi would be alive and planning his next killing and the future of a radical caliphate in Iraq. The constant talk about withdrawal and the ceaseless pursuit of establishing a timetable for withdrawing U.S. troops directly undermines the mission. It undermines morale. Why would we ever want to alert our enemies and give them our precise plans? A timetable is only tied to the success of our forces and the political situation on the ground. While we all wish to see the end of the struggle and our troops' safe return home, this must not be determined by an arbitrary deadline that signals retreat in defeat. After all the Iraqis have achieved—peaceful democratic elections, an interim and now permanent government, a police force, and building of the armed forces—how could we think about abandoning this struggle and mission before we meet with success?

The clear goals of this war—to protect America and our vital national interests, to rid the world of radical Islamic terrorists, to reshape the Middle East and bring democracy to one of the darkest and most historically undemocratic corners of the world—is Wilsonian in its vision and Churchillian in its urgency. I commend President Bush for his leadership, Secretary Rumsfeld for his diligence, Generals Abizaid and Casey, the commanders on the field, and the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines in the theater for their perseverance, competence, and for their honor; also, our Secretary of State and our very capable Ambassador Khalilzad for their success and the way they have assisted the formation of a new government.

In relation to the continuing war on terror, there is one issue I am concerned with, and that is the process by which our National Guard units are currently being reequipped. Today, we have a situation in our National Guard units from Florida—and I imagine National Guard units from many other States—which are sent to war with their own equipment; that is, the men and women, the trucks, the tanks, the helicopters, the humvees, and all the gear leave the State and go to protect Americans serving in Afghanistan and Iraq. However, when the tour of duty is over, the Guard returns home and the equipment stays behind. This is understandable, since in a war zone and in desert conditions, vital equipment needs to be replaced sometimes more quickly than new equipment can get to the region. As you might imagine, the National Guard then has a resulting deficit of equipment, which is a temporary situation but nonetheless a crucial delay in their completion of their equipment inventory.

With the arrival of this year's hurricane season, I have urged the citizens in our State of Florida, where we are currently and have been previously consistent victims of recent hurricanes, as well as other hurricane-prone States, to do everything they can to prepare for potential storms. But even with the best preparedness, storms have a way of taking unexpected turns, and as we have seen over the past three years, the National Guard plays a crucial role in helping stabilize areas in the immediate hours and days following the disastrous hurricanes we have experienced recently.

For instance, last year alone, the Florida National Guard deployed 5,800 troops within the State of Florida and along the gulf coast during 4 major hurricanes. To support Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts, the Florida Guard sent 2,500 troops to Mississippi as part of the emergency compact agreement the States have with the Guard. They have done their job with dedication and competence.

The point is that during hurricane season, during the war on terror, we cannot sustain the National Guard without prioritizing equipment replacement. They need this equipment for training. They need this equipment for those times when they are needed to be activated in honoring their State and Federal missions here at home.

The Guard wears many hats and plays a vital role in fighting the war on terror and in responding to catastrophes here at home. I have offered an amendment to ensure that their reequipment is not deferred. The amendment directs the Secretary of Defense to place a priority on providing replacement equipment to Guard units, particularly in those States which are prone and historically have been shown to be frequent victims of hurricanes.

The first named storm of the season, Tropical Storm Alberto, just visited the State of Florida. NOAA has told us that we are in for an active hurricane cycle that could last for a decade or more. From New England to Texas to Louisiana to Florida, hurricane-prone States require National Guard units that will be able to meet important missions abroad and at home. Meeting this mission requires prioritizing their reequipping.

So at the right time and in the right order, I intend to bring up such an amendment, which I hope will have broad support in the Senate where I believe all of us understand and appreciate the very vital and crucial role the National Guard continues to play, not only in the crucial war on terror but, equally important, providing that irreplaceable line of assistance at home during the times of hurricanes and other natural disasters.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, is the pending amendment the Dorgan amendment?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. It is the pending amendment.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I move to table the Dorgan amendment. I ask unanimous consent that the vote on the motion to table occur at 3:45 this afternoon; provided further that between now and 3:45, Senator DORGAN be recognized to speak for up to 15 minutes on the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. LEVIN. No objection.

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

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, my understanding is that there will be a motion, perhaps a motion to table—in any

event, a vote on my amendment at 3:45. I had asked that I be allowed time to speak once again on the amendment.

It is an obligatory statement to come to the floor and congratulate the chairman and the ranking member, but in this case I will always mean it. The work of my friend and colleague from Virginia, as chairman of this committee, is really excellent work. So, too, is the work of Senator LEVIN from Michigan. I always say this is a big, big piece of legislation, a difficult piece of legislation. The Defense authorization bill is a real piece of work to put together. It is made even more difficult during wartime to stretch for all of the needs—unlimited wants with limited resources. So I come here understanding that there are things in this legislation that are very important that inure to the credit of the chairman and the ranking member.

I want to describe something that is not in the legislation, however, and the opportunity to offer it to this legislation at this time is very important. This bill will authorize the expenditure of a great deal of money. That is not new. We have authorized the expenditure of a lot of money for a lot of things, particularly with respect to the military expenditures in Iraq and Afghanistan in recent years—something close to $350 billion. That is with a ''b,'' $350 billion has been spent. That was virtually all done as emergency appropriations, not paid for with anything, just added on top of the debt.

Even as we have done that, we in the Congress have also voted for $18 billion in reconstruction funding in the country of Iraq. That $18 billion in reconstruction for the country of Iraq has gone out in various contracts and been spent. What we are hearing now, as a result of a massive amount of money being spent in a fairly short period of time, is the most hair-raising tale of waste and fraud and abuse that I have ever heard.

I dare say that never in the history of this country has so much money been wasted so quickly. And, yes, there is fraud involved, there is abuse involved, and it is the case that there is a dramatic amount of taxpayers' money that is now being wasted.

I went through this morning a description of what is happening in some areas. In our policy committee, we held hearings over 3 years about this issue. This is a photograph which I showed this morning of this man, the man with the brown belt. He was actually in his office in Iraq. These are $100 bills wrapped in Saran Wrap. This represents $2 million, and it was to be paid to a company called Custer Battles, named after Mr. Custer and Mr. Battles. They are two folks who went to Iraq to seek their fortune—one I believe a former Army Ranger. Neither had experience as contractors, but they knew there was a lot of money to be made. They went to Iraq to set up a company. They got there, and the first contract, I believe, which they received was to provide security at the Baghdad Airport, which at that point wasn't open.

As they provided security at the Baghdad Airport, whistleblowers came forward who were working for them and said: What is going on here is really pretty awful. In fact, one of the whistleblowers was threatened. Someone threatened to kill him for speaking out. But they said it is wrong and awful. This company that had the contract for security at Baghdad Airport took forklift trucks off the airport, which belonged to the airport, put them in a warehouse, painted them blue, and sold them back to the Coalition Provisional Authority. It is the sort of thing that was going on.

This picture of $100 bills wrapped in Saran Wrap was $2 million that was paid to this company called Custer Battles. This fellow who was in charge of that money said there was a basement with a vault in this building in Iraq where he said he thought billions and billions of dollars in cash was stored.

The message to the contractors in Iraq was: Bring bags because we pay in cash. Bring a sack because we pay cash.

Then there is the story about a contract for air-conditioning a building in Baghdad. The contract goes to a subcontractor, which goes to another subcontractor, and a fourth-level subcontractor. And the payment for air-conditioning turns out to be payments to four contractors, the fourth of which puts a fan in a room. Yes, the American taxpayer paid for an air-conditioner and, after the money goes through four hands like ice cubes travel around the room, there is a fan put in a room in Iraq.

I mentioned this morning that every time you talk about this you have to talk about Halliburton. Every time you talk about Halliburton, they say you are talking about Vice President CHENEY. Not true. He hasn't run Halliburton for many years, but this company received very large, no-bid, sole-source contracts worth billions of dollars and massive amounts of money have been wasted.

Investigators and inspectors at the Department of Defense discovered this contractor had overcharged. The contracts were in some cases awarded under questionable circumstances.

I described just a few of the examples today, such as $85,000 new trucks that had a plugged fuel pump and left by the side of the road—brand new—to be burned; $85,000 brand new trucks with a flat tire, left beside the road to be torched.

It is pretty unbelievable, the stories we have heard about what is going on with these contractors in Iraq.

The buyer for Kellogg, Brown & Root, a subcontractor for Halliburton, came and testified. He was a purchaser stationed in Kuwait. His job was to purchase things that the Army needed in Iraq. He was told you should purchase hand towels for the military. So he gets about the business of buying hand towels—tens of thousands of hand towels, except he was told by his bosses, KBR, don't buy just the ordinary hand towels. We want to have them embroidered ''KBR,'' for Kellogg, Brown & Root, therefore doubling the price. Buy the towels, doubling the price. It doesn't matter. The taxpayer is paying for all of this, and it has cost-plus. Don't worry, be happy. Charge as much as you can.

And $7,500 a month to lease an SUV; $45 a case for Coca-Cola. It doesn't matter. The taxpayer is paying the bill. Order 25 tons of nails, 50,000 pounds, the wrong size, doesn't matter, lay them on the sand in Iraq. Nobody will know. Just 25 tons of nails.

The stories are pretty unbelievable.

Frankly, one of the great surprises to me is that the Pentagon has not been very interested.

A guy named Rory came over here. He was actually in Iraq. He was a food service supervisor at Kellogg, Brown & Root. He was a supervisor in the food service kitchen. He said the convoys of trucks that were hauling food in would occasionally be attacked. There was shrapnel in the back of the trucks. They were told to go back and pick the shrapnel out of the food, save the bullets as souvenirs for the supervisors, but pull the fragments out of the food and put the food in the food line. And then he said: Routinely we would have food that had an expired date stamp. This food is good until August 22nd, expired; routinely expired food. What did the supervisor say? It doesn't matter. Just feed it to the troops.

I am surprised that Secretary Rumsfeld, for example, didn't become apoplectic about that. You would think he would have a seizure when they were paying contractors to feed the troops and to feed them outdated food and nobody seems to care very much; or feeding 42,000 people, according to the billing record, and only 14,000 people were eating.

I come from really small town of 300 people. We have one little restaurant. You could miss a cheeseburger, or two or three. But to miss 28,000 meals when you say you fed the troops that you didn't feed? In my hometown, we have a word for that sort of thing.

It is unbelievable what is going on and the stories. These aren't stories that we have heard second or third-hand. Rory, for example, worked there, lived there, served food there in the cafeteria. He was told this.

He said this on the record: When the auditors come around to your base in Iraq and come to your food service operation, you dare not talk to them. If you talk to Government auditors, you are going to be in some real trouble. One of two things will happen. You will either be fired or you are going to be sent to an area that has intense fighting. It turns out that Rory was sent to Fallujah in the middle of hostilities there because he had the gall to talk to

Government auditors who were asking questions about what was happening in the food service operation.

No one in this Chamber believes this sort of stuff ought to go on. It shouldn't happen. Yet, I think there is so much money being spent with big, sole-source, no-bid contracts being let.

I described this woman this morning. I am going to do it again because I have met her several times now. I think what has happened to her is a crying shame. Bunnatine Greenhouse, the highest civilian official in the Corps of Engineers, rose to become the highest civilian official to serve in the Corps of Engineers. Well-educated, smart, with a great career that every supervisor said was excellent by every evaluation, this woman knows what she is doing. She is an outstanding public servant. But she ran into some trouble.

The trouble was she saw contracts being let that violated contract provisions. She saw meetings being held in which big companies were part of the meetings, talking about the new contracts that were going to be let. She began to complain, saying: You are violating the rules of contracting. The old-boy network didn't like that at all. Bunnatine Greenhouse got into trouble for speaking out. She was demoted. This woman who had the courage to speak out against waste, fraud, and abuse paid for it with her job.

She said:

> I can unequivocally state that the abuse relating to the contracts awarded to Kellogg, Brown & Root represents the most blatant and improper contract abuse that I have witnessed during the course of my professional career.

A career, I might add, was judged—not by the Department of Defense—to be outstanding by people outside of the Department of Defense who worked with her. For that, she paid with her job. And nobody seems to care.

By the way, this job is now being filled by someone who is unqualified. The general who made the decision to fill this job with someone unqualified said it is true the person they put in that job to replace Bunnatine Greenhouse doesn't have the necessary experience, but she is now being trained.

That is really helpful. I assume that is what they were doing down at FEMA when they put something like seven of the top FEMA officials in place who were cronies who had no experience in disaster preparedness or relief. I guess they were being trained too. The problem is Hurricane Katrina hit and that agency was a mess.

We don't need cronyism. We need good, strong professional people who have the courage to speak out when they see something wrong.

The amendment that I have offered is very simple. The amendment that I have offered deals with war profiteering. Nobody in this Chamber believes that anybody ought to be justified in profiteering from war. If there are people profiteering from war, there ought to be strong sanctions.

This amendment includes a number of different pieces of legislation. The war profiteering amendment is one which Senator LEAHY constructed in the last Congress and brought forward. That is a portion of this amendment. The amendment deals with contract abuse, requiring competition in contracting.

Also, the amendment has protections for whistleblowers. We ought to care about that.

There are about six or eight provisions of this amendment that I described earlier today. But I want to conclude with this.

I mentioned earlier the Custer Battles company. They are the subject at this point of criminal prosecution.

The Custer Battles folks are the two men named Custer and Battles. ''60 Minutes'' just did a program on them on CBS. We held hearings about Custer Battles. They went to Iraq, as I said earlier, and got a contract for security at the airport. They eventually ended up being paid more than $100 million in contracts. These are people without experience in contracting. They went to Iraq to seek their fortune and to get contracts. And they did.

Here is what the Baghdad airport director of security said in a memo to the Coalition Provisional Authority. That was us. We were running Iraq before they created their new government. Here is what the Baghdad airport director of security said:

> Custer Battles have shown themselves to be unresponsive, uncooperative, incompetent, deceitful, manipulative and war profiteers. Other than that, they are swell fellows.

Isn't that unbelievable? Does anybody dare say now that we didn't know what was going on over there? They knew.

What is still now going on over there is unbelievable.

What we need at this point on behalf of the American taxpayers and on behalf of the troops who put on the uniform and serve this country, and without question put their lives on the line, what we need on their behalf is an understanding that we are doing the right thing here.

This piece of legislation, this authorization bill, is a good bill. It will be a better bill with this amendment because this amendment plugs a very big hole that exists with respect to contracting and profiteering.

I mentioned earlier today that I have previously offered and will again offer an amendment that establishes a Truman Committee here in U.S. Senate. I wasn't around, of course, during the Truman Committee. The Truman Committee was established in the early 1940s at a time when a Democratic Senator with a Democratic President in the White House said we have to investigate waste, fraud, and abuse. And he did on a bipartisan basis. They put together a special committee, and they sunk their teeth into this issue of waste, fraud, and abuse. It was unbelievable what they discovered. The country was better and stronger as a result of it.

I bet sometimes FDR gritted his teeth over the investigations. But it was not about the White House at all; it was about making sure the taxpayers were getting their money's worth, making sure we were doing the right things for the troops. The same is true now.

I don't offer this with any political intent at all. It is just that I sat hour after hour after hour and listened to stories—yes, some of them about Custer Battles, some about KRB, some about Halliburton, and some about other companies—and I have seen unbelievable stories and heard unbelievable stories about waste, fraud, and abuse. I see very little desire at the Pentagon to sink their teeth into it and fix the problems.

The woman who had the courage to stand up and blow the whistle has lost her job. This is not a very hospitable place for people willing to have the courage to speak out. We ought to stand up for Bunny Greenhouse and say we need more like her. When you see something wrong, you report it. When you see something bad, you stop it. We need more people like her.

This amendment is not about her; it is about protecting people who have the courage to stand up for our interests and who care about what is being spent, what is being done, who care about when we are being defrauded and when people are war-profiteering.

I ask consent that Senator KENNEDY and Senator CLINTON be added as cosponsors of the amendment.

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

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, let me conclude by saying that this amendment is not aimed at the White House. It is not aimed at some political objective. It is certainly not aimed at the chairman and ranking member of this bill. This is aimed at trying to find common sense in the way we deal with these issues, especially in wartime.

I mentioned this morning that common sense is sometimes described as genius in work clothes. Common sense could take us a long way if we just applied it in these circumstances. We understand what happens when a company gets a special deal—by the way, you get a big old contract worth billions of dollars, you do not have to bid on it, and we will negotiate the terms later. I understand what happens then. That is like leaving the till open. The stories that come from it are unbelievable. On behalf of the American taxpayer, we ought to do something about it.

Perhaps my colleague wishes to respond.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I have listened very carefully to my colleague. I spoke earlier about what our committee had done. The organization is now in place to try to monitor the situations the Senator has enumerated.

We will proceed to a vote at 3:45. I will at that time seek to be recognized for the purpose of tabling the amendment.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD at this juncture a paper provided by the Department of Defense, a copy of which I hand to my distinguished colleague, which recites the Department's understanding with regard to the career of this woman to whom the Senator has referred.

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

INFORMATION PAPER

Effective August 27, 2005, Ms. Greenhouse was removed from her position in the Senior Executive Service (SES) as the Principal Assistant Responsible for Contracting at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and placed in a GS–15 position. Her removal was required by Title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 359.501, because she had received two final performance ratings of ''less than fully successful'' within three consecutive years.

The two performance ratings at issue covered the rating periods from October 1, 2001 through September 30, 2002 and from October 1, 2002 through December 31, 2003. The second rating period was extended for three months to ensure that Ms. Greenhouse was afforded a minimum of 120 days working under a set of approved performance standards and to give her additional time to demonstrate successful performance. Further, because USACE officials had proposed Ms. Greenhouse's removal from the SES, both of these ratings were reviewed by the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology (ASA–AL&T), who has functional responsibility for all Army acquisition activities, and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, who has responsibility for management of the SES.

On October 5, 2004, Lieutenant General (LTG) Carl Strock, Commanding General, USACE, advised Ms. Greenhouse that she would be removed from the SES and placed in a GS–15 position effective November 13, 2004, based on her receipt of two final ratings of ''less than fully successful'' performance within three consecutive years. By letter of October 21, 2004, to then Acting Secretary of the Army, R.L. Brownlee, Mr. Michael Kohn, an attorney representing Ms. Greenhouse, requested an investigation into alleged procurement irregularities within USACE and implied that Ms. Greenhouse faced removal from the SES because of her disclosure of these irregularities. Acting Secretary Brownlee directed suspension of the removal action until a sufficient record was available to address the matters raised in Mr. Kohn's letter. Concurrently, Mr. Brownlee directed the forwarding of Ms. Greenhouse's allegations of contracting irregularities to the Inspector General, Department of Defense (IG, DoD) for action as appropriate. There is no record that these allegations are, or have been, the subject of USACE Inspector General inquiry, as set forth in your letter; as detailed below, however, we believe that the IG, DoD is continuing its criminal investigation into procurement matters of interest to Ms. Greenhouse.

On June 3, 2005, LTG Strock forwarded a memorandum through the Department of the Army Inspector General (DAIG) to the Secretary of the Army, requesting authorization to proceed with the removal of Ms. Greenhouse from the SES and placement in a GS–15 position within Headquarters, USACE. In support of his request, LTG Strock enclosed an analysis prepared by his staff that demonstrated that Ms. Greenhouse's removal from the SES was based solely on her ''less than fully successful'' performance. This record was reviewed by the Department of the Army Inspector General who forwarded it to the Director, Investigations of Senior Officials, Office of the DoD Inspector General (IG, DoD). On June 13, 2005, the Director advised that ''The criminal investigation into procurement matters of interest to Ms. Greenhouse is continuing. However, there is no basis to delay actions concerning Ms. Greenhouse pending the outcome of that investigation.'' Further, the Director found no basis to delay the proposed removal because of a possible reprisal allegation.

Because of the ongoing IG, DoD criminal investigation, it would have been inappropriate for the DAIG to inquire into that matter. However, the DAIG reviewed for regulatory compliance the two ''less than fully successful'' evaluation reports upon which the proposed removal was based and concluded that the USACE had satisfied applicable regulatory requirements. Accordingly, on July 14, 2005, the Army determined that a sufficient record existed to determine that Ms. Greenhouse's removal from the SES was grounded in a documented record of less than fully successful performance, and not because of any allegations she made of contracting irregularities or her decision to testify before Congress.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, we are awaiting the arrival of Senator MCCAIN. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate recognize Senator MCCAIN upon his arrival at the floor.

The Senator may wish to ask unanimous consent to place further material into the RECORD after he has had an opportunity to examine that paper. There may be some material the Senator believes should be added.

Mr. DORGAN. If I might just respond briefly, I don't think this is a substantive answer to the very serious allegations raised by Ms. Greenhouse—not just in her statements, but in other documentation about improper meetings, about improper actions by the Corps of Engineers, in violation of their own regulations. Nowhere do I see the Pentagon officials or General Strock willing to address those in their specifics. I will await their response to that, as I have waited now for 2 years, but that answer is not yet forthcoming.

It is perfectly fine to have this printed in the RECORD. I will, during this debate, evaluate it and also respond to it, but even with this, we have never gotten a straight answer from the Pentagon about these issues. They are very anxious and interested in making sure there are no waves around this on contracting because they have their own way of doing things, and if it does not work out, that is tough, they do not want news coverage.

Mr. WARNER. I got unanimous consent to have this printed in the RECORD but as a courtesy gave the Senator a copy thinking the Senator may wish to supplement it.

Mr. DORGAN. I appreciate the courtesy of Senator WARNER, and I may do so at an appropriate time.

Mr. WARNER. I yield the floor.

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, these days it seems rare that we debate a nonpartisan issue. Too many of the items that Congress considers have more to do with spin than substance, are based more on politics than policy. It is a disturbing trend and that is why I am proud to rise as a cosponsor of the amendment introduced by my colleague from North Dakota, Senator DORGAN.

The issue addressed by the Senator's amendment—the fleecing of American taxpayers by war profiteers and corrupt contractors—should disturb every American. My colleague from North Dakota constructed his amendment, which is based on legislation that I have also cosponsored, in reaction to testimony presented at several hearings he held on contracting fraud. At those hearings, witnesses presented example upon example of blatant misuse of taxpayer dollars. Witnesses testified about abuse ranging from the towels given to our troops to the meals they were served. At every opportunity, no-bid contract winners took advantage of the fact that we are at war to fill their own coffers. That is not a partisan issue—that is a crime.

It is a crime that requires punishment, and it is a crime that we could prevent with greater transparency and accountability. That is what this amendment would do. The amendment establishes penalties of up to 20 years in prison and at least $1 million in fines for war profiteering. It also prohibits the award of Federal contracts to companies that have a history of failing to comply with the law. Finally, the amendment requires real competition: For any contract worth more than $10 million, contractors would be allowed to compete, rather than have all the work automatically go to a single contractor.

This is a commonsense approach to an appalling problem. When we ask our troops and their families to make the ultimate sacrifice, it is repugnant to think that there are those who seek to profit off that sacrifice. Contract fraud does more than cost the taxpayers money—it abuses their confidence. We owe it to our troops, and to the American public, to do all we can to protect such abuses. Senator DORGAN's amendment is a step in that direction, and I urge my colleagues to support the amendment.

AMENDMENT NO. 4241

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask the indulgence of my friend from Virginia for a very brief two amendments, one which will be very brief—I do not believe he will object too strenuously—and that is to name this act after the distinguished senior Senator from Virginia.

I ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Arizona [Mr. MCCAIN], proposes an amendment numbered 4241 for

himself, Mr. FRIST, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. BYRD, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. REED, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. TALENT, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. DAYTON, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. BAYH, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. THUNE, Mr. ALLARD, and Mr. ALLEN.

Mr. MCCAIN. 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 name the Act after John Warner, a Senator from Virginia)

On page 2, strike lines 1 through 3, and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; FINDINGS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007''.

(b) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Senator John Warner of Virginia was elected a member of the United States Senate on November 7, 1978, for a full term beginning on January 3, 1979. He was subsequently appointed by the Governor of Virginia to fill a vacancy on January 2, 1979, and has served continuously since that date. He was appointed a member of the Committee on Armed Services in January 1979, and has served continuously on the Committee since that date, a period of nearly 28 years. Senator Warner's service on the Committee represents nearly half of its existence since it was established after World War II.

(2) Senator Warner came to the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services after a distinguished record of service to the Nation, including combat service in the Armed Forces and high civilian office.

(3) Senator Warner enlisted in the United States Navy upon graduation from high school in 1945, and served until the summer of 1946, when he was discharged as a Petty Officer 3rd Class. He then attended Washington and Lee University on the G.I. Bill. He graduated in 1949 and entered the University of Virginia Law School.

(4) Upon the outbreak of the Korean War in 1950, Senator Warner volunteered for active duty, interrupting his education to accept a commission in the United States Marine Corps. He served in combat in Korea as a ground officer in the First Marine Air Wing. Following his active service, he remained in the Marine Corps Reserve for several years, attaining the rank of captain.

(5) Senator Warner resumed his legal education upon returning from the Korean War and graduated from the University of Virginia Law School in 1953. He was selected by the late Chief Judge E. Barrett Prettyman of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit as his law clerk. After his service to Judge Prettyman, Senator Warner became an Assistant United States Attorney in the District of Columbia, and later entered private law practice.

(6) In 1969, the Senate gave its advice and consent to the appointment of Senator Warner as Under Secretary of the Navy. He served in this position until 1972, when he was confirmed and appointed as the 61st Secretary of the Navy since the office was established in 1798. As Secretary, Senator Warner was the principal United States negotiator and signatory of the Incidents at Sea Executive Agreement with the Soviet Union, which was signed in 1972 and remains in effect today. It has served as the model for similar agreements between states covering the operation of naval ships and aircraft in international sea lanes throughout the world.

(7) Senator Warner left the Department of the Navy in 1974. His next public service was as Director of the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission. In this capacity, he coordinated the celebration of the Nation's founding, directing the Federal role in all 50 States and in over 20 foreign nations.

(8) Senator Warner has served as chairman of the Committee on Armed Services of the United States Senate from 1999 to 2001, and again since January 2003. He served as ranking minority member of the committee from 1987 to 1993, and again from 2001 to 2003. Senator Warner concludes his service as chairman at the end of the 109th Congress, but will remain a member of the committee.

(9) This Act is the twenty-eighth annual authorization act for the Department of Defense for which Senator Warner has taken a major responsibility as a member of the Committee on Armed Services of the United States Senate, and the fourteenth for which he has exercised a leadership role as chairman or ranking minority member of the committee.

(10) Senator Warner, as seaman, Marine officer, Under Secretary and Secretary of the Navy, and member, ranking minority member, and chairman of the Committee on Armed Services, has made unique and lasting contributions to the national security of the United States.

(11) It is altogether fitting and proper that his Act, the last annual authorization Act for the national defense that Senator Warner manages in and for the United States Senate as chairman of the Committee on Armed Services, be named in his honor, as provided in subsection (a).

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, this amendment would name the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007 after the chairman of the Committee on Armed Services, our distinguished friend and colleague from Virginia, JOHN WARNER. I am pleased to be joined in this effort by Senators FRIST, LEVIN, INHOFE, KENNEDY, ROBERTS, BYRD, SESSIONS, LIEBERMAN, COLLINS, JACK REED, ENSIGN, AKAKA, TALENT, BILL NELSON, CHAMBLISS, BEN NELSON, GRAHAM, DAYTON, DOLE, BAYH, CORNYN, CLINTON, THUNE, ALLARD, and ALLEN.

I am certain that there is not a Senator in this Senate who would not agree that Senator WARNER, with his grace, courtliness, bipartisan attitude, and kindness to all, represents the finest traditions of the Senate. All Senators know that the defense authorization bill occupies a major place in the annual legislative calendar and takes substantial time to complete. Those Senators who do not have the privilege of serving on the Committee on Armed Services may not realize the tremendous amount of work that goes into hearings, formulation of legislative proposals, preparation for markup, and actual markup of this bill—the largest annually recurring piece of legislation in Congress. When one adds to this the oversight of the largest department in the Government, and the processing of thousands of military and civilian nominations each year, the demands on the chairman of the committee and the need for leadership are obvious. For 6 years, JOHN WARNER has provided that leadership, and done it in a manner that has gained him universal respect.

JOHN WARNER is, first and foremost a Virginian—a lifetime resident of that Old Dominion that has stood at the center of American history for over two centuries and has given Nation so many of its eminent men, from Washington forward. JOHN WARNER has continued that tradition of service to country from his youth. The son of a decorated Army physician in World War I, JOHN WARNER left high school to enlist in the Navy late in World War II. He served until 1946, when he was discharged as a petty officer 3rd class. Like millions of other young Americans, he then attended college on the G.I. bill, graduating from Washington and Lee University in 1949. He then entered the University of Virginia Law School. He interrupted his education to serve in the Korean war, volunteering for active duty and accepting a commission in the Marine Corps. He served in the combat zone as a ground officer in the First Marine Air Wing, and remained in the Marine Corps Reserve for several years. Upon returning from the Korean war, he resumed his legal education, graduating from the University of Virginia Law School in 1953.

Upon graduation, JOHN WARNER's outstanding qualities were recognized when he was selected to serve as the law clerk to the late Judge E. Barrett Prettyman of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, one of the most outstanding jurists of the period. Many years later, Senator WARNER would be instrumental in naming the U.S. Court House in Washington, DC, for his old mentor. After his clerkship, JOHN WARNER became an Assistant United States Attorney in the District of Columbia, and later was engaged in the private practice of law.

In 1969, President Nixon nominated JOHN WARNER to serve as Under Secretary of the Navy. The Senate confirmed the nomination, and he served as Under Secretary until he was confirmed and appointed as the 61st Secretary of the Navy in 1972. During his tenure as Secretary, the United States and the Soviet Union signed the Incidents at Sea Executive Agreement, for which he was the principal United States negotiator and signatory. This agreement remains in effect today, and has served as a model for similar agreements governing naval vessels and aircraft around the world.

After leaving the Department of the Navy in 1974, JOHN WARNER's next public service was as chairman of the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission. He oversaw the celebration of the Nation's founding, directing the Federal Government's role in a commemoration that enbraced all 50 States and over 20 foreign nations.

In 1978, the voters of Virginia elected JOHN WARNER to a full term in the United States Senate. Upon beginning his service in 1979, he was elected a member of the Committee on Armed Services. Upon leaving the chairmanship next year, he will have served on

the committee for 28 years, almost half of the committee's existence. Senator WARNER served as chairman of the committee from 1999 to 2001, and again since 2003. He also served as ranking member from 1987 to 1993, and again from 2001 to 2003. For 14 years of American history, years that saw the end of the cold war, the first gulf war, the attacks on September 11, 2001, and the global war on terror, JOHN WARNER has served in a leadership role on the committee.

No Member of this body has done more for our national security than JOHN WARNER. As sailor, Marine officer, Under Secretary and Secretary of the Navy, and United States Senator, he has always answered his country's call. The dignified and evenhanded way in which he has presided over the business of the committee has enabled it to continue its noble tradition of being an island of bipartisanship in an increasingly unpleasant political era. I submit that it is exceedingly appropriate that this year's defense authorization act, the last which JOHN WARNER will manage as chairman of the Committee on Armed Services, be named in his honor.

If my colleagues will indulge me for just another moment, I would like to relate a personal story, and that has to do with when I returned from prison in Vietnam. JOHN WARNER was then serving as Secretary of the Navy. Secretary Warner greeted us all with the greatest warmth and affection, but very importantly in my case I had requested to attend the National War College as the next tour of duty. That meant objections for several very good reasons, and yet then-Secretary Warner made sure I was allowed to attend that institution of higher learning. He and I have remained friends and comrades since the day I returned home in March of 1973, now some 33 years.

It has been a privilege and an honor to hold my dear friend, JOHN WARNER, in my highest esteem and affection. This is a very small token for the esteem in which all of us hold JOHN WARNER as a great and wonderful leader of this Senate. I could go on for many hours recounting the many wonderful achievements he has made for the people of Virginia and for the people of this Nation, but I will refrain from doing so as I know many of my colleagues will want to add their voices and sponsorship of this amendment to name the Defense authorization bill for 2007 in his name.

I ask the vote to be held at the appropriate time, and whether the yeas and nays are called for would be up to my colleagues.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I am deeply moved by the thoughtful remarks of my longtime friend. I express my everlasting gratitude first and foremost for that friendship and, indeed, the friendship of your father, commander and chief of the U.S. Forces in the Pacific, who helped guide me in those difficult days of Vietnam when I was entrusted with the Department of the Navy.

I say to my friend, it is my fervent hope when I step down as chairman, as prescribed by the rules of our caucus, I will have the privilege to nominate you to become the next chairman of the Armed Services Committee. And I am confident that will be confirmed in our caucus and eventually by the full Senate and that you will lead this committee to greater levels and higher achievements, as has been the case of almost every step of your career.

I wish you well and also your family, dear friend.

Now, Mr. President, I believe we are going to turn to another amendment by the distinguished Senator from Arizona, and I am privileged to be a cosponsor of that amendment.

I commend the Senator. This is a very important step that you are initiating with regard to the future of how financing the Department of Defense is handled in the Congress of the United States.

I yield the floor.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I am honored to join my colleague from Arizona and to cosponsor his amendment to name this year's Defense authorization bill after our good friend, Senator JOHN WARNER, the chairman of the Armed Services Committee.

This tribute is eminently well deserved. Senator WARNER has had a long and distinguished career of outstanding service to our Nation. He enlisted in the Navy at the end of World War II and served with distinction. He then attended Washington and Lee University on the GI bill. He volunteered for active duty during the Korean war and served as an officer in the Marine Corps, interrupting his studies at the University of Virginia Law School.

After graduation, he had an impressive legal career. He clerked for Chief Judge Barrett Prettyman of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and became a Federal prosecutor in the District of Columbia before entering private practice.

He then returned to Government service as Under Secretary of the Navy in the Nixon administration, and I was honored to support his promotion to be the 61st Secretary of the Navy in 1972.

He was elected to the Senate in 1978 and was a natural for the Armed Services Committee. I joined the committee in 1983, and it has been a very great privilege to serve with him and learn from him for the past two decades. No one cares more about our national defense or our men and women in uniform. As chairman of the committee, he has the immense respect of all of us. His leadership ability, eloquence, and dedication have served the Senate, our Armed Forces, and the Nation brilliantly.

These annual Defense authorization acts demonstrate our chairman at his best, and naming this bill for him is a fitting tribute to his extraordinary leadership and the enduring respect and affection that all of us have for him.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I thank my friend again for his kind words. If I am so fortunate as to succeed him, I would obviously rely on him for his continued guidance and stewardship.

AMENDMENT NO. 4242

Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration. The amendment is on behalf of myself, Senator WARNER, Senator LEVIN, Senator GRAHAM, Senator BYRD, Senator GREGG, Senator HAGEL, Senator CHAMBLISS, Senator COLLINS, Senator COBURN, Senator CONRAD, and Senator REID.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Arizona [Mr. MCCAIN], for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BYRD, Mr. GREGG, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COBURN, Mr. CONRAD, and Mr. REID, proposes an amendment numbered 4242.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To require regular budgeting for ongoing military operations)

At the end of subtitle I of title X, insert the following:

SEC. __. BUDGETING FOR ONGOING MILITARY OPERATIONS.

The President's budget submitted pursuant to section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, for each fiscal year after fiscal year 2007 shall include—

(1) a request for funds for such fiscal year for ongoing military operations in Afghanistan and Iraq;

(2) an estimate of all funds expected to be required in that fiscal year for such operations; and

(3) a detailed justification of the funds requested.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, the amendment would require regular budgeting for ongoing military operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. The war on terror has been going on for nearly 5 years, since that tragic day in September 2001. Yet since that time the administration has sought to fund the war operations almost entirely through emergency supplemental appropriations measures instead of through its annual budget submissions.

The most recent supplemental measure, which the Senate is expected to pass soon, is the ninth supplemental bill since September 2001. With its enactment, we will have provided over $420 billion to pay for ongoing military operations, reconstruction, and training of Iraqi security forces—defense spending that I fully support. And all of that money is designated as ''emergency'' expenditures—provided without any offsetting revenues, as if it were free money. But it is not. It is not free money.

I think we can fund this war—and, indeed, win this war—while also budgeting for the war. We know the war is

going to cost more than the $420 billion to date, and we know the war is not going to end as quickly as most of us would prefer. In fact, many of us see ongoing operations in Afghanistan for an extended period of time, hopefully at a low level, hopefully taken over by NATO, hopefully Americans not in a major role. But certainly as long as NATO is involved, we will continue to see American participation. But we need to continue, and we need to continue our military operations until the job is done. Withdrawing our military presence prematurely is not an option in my view, the view of many of my colleagues, nor the view of the President or his advisers. We are in it to win.

Unfortunately, the administration's unwillingness to budget for the war through the regular process means that neither the White House nor the Congress is making the tough decisions about how we are going to pay for the ongoing wars. If we continue down this same path, that job will be left to future generations because the expenditures are being made regardless, and eventually their impact on our budget will have to be addressed. The longer we wait to make the tough decisions, the bigger the problem will become, and the more difficult making those tough decisions will be.

Our Nation's future economic success rests in part on the decisions we make today—and the ones we put off. We are facing some dire fiscal challenges in the days ahead. According to the Government Accountability Office, the unfunded Federal financial burden—such as public debt, future Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid payments—totals more than $46 trillion, or $156,000 per man, woman, and child in America. According to David Walker, the head of the GAO, for a family, this burden is ''like having a $750,000 mortgage—and no house.''

But instead of fixing the problem—and fixing it will not be easy—we are only succeeding in making it bigger, more unstable, more complicated, and much more expensive. And adding hundreds of billions of dollars that are more conveniently designated as ''emergency'' expenditures—so they do not have to be budgeted for along with other national priorities—is only making our fiscal problems that much greater.

Somehow the concept of true emergency funding bills has gotten lost along the way. Take the most recent supplemental appropriations bill. The President requested a total of $94.5 billion to fund our operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as additional funding to aid in the recovery efforts along the hurricane-affected gulf coast and other urgent needs.

I believe the war funding is the largest amount yet proposed in what is now almost a routine series of supplemental requests to fund this ongoing war. A Senate-passed bill provided $108.9 billion in spending—$14.4 billion above the level the President has indicated he is willing to sign. Despite the efforts of several of us to trim that bill of unrequested earmarks and questionable spending, the Senate did not have the will to do so prior to the bill's passage. It wasn't until conference, with the looming threat of a sustainable veto, that the bill was trimmed. But the fact remains that the funding provided for in that bill is enormous, and it would be more fiscally responsible to be dealt with in the annual authorization and appropriations bills.

Of course, that supplemental is only the most recent example of why this amendment is necessary. Since 2001, the administration and Congress have routinely funded our ongoing operations in Afghanistan and Iraq through emergency supplemental appropriations bills. In addition, many defense-related activities that should have been financed through the normal appropriations process have been funded through these emergency supplementals. And in the process, more and more nondefense-related spending has also been creeping into these bills, greatly undermining the budget process.

There are several criticisms of the supplemental appropriations process that I hope the Senate will agree are egregious enough to lend overwhelming support for the adoption of the amendment.

First, unless we take action, ''emergency'' funds will continue to be employed as a way to add spending above that contained under the budget caps. It has become all too routine for the administration to omit what should be normal spending items for the budget it sends to Congress in February. Instead, the administration relies on supplementals to fund critical ''must-pass items,'' such as operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as more routine defense spending. Congress then approves these requests and regularly tries to augment them with non-emergency, nondefense items.

Second, supplemental appropriations have diminished responsible budget decisions and proper oversight by Congress. Put aside for a moment that authorizing committees are not consulted with regard to supplemental appropriations in the same manner that occurs during the normal annual budget process. Emergency supplemental appropriations requests are not forwarded to Congress with the same level of budget justification and details that are routinely sent to Congress when the President's annual budget is forwarded in February of each year. If the authorizing and appropriations committees are not allowed to scrutinize fully the effectiveness of defense programs and are unwilling to end programs that are not effective, we will continue to have an ineffectual budget.

Third, budgeting annually through emergency supplemental appropriations bills encourages pork-barrel spending. I think the 2-week debate on the most recent supplemental is fresh in everyone's mind, so I will not mention the many provisions that objections were raised against. But the fact is, unrequested add-ons which ultimately make it into the final supplemental appropriations conference reports are almost never the subject of a hearing in the authorization and appropriations committees. They are seldom, if ever, subjected to a recorded vote in a committee or on the floor of the House or the Senate. These items very often are not even included in legislation initially passed by the House or Senate but are instead added by a conference committee.

Here is a very important aspect of this which I hope all my colleagues will pay attention to because unless we look back in history, it is hard for us to understand how egregious this process has become.

For the Korean war, which lasted 3 years, there was one supplemental appropriations bill.

During the 11-year Vietnam war, there were four supplemental appropriations bills. As soon as troop levels in Southeast Asia stopped climbing, the Johnson and Nixon administrations requested funding for ongoing operations in the regular Defense authorization and appropriations bills.

Since 9/11, there have been nine supplemental appropriations bills, in 5 years, to fund the ongoing war on terror, including two in each of the years of 2002, 2004, and 2005. Over 90 percent of the funding for Iraq and Afghanistan ongoing operations—ongoing operations—has been funded through one to two emergency supplemental appropriations bills each year for the past 5 years. It now totals over $420 billion in emergency supplemental funding.

So we pass budgets, we put caps on budgets, and then we add $80 billion, $90 billion, $100 billion—in total, over the last 5 years, $420 billion—despite the fact that during this time Congress provided over $2.2 trillion for defense-related expenditures in the regular annual defense spending bills.

We are blowing the budget process. We are carving gigantic holes in the system. And we are removing the authorizing committees and, to a degree, the appropriating committees from the scrutiny and oversight that is our responsibility. It is not our privilege to oversight the spending of our taxpayers' dollars and the authorization and appropriation of it; it is our responsibility. When we look at these emergency supplementals, we find more and more items which really have nothing to do with the war in Iraq. They may be replacements for equipment that was used in Iraq, but haven't we reached the point, in both Iraq and Afghanistan, where we can plan ahead in a normal budgetary process?

I wish to emphasize, again, if there is a genuine emergency, I will be the first Member of the Senate to suggest and approve of a genuine emergency. This in no way—this in no way—reduces the

executive branch's or the legislative branch's ability to approve emergency supplemental bills if they are genuine emergencies.

Now, if someone objects to this amendment, I wonder how we were able to need only one supplemental appropriations bill during the entire Korean war or why during the entire 11-year Vietnam war there were only four. But somehow, now we have had to have nine emergency supplemental bills in 5 years, and it now totals over $420 billion in emergency supplemental funding.

Now, in the interest of straight talk, if I were a member of the executive branch, I would find this a very convenient way. Isn't it a lot easier to just ask for an emergency supplemental and write out the details of it and have it passed rather than going through the normal budgeting process, which I will admit is somewhat cumbersome? But it was intended to be because of Congress's responsibilities to oversight the taxpayers' dollars.

So this amendment is about fiscal responsibility. Most of us have voted in recent years to support several sense-of-the-Senate amendments stating that the war should be budgeted for in the regular process. In fact, just this past April 27, the Senate voted 94 to 0 to approve such an amendment. I have supported that proposition each time it has been offered. The amendment before us would put real meaning into the positions we have previously voted to support.

Let me also be clear about what this amendment does not do. It does not seek to prevent any future emergency funding requests for war operations. It does require budgeting for the ongoing expenses we know are going to occur. If next year, after the budget is submitted in February, a totally unforeseen expenditure arises that must be urgently addressed, the administration would have the ability to submit a supplemental request. But simple cost-of-doing business expenditures—costs that can be estimated and budgeted for—would not be allowed.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to extend the time for the vote by 5 minutes and that I be recognized at the conclusion of the 5 minutes.

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

Mr. MCCAIN. Since my colleagues anticipate a vote, I will be brief.

We could sit down now and figure out probably most of the costs for operations in the coming year, 2 years, in Afghanistan and Iraq. We have a good idea as to what kind of budgeting we are going to have to be involved in and what the necessary authorization and appropriation will be. I want to emphasize: This amendment in no way impairs the ability to enact another emergency supplemental if it is required. What we are doing now is an end run around the authorizing, appropriating, and budgeting processes, and we are lying to the American people when we say we are only going to spend so many dollars on the various functions of Government; in this case, on Defense and military expenditures.

I yield the floor and ask for the yeas and nays on this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. May I inquire of the distinguished Senator if he has any way of estimating the amount of further debate on this amendment because we could quite likely schedule it for a vote this evening, subject to his concurrence.

Mr. MCCAIN. In response, I ask my colleague from Michigan, I don't know of others who have asked to speak on it.

Mr. WARNER. I understand Senator BYRD would like to.

Mr. LEVIN. My remarks in support of the McCain amendment will be fairly brief, but Senator BYRD does wish to speak on the amendment. We are trying to ascertain how much time he desires.

Mr. WARNER. Fine, then I ask unanimous consent that upon the conclusion of the scheduled vote, the Chair recognize the Senator from Arizona for such additional remarks as he may wish to make.

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

Mr. MCCAIN. I ask unanimous consent that Senator STEVENS be added as a cosponsor to my amendment.

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, let me congratulate Senator MCCAIN, not just for his honesty in the budgeting amendment, but also for the previous amendment which he brought up while I was absent from the floor and which I am proud and pleased to cosponsor, which would name this bill after our esteemed colleague, Senator WARNER. We will have a lot more to say about that later, but it is the right thing to do. I know there will more Members on the Senate floor when we accomplish that wonderful goal.

Mr. WARNER. I thank my longtime colleague and friend, Senator LEVIN, for his remarks.

I advise the Senate at this time we will proceed to the vote. I will momentarily make a tabling motion, and then upon conclusion of the vote, we will return to the McCain amendment. It would be my fervent hope that we can have a vote on that amendment prior to the time the leadership desires that floor activities be terminated.

AMENDMENT NO. 4230

I move to table the Dorgan amendment and ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) are necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) would vote ''nay.''

The result was announced—yeas 55, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 169 Leg.]

YEAS—55

Alexander	DeWine	McConnell
Allard	Dole	Murkowski
Allen	Domenici	Roberts
Bennett	Ensign	Santorum
Bond	Enzi	Sessions
Brownback	Frist	Shelby
Bunning	Graham	Smith
Burns	Grassley	Snowe
Burr	Gregg	Specter
Chafee	Hagel	Stevens
Chambliss	Hatch	Sununu
Coburn	Hutchison	Talent
Cochran	Inhofe	Thomas
Coleman	Isakson	Thune
Collins	Kyl	Vitter
Cornyn	Lott	Voinovich
Craig	Lugar	Warner
Crapo	Martinez	
DeMint	McCain	

NAYS—43

Akaka	Feingold	Mikulski
Baucus	Feinstein	Murray
Bayh	Harkin	Nelson (FL)
Biden	Inouye	Nelson (NE)
Bingaman	Jeffords	Obama
Boxer	Johnson	Pryor
Byrd	Kennedy	Reed
Cantwell	Kohl	Reid
Carper	Landrieu	Salazar
Clinton	Lautenberg	Sarbanes
Conrad	Leahy	Schumer
Dayton	Levin	Stabenow
Dodd	Lieberman	Wyden
Dorgan	Lincoln	
Durbin	Menendez	

NOT VOTING—2

Kerry	Rockefeller

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. WARNER. I move to reconsider the vote, and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I will now propound a unanimous consent agreement which I think is in the possession of my colleague.

Mr. LEVIN. It is.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the time until 5 o'clock today be equally divided between myself and Senator MCCAIN and the Democratic leader or his designee, with 20 minutes of the Democratic leader time under the control of Senator BYRD, and that at 5 o'clock a vote occur in relation to the McCain amendment No. 4242, with no further intervening action or debate, and no second-degree amendments in order prior to the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. LEVIN. Reserving the right to object, and I will not, I wonder if the Senator can make room in there for an additional 3 minutes under our control

so I can speak in favor. We can work that out.

Mr. WARNER. I assure the Senator he will have time.

Mr. LEVIN. I have no objection.

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

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I wish to advise colleagues that it may be that we can expedite the vote prior to 5 p.m. So it really, in a sense, is no later than 5 o'clock.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. BYRD. I thank the Chair.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, may we have order, please.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There will be order in the Senate.

Mr. WARNER. The Senator is entitled to be heard.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I thank the very distinguished senior Senator from West Virginia, the West Virginian, the gentleman from West Virginia.

AMENDMENT NO. 4242

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, the Senate will soon vote on an emergency supplemental appropriations bill that would bring the total amount of funds appropriated for the war in Iraq to $318 billion. That is $318 for every minute—every minute—since Jesus Christ was born. Think of it. That is a staggering amount of money. The total amount of funds appropriated for the war in Iraq is $318 billion. But that is not the whole story.

According to a recent report by the Congressional Research Service, the monthly cost of the war in Iraq is going up, up, up, right into the stratosphere.

During the opening phases of the war, the cost of the war was estimated to be $4.4 billion per month. According to the new CRS estimates, that pricetag will rise to an average of $8.1 billion for each month of the next year $8.1 billion. In other words, $8.10, or more, for every minute since Jesus Christ was born. How can this be? How is it that after 3 years of war the cost of operations in Iraq has gone up by 80 percent?

Part of the problem is that funding for the war is being hidden—yes, hidden. Where is it?—hidden from the normal budget authorization and appropriations process. Instead of the President providing Congress with an estimate of how much the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan—there are two of them—how much the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan will cost each year, the administration has chosen to hide those costs. Where? In emergency spending bills.

Since the war in Iraq began in March 2003, the Congress has enacted eight emergency supplemental appropriations bills. None of these measures received the full scrutiny—the full scrutiny—that is so necessary for such massive expenditures. The President refuses to include the full cost of these wars in his regular budget request. Instead, the President sends to the Congress emergency requests with little or no detailed justification.

Five times I have offered amendments in the Senate urging the President to budget for the cost of the two wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Five times. And five times those amendments have been approved, most recently on April 24, 2006, by a unanimous vote—hear me, a unanimous vote—of 94 to 0. However, the White House has shown no sign that it will take the fiscally responsible course of beginning to budget for the cost of the wars.

There are two wars going on. One, I supported the war in Afghanistan. The other war in Iraq, I did not support our invasion of Iraq for constitutional reasons.

I am pleased to work with my colleague, Senator MCCAIN, to build on my previous efforts to urge the administration to budget for the war. We are there. We are in there. Our men and women are there, and we are going to support them. I didn't support the policies that sent them there, but I support them, the men and women, our men and women who are over there.

The amendment before the Senate, of which I am a proud cosponsor, would create a requirement in law to force the administration to give a full year's estimate of the cost of military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. What is wrong with that? The amendment before the Senate, of which I am a proud cosponsor, would create a requirement in law—a requirement in law—to force the administration to give a full year's estimate of the cost of military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The amendment also requires the administration to submit a detailed justification of the administration's budget request. As the ranking member of the Appropriations Committee, I expect that this justification would include a breakdown of the funding request by each appropriations account and detailed information about prior years' war spending. The very last thing that Congress wants to see is a gargantuan request of scores of billions of dollars in the form of a slush fund or a no-strings-attached transfer account.

This is the people's money. Do my colleagues know that? Think about it. Whose money is this that we are talking about? It is the people's money, those people out there who are watching this Senate through those lenses. That is their money, the people's money that we are talking about, and the American public has the right to demand accountability.

With this amendment, the Senate is charging a fiscally responsible course which can generate a real debate on the cost of these wars. That is a debate that is long overdue—long overdue—and I urge my colleagues to support this important amendment.

FLAG DAY

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, ''Hats off! Hats off! The flag is passing by. Hats off! The flag is passing by.''

Those are the powerful words of Henry Holcomb Bennett in his stirring poem, ''The Flag Goes By.''

I recite those words because today, this day, is June 14, Flag Day. Yes, Flag Day. There by the President's desk, that flag. This day is Flag Day, the day that Americans pause to celebrate and show our respect for our great national emblem, the American flag. This, unfortunately, is not a Federal holiday but, in my opinion, is one of the most important days of the year. This is a day filled with so much meaning, so much symbolism, so much history.

It was on June 14, 1777, that the Continental Congress adopted the Flag Act that established the official flag of the United States of America. The 13 Colonies assembled in the Continental Congress took this action because they understood the need for a symbol of our national unity.

During the early days of the American Revolution, the Colonial Armies were fighting under the banners of their individual Colonies or, in some cases, of their local militia units. The banner of New England, for example, was the Liberty Tree. Do you remember the Liberty Tree? It showed a green pine tree on a field of white, with the words ''An Appeal To Heaven.'' Oh, the Liberty Tree, which showed a green pine tree on a field of white, with the words ''An Appeal To Heaven.'' The Minutemen from Culpepper County, VA waved a flag with a coiled rattlesnake which carried the motto ''Liberty or Death'' and the warning ''Don't Tread on Me.'' The flag of militia units in Charleston, SC proclaimed ''Liberty'' in white letters on a field of blue.

This diversity of flags seemed to reflect a lack of unity among the Colonies. Feeling the need to establish a symbol of national unity, on June 14, 1777, 229 years ago today, the Congress resolved:

> That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation.

Mr. President, I have always been impressed with the wisdom and the foresight of the Founders of our country, and here again, we can see their brilliance. The simplicity of that chosen pattern, alternating stripes and crisp new stars, white stars on a field of blue, allowed our flag to evolve along with the ever-changing map of America. The flag they chose has become the most visible symbol of our Nation. The flag they chose has become our most beloved and respected national icon. That flag symbolizes our Nation's strength, our Nation's honor, our Nation's ideals, and our national purpose. It recognizes our glorious past while it celebrates a more glorious future.

Legends abound regarding who actually created the first American flag.

The American Naval hero John Paul Jones and Francis Hopkinson, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, have both been cited as possible creators, as has John Hulbert of Long Island, NY. Tradition, of course, generally attributes the first flag to Betsy Ross. I like to believe in that version of the story, because it appeals to my sense of the American spirit and to my belief that each and every citizen has a responsibility to our Nation. It is a story of the powerful father of our country visiting a humble needle woman in her house and asking her to undertake the monumental task of making the first American flag.

Whoever created the first flag, within a few months of its unveiling, the flag was under fire for the first time in the battles of Bennington and Brandywine. A few months later, on November 1, 1777, our national banner went to sea for the first time when Captain John Paul Jones set sail in his sloop, the ''Ranger,'' from Portsmouth, NH, for France. When the French fleet saluted his ship off the coast of that country on February 14, 1778, it marked the first time that foreign vessels had acknowledged the American flag. With the winning of independence in 1783, the American flag was recognized as the banner of the United States of America throughout the world.

Twenty years later that flag was under fire again, this time in the War of 1812. On the night of September 13, 1814, British ships on their way to Baltimore, not far from here, bombarded Fort McHenry, which blocked their entry. When morning came—yes, when morning came, the star spangled banner was still waving, revealing to Francis Scott Key that the enemy had failed to penetrate the American lines of defense. Impressed by this awesome, awesome, glorious sight, Francis Scott Key was inspired to write the immortal lyrics that Congress later adopted as our National Anthem.

How we all love to recall the stirring words from the second stanza.

'Tis the Star-Spangled Banner: O long may it wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

In 1824 came that eventful day in Salem, MA, when a group of women presented a beautiful 12- by 24-foot flag to Sea Captain William Driver, who was about to embark upon a global voyage. After the flag was hoisted from the ship's masthead, Captain Driver looked at the flag waving so heroically in the wind, and he exclaimed, ''Old, Glory! Old Glory!'' Ever since that time, the name has been used to symbolize our love and our respect for our national emblem.

There it is, Old Glory.

In our dangerous and uncertain world, Old Glory has always been there. It was there before you were born, before I was born—yes. It was there, always there, guiding us, inspiring us, giving us hope as well as direction.

President Woodrow Wilson—I was born during his administration—President Woodrow Wilson once remarked, ''Though silent, it speaks to us.'' How right he was. Its mere presence stirs emotions. Look at it there by the President's desk. Its mere presence—there it stands—its mere presence stirs emotions.

The flag embodies our ideals of freedom, justice, and brotherhood, values that are deeply rooted in the best of our political and spiritual emotions and traditions. The flag means home, the safety and security of home, and tells us that freedom still lives in this land we love.

The flag symbolizes our values and ideals as well as our power, our economic and military might. The flag rallies the courage of American men and women and children.

Our flag has been a guide and an inspiration to our Armed Forces. It has inspired our men and women to deeds of valor and sacrifice. Who can think of the American flag without thinking of the marines heroically planting that flag on top of Iwo Jima during World War II or American astronauts planting it on the moon or those New York City firefighters hoisting the American flag in the rubble of the Trade Towers on September 11, 2001?

Flag Day was first officially observed in 1877 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the selection of the American flag. For the next 70 years, people and movements across the country promoted efforts to establish a national Flag Day. In one of those attempts, Congressman Joseph Goulden of New York, in 1914, introduced legislation to make June 14 a national holiday, to celebrate Flag Day. In testimony to the House Judiciary Committee, Congressman Goulden explained:

We would honor ourselves by making it a holiday. I think the love and devotion we all have for the flag and what it represents will tend to make us better citizens.

And so it was on August 3, 1949, that Congress approved a joint resolution that designated June 14 as Flag Day, in commemoration of the adoption of the flag of the United States by the Continental Congress.

How glad I am that Congress took this action. The American flag sums up all the best of our Nation, all that is good and decent in America. Throughout our history, it has transcended our differences. It has affirmed our common bond as a people and our solemn unity as a Nation.

Unfortunately and tragically, some people will always try to use this national icon to stir disunity. This is a shame and a sham because, above everything else, our flag is representative of our national unity:

One nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

''Indivisible, with liberty and justice for all,'' those words, of course, come from the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, our oath to generations past and future that we stand together as one great Nation. Think of how often throughout the course of the history of our country, our Nation, citizens have risen, hands over their hearts, and uttered those words together, knowing that their destinies were interwoven. We are bound together like the threads that form the fabric of that flag. We should put our energies to strengthening that bond, not unraveling it.

That pledge to our flag was originally written in 1892 by Francis Bellamy and was first used at the dedication of the World Fair in Chicago. The pledge initially read:

I pledge allegiance to my flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation indivisible—with liberty and justice for all.

The original wording was altered slightly in 1923 and 1924. In 1954—and I was there in the House of Representatives when Congress added the phrase ''under God'' to the pledge, which President Eisenhower explained:

In this way we are reaffirming the transcendence of religious faith in America's heritage and future; in this way we shall constantly strengthen those spiritual weapons which forever will be our country's most powerful resource in peace and in war.

That was Dwight Eisenhower.

As a result, the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag now reads:

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.

So on this birthday of Old Glory, Flag Day, 2006, I join with my colleagues and my fellow citizens in urging that we protect the American flag as a force to unite us, not as a tool to divide us. As Henry Holcomb Bennett says in his poem, ''more than a flag is passing by.''

Hats off!

Along the street there comes
A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums,
A flash of color beneath the sky:
Hats off! The flag is passing by!

Blue and crimson and white it shines,
Over the steel-tipped, ordered lines.
Hats off!
The colors before us fly;
But more than the flag is passing by.

Sea-fights and land-fights, grim and great,
Fought to make and to save the State:
Weary marches and sinking ships;
Cheers of victory on dying lips;

Days of plenty and years of peace;
March of a strong land's swift increase;
Equal justice, right and law,
Stately honor and reverend awe;

Sign of a nation, great and strong
To ward her people from foreign wrong:
Pride and glory and honor, all
Live in the colors to stand or fall.

Hats off!
Along the street there comes
A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums;
And loyal hearts are beating high:
Hats off!
The flag is passing by!

Happy birthday, Old Glory. Long may you wave. ''O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia is recognized.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, may I commend our distinguished senior colleague, former majority leader of the

Senate, for that brilliant speech, most appropriate on this day. I am certain that speech will be carried and viewed by our troops wherever they are in the world. In well over 60-some nations our men and women are standing guard tonight, protecting our freedoms.

I congratulate you, sir. Thank you very much.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I thank the very distinguished—yes, very distinguished Senator from the great State of Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. I thank my colleague.

Mr. President, I fully support the McCain amendment.

This amendment would require regular budgeting for ongoing military operations in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Since 2001, the administration and Congress has funded our ongoing operations in Iraq and Afghanistan through emergency supplemental appropriation bills, as has been the case in previous times in our Nation's history. As the Congressional Research Service noted in a June 13, 2006 report, ''Supplementals have been the most frequent means of financing the initial stages of military operations.''

The report continues:

> In general, however, past administrations have requested, and Congress has provided, funding for ongoing military operations in regular appropriations bills as soon as more accurate projections of costs can be made.

Operations have stabilized to an extent that accurate estimates of future years' costs of the operations in Iraq and Afghanistan may be made. And, it is now time for the administration to present these costs as part of the regular budgeting process.

Emergency supplemental appropriation requests are not forwarded to Congress with the same level of budget justification and details that are routinely sent to Congress when the President's annual budget is forwarded in February each year. If the authorizing and appropriation committees are not allowed to scrutinize fully the effectiveness of defense programs, we are not providing the taxpayer with the full diligence due for scrutinizing the President's budget request. While, I—and I am sure all my colleagues—fully support our troops, and want to ensure they have all the resources they need, we must also provide strong budgetary oversight.

We have not always funded our war efforts through routine supplemental appropriations measures. It is worth examining history to perceive how the practice has been exploited beyond all reasonable defense, as Senator MCCAIN recently recounted, and it bears repeating:

For the Korean war, which lasted 3 years, there was only one supplemental appropriations bill;

During the 11-year Vietnam War, there were four supplemental appropriation bills. As soon as troop levels in Southeast Asia stopped climbing, the Johnson and Nixon administrations requested funding for ongoing operations in the regular defense authorization and appropriation bills;

Since 9/11, there have been nine supplemental appropriation bills in 5 years to fund the ongoing war on terror, including two in each of the years of 2002, 2004, and 2005. It now totals over $420 billion in emergency supplemental funding.

Most of us have voted in recent years to support several Sense of the Senate amendments stating that the war should be budgeted for in the regular process. Just this past April 27, the Senate voted 94–0 to approve such an amendment. I fully supported that proposition each time it has been offered. Now, this amendment before us would put real meaning into the positions we previously voted to support.

Let me also be clear about what this amendment does not do. It does not seek to prevent any future emergency funding requests for war operations. But it does require budgeting for the ongoing expenses we know are going to occur. If next year, after the budget is submitted in February, a totally unforeseen expenditure arises that must be urgently addressed, the administration would have the ability to submit a supplemental request. But simple ''costs of doing business'' expenditures—costs that can be estimated and budgeted for, but are more conveniently funded without any offsets—would not be allowed.

I simply say that this amendment goes a long way to restore the proper balance, as we lay down our Senate procedures in committees, between the authorizing process and the appropriators. I do not suggest in any way that the appropriators intentionally encroached on the authorizing process. To the contrary. It was because of the exigencies, the difficulty in predicting the expenditures associated with the current military operations that necessitated these large appropriations. But this amendment will go a long way to restore that.

I urge my colleagues to support the amendment.

I know my distinguished colleague from Michigan has a few words, and then we will go to the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan is recognized.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I will be brief. First, let me thank the Senator from West Virginia. He, as always, speaks eloquently. If I can make the claim, he speaks for all of us when he talked about our flag and what it means to him. I think he reflected the spirit of every Member of this body. I thank him for it.

I also thank Senators BYRD and MCCAIN. The McCain-Byrd amendment, which restores honesty and truthfulness to our budget process by reflecting the cost of war, is absolutely essential if we are going to have a realistic budget. Regardless of whether one supports or doesn't support our going to war or how the operations have taken place, it is critically important that we pay the cost and know what we are paying for and that the budget reflect those costs.

The effort has been made year after year to do that but so far without success because it was not put into law. This amendment of Senator MCCAIN and Senator BYRD will put this requirement in law. It is essential. I commend both of them for it.

I believe all Members of this body, regardless of the differences we may have about our policy on Iraq, should agree that we should budget for and pay for these operations. This week Congress will send to the President the second FY2006 supplemental which includes another $70 billion on the operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, on top of the $50 billion provided in December. That means in the current fiscal year we will spend $120 billion, or $10 billion a month, on these operations—and none of it was included in the President's 2006 budget. I can think of no clearer evidence of the need for this amendment.

In February, I included the following statement in my letter to the Budget Committee:

> [T]hese costs should be moved into the regular budget process, rather than continuing to treat them purely as emergency spending. These expenses are not, to use the words of section 402 of last year's budget resolution, ''unforeseen, unpredictable, and unanticipated''. Calling them emergencies does nothing to reduce their impact on our federal deficit and debt. Furthermore, the Quadrennial Defense Review released by the Department of Defense last month asserts that our military is fighting a ''long war'' that ''may last for some years to come''. If this is so, all the more reason to start recognizing the ongoing costs of this ''long war'' in our budget, so we can start paying for it. So far, these costs have been financed entirely by deficit spending. That may be necessary for a short, unforeseen war, but if a ''long war'' is part of our national security reality, it must become part of our fiscal reality, and we must pay for it.
>
> There is an additional reason why these costs should be built into our regular budget process. Supplementals are not subjected to the oversight of the authorizing committees. I believe it is time for that to change. The costs of war are enormous, and these costs, starting with the $50 billion budget amendment the administration intends to submit, should receive more oversight, and putting this funding through the normal budget process will help Congress do its oversight job better, which will better serve the American public.

As I also stated at our Armed Services Committee hearing with Secretary Rumsfeld in February that:

> Reponsible budgeting means making choices and setting priorities. This budget request fails that test. It understates the true cost of our defense program because it does not fully recognize or pay for the cost of ongoing operations in Iraq and Afghanistan in 2007. Funds for those will apparently be requested later this year on an emergency, non-paid for, basis. That is not responsible budgeting. Those costs should be planned on and paid for now. Honest budgeting requires no less.

It is essential that our budget begin to reflect reality and recognize the enormous cost of these ongoing military operations. I congratulate Senator

MCCAIN and Senator BYRD for this amendment, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following Senators be added as cosponsors to this amendment: Senators SNOWE, ENSIGN, LIEBERMAN, OBAMA, INOUYE, AKAKA, and SALAZAR.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 4242. The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) are necessarily absent.

I further announce that if present and voting, the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) would vote ''aye.''

The result was announced—yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 170 Leg.]

YEAS—98

Akaka	Dole	McCain
Alexander	Domenici	McConnell
Allard	Dorgan	Menendez
Allen	Durbin	Mikulski
Baucus	Ensign	Murkowski
Bayh	Enzi	Murray
Bennett	Feingold	Nelson (FL)
Biden	Feinstein	Nelson (NE)
Bingaman	Frist	Obama
Bond	Graham	Pryor
Boxer	Grassley	Reed
Brownback	Gregg	Reid
Bunning	Hagel	Roberts
Burns	Harkin	Salazar
Burr	Hatch	Santorum
Byrd	Hutchison	Sarbanes
Cantwell	Inhofe	Schumer
Carper	Inouye	Sessions
Chafee	Isakson	Shelby
Chambliss	Jeffords	Smith
Clinton	Johnson	Snowe
Coburn	Kennedy	Specter
Cochran	Kohl	Stabenow
Coleman	Kyl	Stevens
Collins	Landrieu	Sununu
Conrad	Lautenberg	Talent
Cornyn	Leahy	Thomas
Craig	Levin	Thune
Crapo	Lieberman	Vitter
Dayton	Lincoln	Voinovich
DeMint	Lott	Warner
DeWine	Lugar	Wyden
Dodd	Martinez	

NOT VOTING—2

Kerry	Rockefeller

The amendment (No. 4242) was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 4236

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I am submitting an amendment today that addresses the issue of military assistance to foreign countries. Senators WARNER and LEVIN have tried to be responsive to an administration request for increased funding and flexibility in providing assistance to countries that are partners with us in the war against terrorism. I applaud their efforts and will enumerate the problems that I do not have with the overarching purpose of section 1206.

I agree that there should be a new program that specifically addresses the shortcomings that many of our partners in the war against terror face in tracking and finding terrorists on their soil or in nearby seas.

I understand that current security assistance programs, the Foreign Military Financing program, for example, require a long lead time, sometimes 2½ to 3 years from request to delivery of equipment. There are urgent cases now where we need to respond more quickly than we currently can.

Nor do I object to providing significant funding for the program. The request of the administration for $750 million does not seem exorbitant given the threats that we are trying to address. Nonetheless, I respect the opinion of my fellow authorizers on the Armed Services Committee that there is only $400 million that can be devoted to the problem at this time from the Defense budget.

While on the ground floor of organizing such a new activity, however, my concern is that we get the decision-making mechanism right. We must make certain that the recipients chosen, the design of the programs, and implementation are in the best foreign policy interests of the United States. We are in this war on terror for the longterm. This is an important program that will go through many changes. Recipient countries will change. Areas of the globe where it must focus may change. The propensity of subsequent administrations may change as they have to make their own hard choices.

We need to get the basics right now so that we are not faced with a situation some years down the road where we have Cabinet Secretaries at odds, struggling with decisions on which countries should receive the aid, when it should be delivered, and how it should be implemented.

Those are decisions that we must insist be overseen by the Secretary of State on behalf of the President. Foreign policy must drive foreign assistance decisions. We cannot have military aid decisions drive foreign policy.

This amendment provides the funding that the Senate Armed Services Committee has authorized for the new program while safeguarding the primacy of the State Department in guiding and overseeing the program. My amendment this year builds on an amendment offered by Senator INHOFE last year on the same subject. That amendment passed the Senate unanimously when it was accepted by Senators WARNER and LEVIN as the proper way to proceed. It, unfortunately, emerged from conference altered to authorize a Department of Defense program that is ''jointly formulated'' with the Secretary of State and requiring the Secretary of Defense to ''coordinate'' with the Secretary of State in program implementation. My amendment is more explicit. While the Inhofe amendment allowed a direct transfer of funds from the Defense Department to the State Department, this amendment explicitly creates a new counterterrorism train-and-equip account that is designed for use by the Department of Defense but is under the authority of the State Department. The Department of Defense would be authorized to contribute to and withdraw from the fund and would implement the train-and-equip programs funded by the account. Proceeding this way would clarify lines of authority and would safeguard the Secretary of State's role as the President's chief foreign policy advisor and manager of bilateral relationships.

My amendment retains an important interagency study due at the end of this year on the issue of military assistance that was contained in last year's section 1206.

The Department of State is now better organized to manage the new account established in this amendment. We can expect decisions to be made quickly and efficiently. Randy Tobias is now double-hatted. He has been named as the Secretary's foreign assistance advisor in addition to his role as the Administrator of USAID. Under his overall guidance, the Department can perform the necessary coordination both with Ambassadors in the field and with regional bureaus to ensure that such a program would be a constructive addition to the bilateral relationship with the recipient country and would contribute to regional stability. These are judgments that our Government must make about every foreign assistance program and the President is best advised on these matters by the Secretary of State.

I hope that my fellow Senators will take a serious look at this proposal and join me in offering it as an amendment to the bill. While the current language of section 1206 requires Secretary of State and ambassadorial involvement, it is difficult to legislate cooperation between agencies. A blurring of roles is inevitable if section 1206 stands unamended, at a time when foreign policy needs to be coherent, persuasive, and successful in the war against terror.

AMENDMENT NO. 4252

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I spoke yesterday about the terrible courthouse shooting that took place in Reno on Monday, and what we can do in the Senate to help prevent such incidents. In order to move that process forward, I will offer the text of Court Security Improvement Act of 2005 as an amendment to the Defense authorization bill.

First, however, I would like to take a moment to update everyone on Judge Chuck Weller's condition. Judge Weller, if you remember, was hit by a sniper's bullet while standing in the window of his Reno office.

According to the latest reports, the judge is in ''good spirits'' and ''out of the woods.'' The bullet seems to have missed his vital organs, and for that, we all thank God.

Now that Judge Weller seems to be stabilizing, it is incumbent on all of us to do whatever it takes to prevent

similar violence—whether in Reno or any other city. Judges like Chuck Weller, their clerks and jurors must be free to serve without threats to their lives.

The amendment I will offer would improve protections for both Federal and State judges. I want to thank Senators SPECTER and LEAHY for all the work they have done in putting this legislation together, and for cosponsoring it today.

On the Federal level, the amendment allows for better cooperation between the judiciary and the U.S. Marshal Service. It also puts in place strong measures to protect the personal information of those who sit on the Federal bench.

At the State level, the amendment would authorize Federal grants to improve security at State courts, like the Reno Family Court where Judge Weller works.

These Federal grants might be used by States to strengthen courthouse infrastructure, such as adding bulletproof windows, or it might be used to hire additional security personnel in the courthouse. In the wake of Monday's shooting, I know the city of Reno and the Washoe County Commission are looking into both of these steps, and I also know they could use our help.

States such as Nevada should always take the lead in protecting their own judicial officers, but we can and should make the Federal Government a better, stronger partner.

In our country, we have 32,000 State and local court judges and approximately 2,400 Federal judges. Our democracy depends on these men and women. They must be able to do their jobs and uphold the law without fearing for their safety.

The time for us to act is now, not after another wake-up call.

The shooting of Chuck Weller is a terrible tragedy, but by passing this legislation, we can ensure at least some small measure of good results.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who seeks time?

The senior Senator from Oklahoma.

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

REVIEW OF INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following letter be printed in the RECORD.

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

U.S. SENATE,
OFFICE OF THE MAJORITY LEADER,
Washington, DC, June 14, 2006.

Hon. TED STEVENS,
President Pro Tempore,
Washington, DC.

DEAR TED: At the request of Senator John Warner, Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services, and Senator Carl Levin, Ranking Member of the Committee, and pursuant to section 3(b) of Senate Resolution 400 of the 94th Congress, as amended by Senate Resolution 445 of the 108th Congress, I request an additional five session days, ending June 22, 2006, on their behalf, to enable the Committee on Armed Services to complete its review of S. 3237, the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM H. FRIST, M.D.,
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate.

GOLDEN GAVEL

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, today I have the pleasure of announcing that the Senator from South Carolina, Mr. DEMINT, is the latest recipient of the Senate's Golden Gavel Award, having completed 100 hours of presiding over the Senate at 2:15 this afternoon.

The Golden Gavel Award has long served as a symbol of appreciation for the time that Senators contribute to presiding over the Senate—a privileged and important duty. Since the 1960s, Senators who preside for 100 hours have been recognized with this coveted award. Most Members recognize that sitting in that chair is the best way to learn Senate procedure, and Senator DEMINT has done so with excellence, especially on those late nights when we were in dire need of help for the Chair.

On behalf of the Senate, I extend our sincere appreciation to Senator DEMINT for presiding during the 109th Congress.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, today I rise to remember the sacrifices of James Lee Krull, Richard Bruce Apland, Victor Art Rabel, David Aaron Ritzschke, and Richard Lee Lohse, five individuals from Herman, MN, who gave their lives for the United States during the Vietnam war.

On July 9, 2006, the Herman High School Class of 1967 will gather at the Vietnam War Memorial to remember and memorialize the 36th anniversary of the death of classmate James Lee Krull, as well as four other brave men from Herman who during the Vietnam war made the ultimate sacrifice.

James Lee Krull was born on November 23, 1949, the older of two children to Mr. and Mrs. Lean Krull. He attended high school in Herman, MN, and graduated with the class of 1967. After graduating from high school he studied welding at Alexandria Technical College and in 1969, he was engaged to be married to Donna Hutchinson.

He began his tour of duty in Vietnam on March 11, 1970, as an Army corporal serving as a medic with the 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division.

On July 9, 1970, Jim died from wounds he received on June 14, 1970, while on patrol in Cambodia.

Jim was a highly decorated soldier. Prior to his death, Jim was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for heroism, the Purple Heart, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Expert badge with automatic rifle bar. Posthumously he was awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Combat Medical Badge.

Herman, MN, also lost other sons in Vietnam, who we should pause to recognize today.

PFC Richard Bruce Apland of the 82nd Airborne died on January 19, 1969, as a result of injuries suffered while serving in Vietnam.

LCpl Victor Art Rabel of the Marine Corps died on February 23, 1969, as a result of injuries suffered while serving in Vietnam.

PFC David Aaron Ritzschke of the Marine Corps died on July 15, 1967, as a result of injuries suffered while serving in Vietnam.

PFC Richard Lee Lohse of the 101st Airborne died on May 12, 1968, as a result of injuries suffered while serving in Vietnam.

James Lee Krull once wrote, ''many great men have come from small towns, and now here I am.'' These five men embody this statement. It is because of this kind of heroism that America remains the greatest nation the world has ever known.

Again, I thank James Lee Krull, Richard Bruce Apland, Victor Art Rabel, David Aaron Ritzschke, and Richard Lee Lohse for their sacrifice and extend my heartfelt sympathy to the families and friends of those brave men.

MARINE LANCE CORPORAL RICHARD Z. JAMES

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I would like to set aside a few moments today to reflect on the life of Marine LCpl Richard ''Rick'' Z. James. Rick epitomized the best of our country's brave men and women who fought to free Iraq and to secure a new democracy in the Middle East. He exhibited unwavering courage, dutiful service to his country, and above all else, honor. In the way he lived his life—and how we remember him—Rick reminds each of us just how good we can be.

Rick was born to Carol and Kenneth ''Jake'' James of Seaford in November 1985. He had two older siblings, Jeff and Tina, and a younger brother, Jonathan. Rick was a 2004 graduate of Seaford Christian Academy, where he played soccer, basketball, and baseball. His friends and family remembered him at his memorial service, describing Rick as having a playful, somewhat mischievous nature and as an enthusiastic athlete who thrived on competition and gave his all on the playing field. Fellow U.S. Marine Cpl. Kevin Martens of Salisbury described his friend of 10 years as ''fun, energetic, always trying

to make people laugh. He was a great guy to be around.''

His enthusiasm and thirst for excitement led to his decision to join the Marines shortly before graduation from Seaford Christian Academy in June of 2004. His mother Carol stated, ''That's all he ever wanted to do, and he was thrilled when he was doing military duty.'' Rick's father, when speaking to several hundred friends, family, and members of the community gathered for his son's memorial service, said that ''He always wanted to have the hardest job. In baseball, he wanted to be the catcher. In soccer, he wanted to be center-midfielder. He wanted to be involved.'' Above all, Mr. James reminded us that ''Rick had a dream and he followed it.'' He then urged us all, ''If you have a dream, follow it.''

This was Rick's second tour of duty in Iraq serving with Kilo Company, 3rd Battalion, 8th Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force. The day the young lance corporal lost his life, he was providing security at an over-watch position within a building when he was struck by small arms fire near Ramadi, Iraq. Ramadi is one of the most dangerous spots for our troops in Iraq where, according to an embedded reporter on assignment for USA Today, ''about 8 out of 10 of Kilo's foot patrols engage in contact with the enemy.'' On a daily basis, our marines in Ramadi face threats of sniper attacks and catastrophic roadside bombs.

Rick James grew up in the tightly knit community of Seaford, DE. News of Rick's death rocked the community, as he was the second Marine from Seaford to die in a week's span, and the town's third Iraq war fatality since operations began in 2003. With two funerals within days of one another, the city of Seaford turned out in force to support the families of the fallen soldiers, lining the streets with American flags, in a demonstration of overwhelming compassion and patriotism.

One always wonders how a family survives a tragedy like this. After spending time with Rick's loved ones, it was very clear to me that this family, and their son Rick, found their strength through an unwavering faith in God and the support of their family, friends, and community. Pastor John Reynolds, the lance corporal's cousin said, ''Rick had a passion for his family. Rick had a passion for the Marine Corps. Rick knew beyond a shadow of a doubt that if something were to happen he'd spend eternity with his God. Rick died offering himself for the sake of others.'' Pastor Donnie Reynolds who spoke at the service for Rick perhaps said it best. ''Rick did not just exist. He lived out God's plan. I believe Rick James is an American hero.'' The evening before, during a quiet moment as we paid our respects to the family, Rick's father said, ''People now refer to his son as a hero, but he has always been a hero to me.''

I rise today to commemorate Rick, to celebrate his life, and to offer his family our support and our deepest sympathy on their tragic loss.

FLAG PROTECTION AMENDMENT

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise today, Flag Day, in support of S.J. Res. 12, which seeks to establish a constitutional amendment to ban the desecration of our flag.

From the time of our Revolutionary War to this very moment, Old Glory has been the undying symbol of our Nation. While it is a symbol that has many different meanings to many different people, it is the one symbol that represents the hopes and dreams of millions of people who have fled tyranny in another land and fought to preserve freedom here at home. More than anything else, it represents the selfless sacrifices of previous generations who have willingly laid down their lives so that we can live in the most prosperous and free nation in the history of the world.

As a Marine, I served under our flag as I proudly do now as the Senator from the great State of Montana. Thus, I know a thing or two about what our flag stands for—as does most every veteran who served and sacrificed under our flag, or who has fired and been fired upon in combat defending what our flag stands for. Countless millions of American soldiers have done and continue to do the same. As we speak, there are over 14,000 Montanans in the service of their country, 1,365 of whom are now serving overseas.

It is simply an insult to these brave Americans that the sacrifices they have made in the name of liberty under the American flag are spit on by people who would burn, trample, or otherwise willfully desecrate our flag. While we rightly honor the brave men and women who have sacrificed their lives, we do not yet honor the symbol for which those sacrifices were made by protecting our flag. That is why we need a constitutional amendment.

Some argue that that it is a form of speech. However, it is sad that someone cannot defend their arguments or clearly state their national hatred without setting a fire? Frankly, if the totality of your argument can be summed with gasoline and matches, then you just do not have much of an argument to begin with.

Even more striking is that these people, devoid of new ideas, resort to tactics used by our enemies abroad. Look at the video of those who would destroy us—protests in Iran, for example. Our enemies burn our flag while calling for our deaths because they know it is our symbol They want to destroy us and have no respect for our freedoms and way of life. Sadly, there are some in this country that, while they may or may not share that goal, do share that tactic.

We owe it to the generations who came before us and to the brave men and women who protect us now to protect the symbol which meant so much to them. Far too many have sacrificed too much serving under our flag for me to sit on the sidelines and do nothing. That is why I see it as my duty to voice my support on behalf of all Montanans for a constitutional amendment prohibiting flag desecration.

RETIREMENT OF SUPERINTENDENT JAMES McCANN

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I am honored to recognize James McCann, a tireless and dynamic educator, on his retirement after 40 years of service in Michigan. For 20 years, Jim has served as district superintendent of the Lamphere School District with unparalleled leadership and vision. His efforts have led to numerous opportunities for his teachers, staff, students, and their families, as well as others across Michigan, and have earned the Lamphere School District many awards and achievements over the years. I know I join many in Michigan in congratulating him on a stellar career that has spanned decades and has inspired generations of students to strive for excellence.

After earning a teaching degree from Eastern Michigan University and a master's degree in educational administration from the University of Michigan, Mr. McCann has focused his efforts in southeast Michigan. He began as an educator with the Archdiocese of Detroit. Five years later, he accepted a position with the Lamphere Schools. During his tenure with the Lamphere Schools, he served as an administrative assistant, assistant principal, and a principal at various schools in the district, and in 1986, he was named the district superintendent.

Jim's passion for integrating technology into the classroom has earned him national recognition, and I am familiar with Jim's energetic and passionate approach to educating young people. I have been privileged to work with Jim on an effort to enhance learning across Michigan, and that project has benefited greatly from his innovation and enthusiasm.

In 1982, Jim attended a summer institute at Harvard University that emphasized the importance of using technology to teach multiple learning styles. Recognizing an urgent need to train teachers and staff in the district in computer networking, programming and software use, he developed an innovative plan to install cable and wiring in classrooms and to provide a 2-week training program for his teachers. This innovative approach led to Lamphere being the first district in Michigan to have Internet access in the classroom, which occured in 1992.

Jim has been the chairman of the Oakland County Superintendents' Committee for Instructional Technology since 1992 and through this position has helped to improve and advance the use of educational technology in schools throughout Oakland County. In 1996, he was instrumental in bringing

the JASON Project to Michigan. This effort established the Lamphere School District as a JASON Project Primary Interactive Network site for Michigan. As host for JASON, Lamphere Schools helped thousands of Michigan students experience exciting scientific adventures. In 2001, Mr. McCann received the first-ever ''Tech-Savvy Superintendent Award'' for his leadership and vision in the area of educational technology, one of only 10 educators nationwide to earn this distinction by ''eSchoolNews.''

I know my Senate colleagues join me in congratulating James McCann on his retirement. I am proud to recognize his contributions to education and the indelible mark he has made in teaching with technology in Michigan. I wish him and his family many more years of good health and happiness.

RURAL HOSPITAL AND PROVIDER EQUITY ACT

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I rise today to emphasize the importance of enacting into law S. 3500, the Rural Hospital and Provider Equity Act of 2006. I would also like to thank the chairman of the Senate Rural Health Caucus, Senator THOMAS, along with Senators ROBERTS, CONRAD, and HARKIN, for taking the lead on this important piece of legislation.

There should be no difference between the quality of care that my constituents in South Dakota receive and constituents in urban States such as New York receive. Cancer, diabetes, and other diseases do not discriminate between people in rural or urban areas and there should be no discrimination between the health care services available in Lemmon, SD, and health care services available in New York City.

The Rural Hospital and Provider Equity Act extends and builds upon the important rural equity provisions included in the Medicare Modernization Act. These provisions can mean the difference between traveling 5 miles to the Wagner Community Memorial Hospital or 110 miles to Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls. These provisions—in more graphic terms—can mean the difference between a fatal heart attack and the successful stabilization of a heart attack patient.

In order to give a better picture of the benefits of this legislation, I would like to tell you a little bit about the challenges of ensuring health care access in South Dakota. My State has 66 counties and an average of 9.9 persons per square mile. The national average for individuals per square mile is 79.6.

Of these 66 counties, 44 are classified as medically underserved areas, areas that have insufficient health resources, manpower, or facilities to meet the medical needs of the population. The sheer vastness of South Dakota poses significant challenges in meeting the health care needs of our population. The Rural Hospital and Provider Equity Act includes hospital, physician, home health, ambulance, and telehealth provisions that can make the distances of South Dakota more manageable and give my constituents access to the quality health care they deserve.

This legislation contains many provisions that will allow critical access and sole community hospitals, as well as rural doctors, to continue providing services to individuals who need it most, I would also like to highlight the telehealth provisions included in this bill that would continue serving rural beneficiaries and expand access to the type of care provided in more urban areas.

Telehealth uses telecommunications and information technologies to provide health care services at a distance. It provides individuals in remote underserved areas access to specialists and other health care providers through the use of technology. Additionally, the practice of telehealth brings medicine to people—people who live in medically underserved areas and people who are too frail or too ill to leave the comfort of their homes.

Section 19 of the Rural Hospital and Provider Equity Act requires the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to create demonstration projects that would encourage home health agencies to utilize remote monitoring technology. Utilizing technology in the home health setting would reduce the number of visits by home health aides while still providing quality care.

Each demonstration project is required to include a performance target for the home health agency. This target would be used to determine whether the projects are enhancing health outcomes for Medicare beneficiaries, as well as saving the program money. Each year, the home health agency participating in the pilot would receive an incentive payment based on a percentage of the Medicare savings realized as a result of the pilot project.

The demonstration projects would be conducted in both rural and urban settings because medically underserved areas exist across the country. Three projects, however, are required to be conducted in a State with a population of less than 1 million.

Although numerous studies have praised the ability of telehealth to deliver care to individuals in remote areas, it has been continually underutilized and hampered by legal, financial, and regulatory barriers. Section 20 of the Rural Hospital and Provider Equity Act directs the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to work with health care stakeholders to adopt provisions allowing for multistate practitioner licensure across State lines for the purposes of providing telehealth services. This provision is a step in the right direction of breaking down the barriers that prevent the adoption of telehealth.

Technology is improving each and every day and health care systems in rural America should be taking advantage of technology to provide quality health care in remote underserved areas. The telehealth provisions included in the Rural Hospital and Provider Equity Act help promote the adoption of technology and have the potential to expand access to quality health care.

Individuals living in rural areas like my State of South Dakota deserve the same caliber of health care that individuals living in urban areas receive. The Medicare Modernization Act was a great start to placing rural health care providers on the same level playing field with providers located in urban areas. The Rural Hospital and Provider Equity Act continues and expands this level playing field, ensuring that rural Americans have access to high-quality health care services.

I thank Senator THOMAS for his leadership on this and other rural health issues and encourage my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation.

INTERNET SAFETY ACT

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about S. 3499, the Internet SAFETY Act, a bill that I have cosponsored with Senator KYL and other Members of this body.

This legislation targets child pornographers, and it continues the important progress this Congress has made to crack down on those who commit crimes against children.

Earlier this year, the Senate passed S. 1086, which would require lifetime registration by sex offenders throughout the United States and would substantially increase punishments for those convicted of sex crimes against children. The House has passed its own sex offender bill, which contains many sensible provisions. And the two Chambers are negotiating to resolve their differences. Hopefully we will soon reach an agreement—and a tough, smart bill will be reported to the President.

I firmly believe there is only one way to deal with those who prey on children: they must be caught sooner, punished longer and more stringently, and they must be watched much more closely than they are today. I began advancing this law enforcement theme while I served as Texas attorney general. There, I created a specialized unit known as the Texas Internet Bureau to coordinate and direct efforts to fight Internet crimes such as fraud, child pornography, and privacy concerns. The Texas Internet Bureau successfully identified several Internet predators that were caught, prosecuted and convicted.

I will continue to work in the Senate to ensure that law enforcement agencies have every tool they need to bring these criminals to justice. The Internet SAFETY Act will play an integral part in bringing child crime predators to justice.

This bill creates a new Federal offense for financially facilitating access

to child pornography on the Internet, mandates penalties for Web site operators who insert words or images into their internet source codes with the intent to deceive persons into viewing obscene material on the internet; and requires commercial Web site operators to place warning marks prescribed by the Federal Trade Commission on Web pages that contain sexually explicit material.

It is critical that this legislation become law. The supposed anonymity of the Internet has apparently emboldened child pornographers. The availability of child pornography on the Internet is staggering, as is the presence of those who would prey on innocent children. To illustrate this point, consider that in 1998 the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's CyberTipline received 3,267 reports of child pornography. In 2004, the CyberTipline received 106,119 of these reports, marking more than a thirtyfold increase in child pornography reports in just a 6-year period. This is more than a disturbing trend, and it shows no sign of slowing down.

The Internet is uniquely suited to facilitate the creation and replication of pornographic images of children, as well as the speed and anonymity to distribute them. And, not surprisingly, criminal enterprises spring up for the purpose of distributing child pornography and feeding the insatiable desire of those who target children.

Let me provide an example from my home State of Texas. Several years ago, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, in cooperation with Dallas's Internet Crimes Against Children, ICAC, task force, was able to locate and dismantle a multimillion-dollar child pornography enterprise conducting business over the Internet. This effort, dubbed Operation Avalanche, resulted in over 7,000 searches and more than 4,000 arrests around the world.

This Congress simply cannot stop working until we are certain that we have provided all of the resources necessary to stop those who commit crimes by exploiting children. And so this bill, in addition to providing additional legal authorities, also creates an Office on Sexual Violence and Crimes Against Children within the Department of Justice to coordinate sex offender registration and notification programs, directs the Attorney General to provide grants to state and local governments for child sexual abuse prevention programs, and authorizes 200 additional child exploitation prosecutors in U.S. attorneys offices around the country and 20 additional Internet Crimes Against Children, ICAC, task forces.

I urge my colleagues to study this bill carefully. I am hopeful that we can garner enough support to quickly bring it to a vote and pass it out of the Senate.

SUMMER OF PEACE: AMONG THE NIMIIPUU

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I rise today as cochair of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Congressional Caucus, which has helped communities and tribes across the country commemorate the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark expedition. Our goal is to provide resources that promote and enhance tourism opportunities that reflect unique local characteristics, interests, and history along the Lewis and Clark Trail.

Over the last 3 years, America has commemorated this historic journey to the West, celebrating culture and life. This Saturday, we will again recognize the daring journey of the Lewis and Clark expedition that helped discover the West and her vast resources and viewscapes we enjoy today.

The Summer of Peace Signature Event in Idaho is an opportunity for all of us to evaluate the long chain of cause and effect that links past, present, and future.

From the journal entries, we have learned the explorers were not only discoverers and describers of the unknown land, but also sightseers whose experiences depended on the good will and assistance of strangers.

The Lewis and Clark Expedition entered the Nimiipuu, Nez Perce, aboriginal homelands in September of 1805, and with this first chance encounter, they were met with caution. After crossing the daunting Rocky Mountains, the explorers were in dire need of food and shelter. They described the Nimiipuu as friendly, hospitable, and gracious hosts who assisted the expedition.

Without the assistance of tribes such as the Nimiipuu, Lewis and Clark and their party would have likely become lost or died from starvation. The expedition itself heavily relied on those who inhabited the land—their survival depended on American Indians' willingness to share knowledge about the land, its resources, and practical routes across it.

Today, the Nez Perce, Lemhi Shoshone, and other American tribes are working diligently to preserve the heritage and culture that was such a large part of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and that played such a significant role in the history of the West. The leadership of these tribes of yesterday and today has helped shape the identity of America and the West.

The Nez Perce Tribe in particular has become very closely involved with the commemoration, and has been an integral part of planning and preparing for Idaho's part of the celebration, including events like the Summer of Peace Signature Event. This event not only honors the contributions of the Nimiipuu then, it recognizes the tradition of peaceful and meaningful relationships that characterize the American West.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HAROLD KELLER PUBLIC SERVICE LEADERSHIP AWARD

• Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, each year many of America's best and brightest high school students come together to compete in the John C. Stennis National Student Congress. For nearly 30 years Harold Keller has been the driving force behind this event, which has provided thousands of young people an opportunity to develop leadership skills and learn about Congress.

Harold Keller is known as ''Mr. Congress'' within the National Forensic League, which encompasses the National Student Congress as part of its comprehensive national speech and debate program. Each year he has worked tirelessly to make the week-long competition run smoothly and fairly. But perhaps more importantly, he has also made time to provide personal encouragement and guidance to many of those who take part.

It is this commitment and compassion that has made him not only an integral part of the National Student Congress but also a memorable force in the lives of many students who have participated through the years.

In addition to his leadership of the Student Congress, Harold Keller is a tireless champion of speech and debate education throughout the Nation. He has spent many weekends away from home conducting local and district tournaments and seminars. Despite retiring as a speech and debate teacher at West High School in Davenport, IA, in 2003, Mr. Keller continues his service on the Executive Council of the National Forensic League and continues to provide leadership and inspiration not only to students, but also to teachers and coaches who view him as a mentor. It was in recognition for his lifelong efforts that the National Forensic League inducted him into its Hall of Fame.

Mr. Keller has faithfully lived his life by the philosophy expressed on a poster which hangs in his office quoting the words of Forest Witcraft:

A hundred years from now it will not matter
what my bank account was,
The sort of house I lived in or what kind of
car I drove.
But the world may be different because I was
important in the life of a child.

When the 2006 John C. Stennis National Student Congress convenes in Grapevine, TX, June 18–23, with over 420 competitors from throughout the United States, the Stennis Center for Public Service, which sponsors the event, will honor Harold Keller by establishing the Harold Keller Public Service Leadership Award. Beginning next year, the Keller Award will be presented annually to a former Student Congress competitor who has made significant contributions to his or her community, State, or Nation through public service leadership. The Harold

Keller Award will recognize individuals who have best applied the lessons learned through participation in the Student Congress to become outstanding leaders in public service.

There is perhaps no better way to recognize and honor Mr. Keller's commitment and leadership than through this award. Each year, the winner will return to the National Student Congress to serve as a role model and inspiration to the newest class of participants.

In recognition of the establishment of this award and of Mr. Keller's many years of selfless leadership, the Stennis Center will present him with a replica of the small, handleless gavel which sits on the rostrum of this Chamber today. This gavel, a very significant symbol of the Senate, was used by Vice President John Adams to call the first Senate to order in 1789 in New York and has, according to tradition, rested on the rostrum of the Senate during its meetings since then. The replica of the original ivory gavel is sculpted from marble that was once part of the Capitol.

It is hoped that Harold Keller will receive the replica of this historic Senate gavel as a symbol of our gratitude for his patriotism and tireless leadership in providing opportunities for young men and women to prepare for public service. Ultimately, however, the greatest reward for him, and for our Nation, must be the quality and character of the leadership that will come from those who benefited from his hard work, teaching, and guidance.

We pay tribute to Harold Keller for the wonderful leadership opportunities he has provided over the past three decades for American youth participating in the John C. Stennis National Student Congress, and congratulate him on the well deserved honor of having a national award for public service leadership established in his name.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. CAROL CARTWRIGHT

● Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to a distinguished leader in the field of higher education, Dr. Carol Cartwright, president of Kent State University in Ohio. Dr. Cartwright is stepping down after 15 years of valuable service in her role as president.

Dr. Cartwright is a visionary, who oversaw significant growth at Kent State during her tenure as president. She provided guidance as Kent State dramatically increased enrollment, research development, and community outreach. Dr. Cartwright has left a lasting impression on higher education in Ohio, and I thank her for her commitment, drive, and optimistic spirit. She has served as an inspiration to both her students and her peers.

Not only has Dr. Cartwright provided outstanding leadership during a time of change at Kent State, but she also has worked to expand the institution's relationship with the surrounding community. For example, she helped establish a meaningful partnership between Kent State and the Oak Clinic for Multiple Sclerosis in Green to help discover why multiple sclerosis, MS, which typically strikes during the early adult years, is four times more prevalent in northeast Ohio than anywhere else in the world. Dr. Cartwright's dedication to Kent State's research facilities and equipment improvements allowed for this collaboration and will help people in the region receive treatment, regardless of income. Physicians and researchers will be able to work toward a better understanding of MS, the development of new treatments, and the ultimate goal of finding a cure.

Dr. Cartwright's commitment to the community led her to focus on improving the quality of education for children well before the commencement of their college years. Kent State has become a national center for research on the use of technologies for teaching and learning. The College and Graduate School of Education is home to the Research Center for Educational Technology, which opened in 1999. The center provides a network for university researchers and K–16 educators who are working to understand the impact of technology on teaching and learning.

These are but a few examples of the years of work that Dr. Cartwright has contributed to Kent State University and the entire State of Ohio. In a recent interview in Crain's Cleveland Business: On the Web, Dr. Cartwright said, ''I'm driven by the opportunity to make a difference. In the end, I will be honored if—in their own way, building on their own example, or their own experience—people will say 'she made a difference for Kent State.' ''

Indeed, Dr. Cartwright has made a significant difference to Kent State University and thousands of students. I thank her for her vision and dedication to students, faculty, community members, and all those individuals who have been or will someday be positively affected by her work.●

COMMENDING JEAN PICKER FIRSTENBERG

● Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I wish to offer my sincere congratulations, commendation, and gratitude to Ms. Jean Picker Firstenberg, who announced last week that she will be stepping down as chief executive officer of the American Film Institute after 26 years of dedicated and exceptional leadership.

During a tenure lasting nearly three decades, Jean's vision and leadership has placed AFI at the forefront of national recognition with respect to the history of film in this country. Her efforts dramatically widened the scope and magnitude of AFI's activities, and she has proven instrumental in moving the organization through times of tremendous change at AFI and in the film world as well.

Founded in 1967, AFI was established to educate the next generation of American filmmakers and preserve the Nation's film heritage. Jean not only fulfilled this vital need but worked to greatly expand AFI's mission. Thanks to her efforts, AFI now stands as the largest nonprofit film exhibitor in the country, represents a preeminent voice celebrating excellence in American film and television, and has proudly championed new film and television media.

Perhaps Jean's greatest challenge came when the National Endowment for the Arts funding which had been AFI's primary source of financial support since the organization's inception disappeared virtually over night. But thanks to Jean's firm dedication to our Nation's film heritage and her boundless energy, she transformed AFI into the self-sufficient entrepreneurial organization it is today with a strong and diverse financial foundation.

Beyond placing AFI on firm financial grounding, Jean's tenure has also seen myriad accomplishments that will forever cement her legacy at AFI and in the film and television world. Under her direction, AFI acquired the beautiful campus in Los Angeles it calls home, greatly expanded its educational opportunities, and opened the Silver Theater and Cultural Center in nearby Silver Spring, MD.

Jean Firstenberg is an American treasure, and her presence as head of AFI will be sorely missed. It is truly a pleasure to honor and thank her for all she has done for film in America, and I am deeply proud to call her my friend. She plans to spend more time now traveling and writing, but she will always be the strongest of advocates for America's rich artistic heritage.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF CRESBARD, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to the 100th anniversary of the founding of the city of Cresbard, SD. Cresbard, which is a small, friendly community, is home to various businesses, in addition to a museum and an excellent community center.

Cresbard was originally located about 3 miles northwest of its present location and named after John A. Cressey and George A. Baird. In 1883, Mr. BAIRD circulated a petition for establishment of the Cresbard post office which was located in Mr. Cressey's home. On June 15, 1892, Mr. Cressey granted James A. Ward a right-of-way for the Duluth, Pierre, and Black Hills Railroad. The railroad grade was built across the counties of Faulk, Hughes, Sully, Hyde, Edmunds, and Brown. Despite this attempt, tracks were never laid.

In 1906, surveyors for the Minneapolis & St. Louis Railroad came through, and men from the Dakota Town Lot Company began to develop locations

along the newly proposed right-of-way. In 1907, the residents of Cresbard finally heard the sound of a train whistle.

Although having an economy that is predominately agriculturally based, Cresbard is now considered home by several businesses including a post office, hotel/restaurant, automotive service station, and a bank. Cresbard is also home to several churches, and is viewed as a haven for hunters from October through December each year.

I am pleased to announce that Cresbard will be celebrating its centennial from June 30 to July 2. The centerpiece of this anniversary will be the all-school reunion. There are numerous other events scheduled including a car show, hot air balloon rides, 10K run, softball tournament, and street dance. These activities should serve as a reminder to the citizens of Cresbard that the community spirit is alive and well.

Mr. President, I am proud to publicly honor Cresbard on this memorable occasion. This celebration is a great way of recognizing Cresbard's long and productive history, and I am pleased that the citizens of Cresbard, past and present, are being honored and celebrated.●

HONORING RUTH ZIOLKOWSKI ON HER 80TH BIRTHDAY

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I wish today to recognize and honor Ruth Ziolkowski on the occasion of her 80th birthday.

Ruth Ziolkowski deserves great recognition for her dedication to the establishment of the Crazy Horse Memorial Foundation. She is the president of the board of directors and chief executive officer of the foundation, which is a nonprofit educational and cultural project established in 1949. Ruth assumed leadership of the project after the 1982 death of her husband, Crazy Horse sculptor Korczak Ziolkowski. Work on the memorial is now a family endeavor, with many of Ziolkowski's five sons and five daughters working as a team to advance the project.

Native American leaders chose the figure of Crazy Horse for his devotion to serving his people and preserving their culture. He was known not only for his skill in battle but also for his loyalty to his people. Ruth Ziolkowski, in many ways, reflects his character.

When completed, the Crazy Horse Memorial will be the world's largest sculpture. In 1998, the completion of the face of Crazy Horse made it the world's largest single sculpted portrait. However, the goals of the Crazy Horse Memorial Foundation go beyond completion of the physical structure. The foundation works for reconciliation and harmony between races, and provides services such as the Crazy Horse Memorial Native American Scholarship Program, which assists students from the nine South Dakota reservations.

Ruth Ziolkowski holds honorary doctorate degrees from South Dakota School of Mines and Technology and the University of South Dakota. In 1997, she received the Free Spirit Award from the Freedom Forum, which is a nonpartisan, international foundation dedicated to free press, free speech, and free spirit. In addition, Korczak and Ruth Ziolkowski have been accepted into the Hall of Fame of Sales and Marketing Executives International, Inc.

On June 26, 2006, Ruth Ziolkowski's 80th birthday, there are plans to bring the mountain alive with Legends in Light, a multimedia laserlight show that tells the story of Native Americans and their contributions throughout the centuries. The celebration's magnitude can only strive to match the vast contributions the Ziolkowski family have made to ensuring that the dream behind the Crazy Horse memorial comes true.

Mr. President, I wish to publicly recognize Ruth Ziolkowski's achievements, and wish her the best on this special occasion.●

TRIBUTE TO CATHERINE CIARLO

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and honor the significant accomplishments of Cranston School Superintendent Catherine Ciarlo. Superintendent Ciarlo is retiring on June 30 after 46 years of working tirelessly to educate and raise the academic achievement of Rhode Island's students.

After graduating cum laude from Rhode Island College with a bachelor's degree in elementary education, Catherine entered the classroom as a reading teacher the beginning of her lifelong commitment to developing and improving the literacy skills of Rhode Island's children.

Horace Mann, considered by many historians to be the father of modern American education, once said, ''Teachers teach because they care. Teaching young people is what they do best. It requires long hours, patience, and care.'' Superintendent Ciarlo consistently exhibited all of these qualities, devoting her life to leading the Cranston school system to new scholastic heights and maintaining a steady focus on providing her students with a high-quality, first-class education.

Catherine was appointed superintendent of Cranston Public Schools in 1997. During her tenure, she has helped foster a strong community of learning for all Cranston students. A potent symbol of her successful efforts as Cranston superintendent is the district's most current State report card where it met or exceeded proficiency targets in math and literacy across all grades and racial subgroups, and for both ESL students and those with disabilities. These scores are also an emblem of what is likely to be Catherine's most enduring legacy her passionate dedication for ensuring that students whom traditionally might have gotten lost in the shuffle were given the necessary support to enable them to thrive academically.

Superintendent Ciarlo's contributions have been recognized in the past, most notably in 2005, when she was named Rhode Island's Superintendent of the Year and as a finalist for National Superintendent of the Year. Countless students owe their academic and professional success and achievements to Superintendent Ciarlo's efforts. Educators such as Catherine form the backbone of American society, providing our children with the essential tools to succeed in an ever-expanding global economy and keeping the United States competitive in the world.

I have a special place in my heart for the Cranston School System. For many years my father worked there, ultimately as the supervisor of custodians. He would be very proud of ''his system'' under the expert leadership of Catherine Ciarlo. So am I.

Thank you for your exemplary service, Catherine, and for your important contribution to the education of Rhode Island's students.

CONGRATULATING THE AGRICULTURE FUTURE OF AMERICA ON ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the Agriculture Future of America, AFA, on its 10-year anniversary. AFA was founded by R. Crosby Kemper, Jr., to encourage and support college students who are preparing for careers in agriculture.

AFA is forming the future of agriculture by preparing the industry's future leaders today. This organization more than any other I know of gives young professionals access to industry leaders and training from professional corporate consultants while they are still in college. In just 10 years, the organization and its members have established an outstanding reputation in the agriculture industry. AFA members can be found in respected positions throughout agriculture and the business world. They are recognized by companies as reliable, effective leaders who can meet the challenges posed by an ever-changing economy.

R. Crosby Kemper, Jr., recognizes the potential of college students coming from rural America especially when coupled with opportunity they otherwise might not have. Mr. Kemper founded AFA with the vision to create an organization that would catalyze further development of these young adults on a professional level. As I travel around Missouri and to other areas, I see that our farmers are aging. We need effective young professionals to be prepared to take over the reins. AFA creates a professional network that respects individuals and promotes lifelong learning as well as building of lifelong alliances.

As I have said so many times before, Americans enjoy the safest, most affordable and most abundant food supply of any country in the world. That is due to the efforts of farmers in Missouri and across the Midwest. AFA is producing leaders who will help us maintain this position as a world leader in production agriculture.

I want to thank the leaders of AFA and its members for their commitment to agriculture. They understand why it is important we continue to support this vital industry. The U.S. food system is the largest industry in the U.S. and is the leading export sector of our economy. Few things are as important to America's future as the health and safety of our food system.

Agriculture is also one of the leading industries in Missouri; more than 14,000 jobs are directly created by agriculture. This number doesn't even include the thousands of jobs supporting this industry. Thankfully, AFA is there to help men and women who are interested in agriculture realize their potential in an exciting and vital industry.

Congratulations to AFA members and leadership on this landmark occasion. I look forward to working with you as an organization and as agriculture leaders in the future.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF TEA, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize the city of Tea, which is celebrating its centennial this year.

The community of Tea began as a small German agricultural village originally named Byron. However, when a railroad was built between Sioux Falls and Yankton, a stop was added in the community and the residents decided to establish a local post office. The Postal Service advised the residents that the name ''Byron'' was already taken by several other locations and suggested that they come up with a new town name. At a town meeting, the residents had listed several possibilities when they decided to take a tea break. The name ''Tea'' was offered and eventually selected as the town's name. Now, 100 years later, the community of Tea continues to be a place where residents make everyone feel welcome.

It gives me great pleasure to rise with the citizens of Tea in celebrating their centennial anniversary and wish them continued success in the years to come.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

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

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

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:21 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4894. An act to provide for certain access to national crime information databases by schools and educational agencies for employment purposes, with respect to individuals who work with children.

H.R. 5117. An act to exempt persons with disabilities from the prohibition against providing section 8 rental assistance to college students.

The message also announced that the House agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 372. Concurrent resolution recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Interstate Highway System.

H. Con. Res. 408. Concurrent resolution commending the Government of Canada for its renewed commitment to the Global War on Terror in Afghanistan.

H. Con. Res. 421. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress and support for Greater Opportunities for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (GO-STEM) programs.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 6:01 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 1445. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 520 Colorado Avenue in Arriba, Colorado, as the ''William H. Emery Post Office''.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following concurrent resolutions were read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 372. Concurrent resolution recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Interstate Highway System; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H. Con. Res. 421. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress and support for Greater Opportunities for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (GO–STEM) programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC–7123. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A300 B4–600, B4–600R, and F4–600R Series Airplanes, and Model C4–605R Variant F Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2004–NM–272)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7124. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A318–100 and A319–100 Series Airplanes; Model A320–111 Airplanes; and Model A320–200, A321–100, and A321–200 Series Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2005–NM–097)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7125. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Aerospatiale Model ATR72 Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2005–NM–059)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7126. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A318–100 and A319–100 Series Airplanes, A320–111 Airplanes, A320–200 Series Airplanes, and A321–100 and A321–200 Series Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2005–NM–189)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7127. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A330–200 and –300 Series Airplanes; and Model A340–200 and –300 Series Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2004–NM–206)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7128. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Empresa Brasileira de Aeronautica S.A. Model EMB–135 Airplanes and Model EMB–145, –145ER, –145MR, –145LR , –145XR, –145MP, and –145EP Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2005–NM–003)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7129. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 737–600, –700, –700C, –800, and –900 Series Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2004–NM–114)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7130. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A321–100 and –200 Series Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2005–NM–128)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7131. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier Model DHC–8–102, –103, –106, –201, –202, –301, –311, and –315 Airplanes''

((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2005–NM–249)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7132. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A330–200, A330–300, A340–200, and A340–300 Series Airplanes; and A340–541 and A340–642 Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2004–NM–67)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7133. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A300 B4–600, B4–600R, and F4–600R Series Airplanes, and Model C4–605R Variant F Airplanes; and Model A310–200 and A310–300 Series Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2005–NM–098)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7134. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A319–100 and A320–200 Series Airplanes; and A320–111 Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2005–NM–246)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7135. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A310–200 and –300 Series Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2005–NM–022)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7136. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce plc RB211 Trent 500, 700, and 800 Series Turbofan Engines; Correction'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2005–NE–49)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7137. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier Model CL–600–2B19 (Regional Jet Series 100 and 440) Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2006–NM–062)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7138. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Model Falcon 900EX Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2005–NM–255)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7139. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 727 Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2002–NM–328)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7140. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier Model CL–600–2B19 (Regional Jet Series 100 and 440) Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2006–NM–062)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7141. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Turbomeca Makila 1 A2 Turboshaft Engines'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2006–NE–09)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7142. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Aerospatiale Model ATR42 Airplanes and Model ATR72 Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2005–NM–245)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7143. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Empresa Brasileira de Aeronautica S.A. Model EMB–120, –120ER, –120FC, –120QC, and –120RT Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2005–NM–234)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7144. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 727, 727C, 727–100, 727–100C, and 727–200 Series Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2005–NM–237)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7145. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier Model DHC 8–400 Series Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2005–NM–162)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7146. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 767–200, –300, and –300F Series Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2004–NM–25)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7147. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Aerospatiale Model ATR42 Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2005–NM–247)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7148. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; McDonnell Douglas Model DC–8–11, DC–8–12, DC–8–21, DC–8–31, DC–8–32, DC–8–33, DC–8–41, DC–8–42, and DC–8–43 Airplanes; Model DC–8F–54 and DC–8F–55 Airplanes; Model DC–8–50, –60, –60F, –70, and –70F Series Airplanes; Model DC–9–10, –20, –30, –40, and –50 Series Airplanes; Model DC–9–81, DC–9–82, DC–9–83, and DC9–87 Airplanes; and Model MD–88 Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2004–NM–256)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7149. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 757–200 and –300 Series Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2004–NM–165)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7150. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 757 Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2005–NM–142)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7151. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; BAE Systems (Operations) Limited Model BAe 146 and Model Avro 146–RJ Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2005–NM–232)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7152. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 757 Airplanes Powered by Pratt and Whitney Engines'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2004–NM–84)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7153. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 747–200C and –200F Series Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2005–NM–068)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7154. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 767 Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2003–NM–215)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7155. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Gulfstream Model GIV–X and GV–SP Series Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2006–NM–061)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7156. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Model F.28 Mark 0100 Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2006–NM–003)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7157. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Sicma Aero Seat; Cabin Attendant Seats Series 150 type FN and Series 151 type WN'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2005–NE–32)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7158. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule

entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Pilatus Aircraft Ltd. Models PC–12 and PC–12/45 Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. 2004–CE–27)) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7159. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Interim Final Rule: Emergency Groundfish Action Correction'' (RIN0648–AU09) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7160. A communication from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Final 2006 Specifications for the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan'' (RIN0648–AU13) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7161. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Adjustment of Pacific Cod Total Allowable Catch Amounts in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands'' (I.D. 031406B) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7162. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands'' (I.D. 042606A) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7163. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management'' (I.D. 042606B) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7164. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Deep-water Species Fishery by Vessels Using Trawl Gear in the Gulf of Alaska'' (I.D. 042606F) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7165. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fisheries; Reopening of Directed Fishery for Loligo Squid'' (I.D. 042606C) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7166. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder Fishery; Quota Transfer'' (I.D. 042706A) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7167. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Temporary Rule; Inseason Bluefish Quota Transfer from VA to NC'' (I.D. 050906A) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7168. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Temporary Rule; 2006 Quota Adjustment (New York Atlantic Bluefish Commercial Fishery)'' (I.D. 050906C) received on May 31, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. SHELBY for the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

*Robert M. Couch, of Alabama, to be President, Government National Mortgage Association.

*James B. Lockhart III, of Connecticut, to be Director of the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, Department of Housing and Urban Development for a term of five years.

*Sheila C. Bair, of Kansas, to be Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation for a term of five years.

*Sheila C. Bair, of Kansas, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation for a term expiring July 15, 2013.

*Sheila C. Bair, of Kansas, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation for the remainder of the term expiring July 15, 2007.

*Donald L. Kohn, of Virginia, to be Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of four years.

*Kathleen L. Casey, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for a term expiring June 5, 2011.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 3507. A bill to establish a National Commission on Entitlement Solvency; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SUNUNU (for himself, Mr. SANTORUM, and Mr. CARPER):

S. 3508. A bill to authorize the Moving to Work Charter program to enable public housing agencies to improve the effectiveness of Federal housing assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. VOINOVICH:

S. 3509. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for the remediation of contaminated sites; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. ALLEN):

S. 3510. A bill to amend the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 to authorize grants for Partnerships for Access to Laboratory Science (PALS); to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. ALLARD (for himself and Mr. REED):

S. 3511. A bill to extend for 5 years the Mark-to-Market program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 3512. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an offset against income tax refunds to pay for State judicial debts that are past due; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BUNNING:

S. 3513. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to extend the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail to include additional sites associated with the preparation or return phase of the Lewis Clark expedition, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 3514. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to restrict the public display on the Internet of the last 4 digits of social security account numbers by State and local governments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. JEFFORDS):

S. 3515. A bill to amend title II, United States Code, to ensure that liable entities meet environmental cleanup obligations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. KOHL, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. Res. 512. A resolution celebrating the 231st birthday of the Army and commending the men and women of the Army as exceptional individuals who live by the values of loyalty, duty, and selfless service; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. SARBANES):

S. Con. Res. 101. A concurrent resolution condemning the repression of the Iranian Baha'i community and calling for the emancipation of Iranian Baha'is; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 58

At the request of Mr. INOUYE, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 58, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit former members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated as total to travel on military aircraft in the same manner and to the

same extent as retired members of the Armed Forces are entitled to travel on such aircraft.

S. 65

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 65, a bill to amend the age restrictions for pilots.

S. 265

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 265, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to add requirements regarding trauma care, and for other purposes.

S. 345

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 345, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to deliver a meaningful benefit and lower prescription drug prices under the medicare program.

S. 635

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 635, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the benefits under the medicare program for beneficiaries with kidney disease, and for other purposes.

S. 647

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 647, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to authorize physical therapists to evaluate and treat medicare beneficiaries without a requirement for a physician referral, and for other purposes.

S. 709

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 709, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a grant program to provide supportive services in permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 717

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 717, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage for kidney disease education services under the medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 1424

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1424, a bill to remove the restrictions on commercial air service at Love Field, Texas.

S. 1584

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1584, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a nonrefundable tax credit against income tax for individuals who purchase a residential safe storage device for the safe storage of firearms.

S. 1741

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1741, a bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize the President to carry out a program for the protection of the health and safety of residents, workers, volunteers, and others in a disaster area.

S. 1915

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1915, a bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to prohibit the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation of horses and other equines to be slaughtered for human consumption, and for other purposes.

S. 1948

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1948, a bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to issue regulations to reduce the incidence of child injury and death occurring inside or outside of passenger motor vehicles, and for other purposes.

S. 1998

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1998, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to enhance protections relating to the reputation and meaning of the Medal of Honor and other military decorations and awards, and for other purposes.

S. 2140

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2140, a bill to enhance protection of children from sexual exploitation by strengthening section 2257 of title 18, United States Code, requiring producers of sexually explicit material to keep and permit inspection of records regarding the age of performers, and for other purposes.

S. 2566

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2566, a bill to provide for coordination of proliferation interdiction activities and conventional arms disarmament, and for other purposes.

S. 2651

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) were added as cosponsors of S. 2651, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to make grants to educational organizations to carry out educational programs about the Holocaust.

S. 2658

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 2658, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to enhance the national defense through empowerment of the Chief of the National Guard Bureau and the enhancement of the functions of the National Guard Bureau, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2658, supra.

S. 2750

At the request of Mr. DEMINT, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2750, a bill to improve access to emergency medical services through medical liability reform and additional Medicare payments.

S. 2831

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2831, a bill to guarantee the free flow of information to the public through a free and active press while protecting the right of the public to effective law enforcement and the fair administration of justice.

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2831, supra.

S. 3114

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3114, a bill to establish a bipartisan commission on insurance reform.

S. 3128

At the request of Mr. BURR, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. GREGG), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 3128, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for uniform food safety warning notification requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 3255

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3255, a bill to provide student borrowers with basic rights, including the right to timely information about their loans and the right to make fair and reasonable loan payments, and for other purposes.

S. 3325

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from Missouri

(Mr. BOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3325, a bill to promote coal-to-liquid fuel activities.

S. 3500

At the request of Mr. THOMAS, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3500, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to protect and preserve access of Medicare beneficiaries in rural areas to health care providers under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 3506

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3506, a bill to prohibit the unauthorized removal or use of personal information contained in a database owned, operated, or maintained by the Federal government.

S.J. RES. 35

At the request of Mr. BYRD, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 35, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to clarify that the Constitution neither prohibits voluntary prayer nor requires prayer in schools.

S. CON. RES. 96

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 96, a concurrent resolution to commemorate, celebrate, and reaffirm the national motto of the United States on the 50th anniversary of its formal adoption.

S. CON. RES. 99

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 99, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the policy of the United States at the 58th Annual Meeting of the International Whaling Commission.

S. RES. 460

At the request of Mr. COLEMAN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 460, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States should increase its support to the people of Somalia in their efforts to end decades of violence, establish lasting peace, form a democratically elected and stable central government, and become an effective partner in eradicating radicalism and terrorism from their country and the region.

S. RES. 482

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 482, a resolution supporting the goals of an annual National Time-Out Day to promote patient safety and optimal outcomes in the operating room.

S. RES. 510

At the request of Mr. MARTINEZ, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 510, a resolution designating the period beginning on June 28, 2006, and ending on July 5, 2006, as ''National Clean Beaches Week'', supporting the goals and ideals of that week, and recognizing the considerable value and role of beaches in the culture of the United States.

AMENDMENT NO. 4205

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4205 proposed to S. 2766, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4205 proposed to S. 2766, supra.

AMENDMENT NO. 4206

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4206 intended to be proposed to S. 2766, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4211

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4211 proposed to S. 2766, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes.

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4211 proposed to S. 2766, supra.

AMENDMENT NO. 4215

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4215 intended to be proposed to S. 2766, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4217

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4217 intended to be proposed to S. 2766, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4218

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4218 intended to be proposed to S. 2766, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. SUNUNU (for himself, Mr. SANTORUM, and Mr. CARPER):

S. 3508. A bill to authorize the Moving to Work Charter program to enable public housing agencies to improve the effectiveness of Federal housing assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. SUNUNU. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Moving to Work Charter Program Act—legislation that would expand the successful Moving to Work demonstration project. Unfortunately, today's housing programs do not always meet the needs of local communities, and public housing agencies are subjected to one-size-fits-all regulations. National rent policies often times do not satisfy distinct characteristics of individual housing markets. Therefore, my legislation will increase flexibility for PHAs to address their local housing needs.

Congress authorized the Moving to Work demonstration program in 1996, and the program has received temporary extensions since then. While the demonstration was originally intended to only be authorized for 3 years—its success has led to continued support from Congress. Moving to Work, or MTW, has been successful due its innovative and locally-designed approach to housing. Under the program, agencies are given appropriate flexibility to design programs that not only provide affordable housing, but aid residents in becoming self-sufficient. When MTW

was established there were three main goals—achieving greater cost-effectiveness, giving housing residents tools to become self-sufficient, and increasing housing choices for low-income families. When one looks at the accomplishments of the agencies that have participated in the program, it is clear that MTW was instrumental in their success in meeting these goals. For this reason, I am eager to apply MTW's proven model to worthy agencies across the country.

My legislation would establish a permanent Moving to Work Charter Program that would include up to 250 PHAs. Participating agencies would possess the same flexibility to design and implement innovative approaches as current MTW participants. While PHAs would have broader discretion, they would still be required to assist substantially the same number of low-income families they currently serve. The local flexibility and independence permitted under MTW will allow agencies to be more responsive to their local conditions, demands, and priorities. Every community has its unique housing needs that are not always best addressed by current HUD regulations.

When looking at current national rent policies, it is evident we have a system in place that encourages dependency, by creating disincentives for individuals to work. Under current law, when an individual's income increases, their rent automatically increases. In essence we are punishing residents for earning more money—money that allows them to live more responsibly and independently. MTW gives agencies the ability to establish rent policies that will encourage residents to increase their income, because they can keep more of their income. In my own state of New Hampshire, the Keene Housing Authority has created a step rent program where tenant contributions to rent are increased on a yearly basis. While their income may increase, their rent will not. This creates an environment where residents are encouraged to work. Increases in tenant rent contributions are phased in each year, providing more certainty for tenants. At the same time, they are preparing residents for entry into the housing market by giving them job training support, tools for financial planning, and homeownership opportunities. This program has resulted in real income growth for residents, without a significant increase to their rents.

The results speak for themselves. At the Keene Housing Authority 46 percent of families were working full time when their MTW program started. Today, 65 percent are working full time. They have also issued more section 8 subsidies than before and have assisted more families in need. MTW has allowed Keene Housing Authority to meet the immediate housing needs of their tenants, while also helping their tenants become more independent.

The MTW program also gives PHAs the ability to merge their funding streams—which is ideal for modernizing or redeveloping their housing stock. PHAs can combine these funds so long as they maintain assistance to the same number of families, and use their funds to continue their efforts to provide affordable housing. Through merging funding streams, Philadelphia has been able to better leverage their federal dollars, and in turn construct hundreds of additional units.

Through community partnerships and innovative thinking at the local level, the Philadelphia PHA has been able to reach more low-income residents, while at the same time reinvigorating community development initiatives. Every community has distinctive housing needs—no one knows those local needs better than the housing agencies that are working every day to provide affordable housing options for community members. MTW allows its participants to maximize efficiency and direct resources where they feel they are most needed to address specific local needs. I specifically want to thank Senator SANTORUM for working with me on this legislation. Obviously, he has seen first hand the success of MTW in this State of Pennsylvania, and I appreciate his input on this bill.

Additionally, I would like to thank Senator CARPER for his support of this legislation. He has also witnessed the benefits of the MTW program in the State of Delaware. The Delaware State Housing Authority's MTW program has been tremendously successful in providing families with the tools to become more independent while still providing affordable housing. I look forward to working with both Senator SANTORUM and CARPER in moving this legislation forward.

By bringing more PHAs into MTW under my bill, more agencies will benefit from streamlined annual reporting and administrative procedures. By doing so, PHAs can focus more of their attention on meeting the housing needs of those they serve. Redundant and burdensome reporting requirements are time-consuming and unnecessary and take the attention away from residents. Under this legislation, PHAs will be able to work with HUD to develop more appropriate reporting requirements that compliment their housing services. For example, PHAs will have the ability to merge their waiting lists, modify inspection standards, and modify lease requirements. Small PHAs and large PHAs are vastly different—HUD should be able to work in collaboration with individual PHAs to determine which requirements pertain to certain agencies. Streamlined reporting will enable PHAs to establish local benchmarks and more purposefully evaluate their programs' effectiveness in providing affordable housing.

My legislation has the support of the local agencies across my State, as well as the endorsement of the Public Housing Authorities Directors Association, the Council of Large Public Housing Authorities, and the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials. I remain committed to working with the PHAs throughout the legislative process to achieve greater flexibility, while ensuring that individuals and families have continued access to affordable housing.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. ALLEN):

S. 3510. A bill to amend the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 to authorize grants for Partnerships for Access to Laboratory Science (PALS); to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I rise today with my colleague from Virginia, Senator ALLEN, to introduce a bill designed to improve the science learning experience for students in low-income and rural schools across the country. Investing in education is about investing in our future. Today's young people will be facing a new world when they enter the workforce—a world that is globally integrated and where technology has transformed the boundaries of human capital. Our tax forms, blueprints, and x-rays can all be analyzed halfway around the world. The greatest asset we have in this country is our collective intellect, and the Nation's competitive future will depend on us nurturing the intellect of the next generation of Americans.

In order to be competitive in the coming decades, we need to ensure that we have given our students the tools to be successful in science, engineering, mathematics, and technology. The Protecting America's Competitive Edge, PACE, Acts, which I am proud to be a cosponsor of, helps provide the tools at all levels of our educational system, from kindergarten through graduate school and beyond. Unfortunately, I am concerned that we may not be paying enough attention to those students that are already in the greatest danger of not reaping the full benefits of America's innovative future, such as minorities, women, and students in low-income or rural schools.

For example, according to the National Science Foundation, only 7 percent of our scientists and engineers are Hispanic, African American, or Native American, despite the fact that they make up 24 percent of the total population. A minority scientist is also far less likely to achieve a post-graduate degree. By 2020, one-quarter of the Nation's schoolchildren will be Hispanic, and another 14 percent will be African American. That's 40 percent of our precious human capital, and we can not neglect that tremendous resource when we talk about improving our competitiveness for the future. No business could afford to leave 40% of its capital sitting idle, and neither can the United States.

That is why I introduced an amendment during the committee markup of the PACE-Energy bill, joined by Senator ALLEN, which will create a series

of outreach programs designed to get more minority elementary and secondary students excited about science, to make them want to enter these fields that will be such a crucial part of our economic future. A program like this called Hispanic Engineering Science and Technology Week, HESTEC, has been operating very successful for the past few years as the University of Texas—Pan American, and I hope to see that success replicated throughout the Nation.

But these types of programs are only one part of getting students hooked on science. We can spend all the time in the world telling students how exciting it is to be a scientist, but unless we actually let them experience that excitement—unless we let them discover the joy of scientific discovery first-hand—we will still lose them. And that is the job of the science laboratory class. A well-designed, well-equipped, well-staffed high school laboratory can be an incredibly invigorating and illuminating experience for a student. It can teach them far more about scientific principles than they can learn from a book or in a lecture, and more importantly, it teaches them the thrill of actually being a scientist. That, more than anything else, can mean the difference between a student who goes on to become a chemist, an engineer, or a medical researcher, and one who loses interest in science forever.

Unfortunately, a recent report by the National Academy of Sciences, called ''America's Lab Report: Investigations in High School Science,'' made some findings that are extremely troubling for those of us who want to provide all of our students an equal opportunity to succeed in science and technology. It found that schools that have high percentages of minorities and low-income students are ''less likely to have adequate laboratory facilities'' and ''often have lower budgets for laboratory equipment and supplies'' than other schools. The study also found that students in those schools ''spend less time in laboratory instruction than students in other schools.'' Rural schools had some of the same problems.

We cannot expect our country to be adequately prepared for the future unless all of our students are adequately prepared for the future. And unless we do something to improve the laboratory experience for our low-income, minority, and rural students, we simply won't be prepared. That is why I am proud to introduce the partnerships for access to laboratory science bill, originally championed by Congressman HINOJOSA, which would authorize partnerships between high-need or rural school districts, higher education institutions, and the private sector, with the goal of revitalizing the high school science labs in those schools. The bill authorizes $50 million in matching grants to help fund comprehensive science instruction improvement plans, with the grant money able to be used for such things as purchasing scientific equipment, renovating laboratory space, designing new experiments or methods of integrating the laboratory with traditional lectures, and providing professional development for high school science lab teachers. This last one is particularly important because one of the key conclusions from the National Academy report is that ''improving high school science teachers' capacity to lead laboratory experiences effectively is critical to advancing the educational goals of these experiences.''

We need to do a lot to ensure that our Nation stays competitive throughout the 21st century, and this bill is only one small step. But it is a sorely needed step, particularly for those students who need our help the most. I invite my colleagues to join us in support of this bill, and I look forward to working to enact this important piece of legislation.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. JEFFORDS):

S. 3515. A bill to amend title II, United States Code, to ensure that liable entities meet environmental cleanup obligations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, the Wall Street Journal recently reported on a growing phenomenon across the West—towns and cities are struggling to ensure cleanup from decades of environmental contamination on properties formally owned by Asarco, LLC.

For over a century, Asarco mined, smelted, and refined metals at sites across the country, leaving behind a legacy of lead, arsenic, and cadmium contamination in more than 90 sites in 22 Western States. But when Asarco filed for bankruptcy in August 2005 suddenly it became unclear if these contaminated sites would ever get cleaned up. Asarco's outrageous legacy of environmental pollution stretches from Helena, MT, to El Paso, TX, and is estimated to total $1 billion nationwide. That is money that taxpayers, not the polluting company, may now have to pay.

In my State, Asarco operated a 14-acre site in Everett from the 1800s until 1912, and two sites in Ruston, a 67-acre property and the larger 97-acre Superfund site on Commencement Bay. When Asarco declared bankruptcy last August, the citizens of Washington State were left with a $100 million Superfund mess. In Tacoma and Ruston, Asarco contractors abandoned cleanup projects midway through, leaving piles of contaminated soil sitting in resident's backyards. Although cleanup resumed thanks to emergency removal funds from the Environmental Protection Agency, these funds only go so far and eventually taxpayers may have to bear the brunt of the costs.

I wish I could say that Asarco is just an exceptionally bad actor, but there is evidence that the company's irresponsible practices are more common than we knew.

That is why in October 2002, I asked the Government Accountability Office to examine how corporate polluters might be avoiding their responsibility under existing environmental law. I was pleased to be joined in requesting this study by then Environment and Public Works Chairman JEFFORDS, Judiciary Chairman LEAHY, and Superfund and Waste Management Subcommittee Chairwoman BOXER. The report found that the Environmental Protection Agency has faced significant challenges in holding polluting corporations responsible for their environmental cleanup obligations, partly due to bankruptcy laws that allow companies to avoid future cleanup costs on sites that were damaged in the past.

In many ways this report confirms what I feared back in 2002, and what became starkly evident last August, that corporate polluters are using bankruptcy and other regulatory loopholes to get out of their environmental cleanup obligations. The report has a whole section on how ''businesses can organize and restructure themselves in ways that allow them to limit their expenditures for environmental cleanups.'' Whether it is using the shield of bankruptcy to evade their obligations, or engaging in corporate shell games with foreign subsidiaries, the ''polluter pays'' principle should hold firm.

To quote again from the report, ''As a result of EPA's inaction, the federal treasury continues to be exposed to potentially enormous cleanup costs associated with businesses not currently required to provide financial assurances.''

Fortunately, the GAO provided not only a thorough analysis of the problem but also a set of detailed recommendations on how to tackle these abuses. Based on their recommendations, I authored the Cleanup Assurance and Polluter Accountability Act of 2006, which I am introducing today along with Senator JEFFORDS, the ranking member of the Environment and Public Works Committee and Senator BOXER, the ranking member of the Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Superfund and Waste Management.

My bill: Enables the bankruptcy court to examine 10 years of past transactions—instead of 2 years—between a parent company and its subsidiary for evidence that companies transferred assets to avoid environmental cleanup responsibilities; requires the National Bankruptcy Review Commission to evaluate conflicting goals between the bankruptcy code and environmental laws and to provide recommendations for action to Congress; reasserts and expands upon the 1980 requirement that the Environmental Protection Agency develop financial assurance regulations and ensure that businesses maintain appropriate financial assurances, providing evidence that they're able to pay for cleaning up of environmental damage

should it occur; and requires companies subject to financial assurance requirements to report declarations of bankruptcy directly to the EPA with an estimation of environmental damage and an explanation of current and former owners or partners of the facility.

These measures will go a long way toward closing these costly loopholes in our bankruptcy code and protecting tax payers from unjust corporate maneuvering to evade cleanup responsibility at polluted sites.

Communities across the country continue to bear the burden of Asarco's irresponsible behavior. The GAO report confirms that this abuse is not specific to Asarco but is increasingly widespread. It will take many more years to clean up the mess that a few bad actors have left behind. We can't afford to stand by and allow another Asarco to happen. We must not ask the taxpayers to continue footing the bill for others' reckless actions. I look forward to working with my congressional colleagues to enact these protections into law.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 512—CELEBRATING THE 231ST BIRTHDAY OF THE ARMY AND COMMENDING THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE ARMY AS EXCEPTIONAL INDIVIDUALS WHO LIVE BY THE VALUES OF LOYALTY, DUTY, AND SELFLESS SERVICE

Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. KOHL, and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 512

Whereas, from the first Continental Army under General Washington to the beaches of Normandy and the city streets of Iraq, the Army has protected the flame of democracy;

Whereas the citizens of the United States continue to enjoy freedom and spread the light of democracy because the men and women of the Army have stood through adversity, remained steadfast in the most difficult of circumstances, and bravely fought against the enemies of peace throughout the world;

Whereas the sacrifices of those men and women of the Army have called all citizens of the United States, both public and private, to the highest forms of citizenship;

Whereas the Army maintains its presence in 120 countries across the world, including Saudi Arabia, Korea, and Kosovo;

Whereas the accomplishments of the Army in the Global War on Terror have demonstrated the courage and strength of the men and women of the Army;

Whereas, in Iraq, the Army has brought freedom to a population once under tyrannical control, allowing the citizens of Iraq to enjoy the recent election of officials, the formation of a constitution, and the formation of the government under Prime Minister al-Maliki;

Whereas the men and women of the Army continued to provide stability and security to Iraqis by killing Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, who was commonly known among terrorists as the ''prince of al-Qaeda'';

Whereas Iraq has become a better place and a great ally, which was evident when the ambassador of Iraq presented his credentials to the Secretary of State for the first time in 15 years; and

Whereas those great accomplishments add to the longstanding tradition of the Army and attest to the extraordinary capability of the men and women who serve the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) salutes the men and women of the Army;

(2) commends the men and women of the Army as exceptional individuals who live by the values of loyalty, duty, and selfless service; and

(3) recognizes that those great citizens—

(A) are the reason why the Army continues to stand as the best military force in the world; and

(B) continue to perform amazing tasks and uphold the honored traditions of the Army by adhering to the principle expressed by General Douglas MacArthur when he proudly declared that ''Americans never quit.''.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 101—CONDEMNING THE REPRESSION OF THE IRANIAN BAHA'I COMMUNITY AND CALLING FOR THE EMANCIPATION OF IRANIAN BAHA'IS

Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. SARBANES) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 101

Whereas in 1982, 1984, 1988, 1990, 1992, 1994, 1996, and 2000, Congress, by concurrent resolution, declared that it deplores the religious persecution by the Government of Iran of the Baha'i community and holds the Government of Iran responsible for upholding the rights of all Iranian nationals, including members of the Baha'i Faith;

Whereas on March 20, 2006, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, Ms. Asma Jahangir, revealed the existence of a confidential letter dated October 29, 2005, from the Chairman of the Command Headquarters of Iran's Armed Forces to the Ministry of Information, the Revolutionary Guard, and the Police Force, stating that the Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Khamenei, had instructed the Command Headquarters to identify members of the Baha'i Faith in Iran and monitor their activities;

Whereas the United Nations Special Rapporteur expressed ''grave concern and apprehension'' about the implications of this letter for the safety of the Baha'i community;

Whereas in 2005 the Iranian Government initiated a new wave of assaults, homes raids, harassment, and detentions against Baha'is, and in December 2005, Mr. Zabihullah Mahrami died after 10 years of imprisonment on charges of apostasy due to his membership in the Baha'i Faith; and

Whereas beginning in October 2005, an anti-Baha'i campaign has been conducted in the state-sponsored Kayhan newspaper and in broadcast media: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) condemns the Government of Iran for the October 29, 2005 letter, calls on the Government of Iran to immediately cease such activities and all activities aimed at the repression of the Iranian Baha'i community, and continues to hold the Government of Iran responsible for upholding all the rights of its nationals, including members of the Baha'i community; and

(2) requests the President to—

(A) call for the Government of Iran to emancipate the Baha'i community by granting those rights guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international covenants on human rights;

(B) emphasize that the United States regards the human rights practices of the Government of Iran, including its treatment of the Baha'i community and other religious minorities, as a significant factor in the foreign policy of the United States Government regarding Iran; and

(C) initiate an active and consistent dialogue with other governments and the European Union in order to persuade the Government of Iran to rectify its human rights practices.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4221. Mr. BINGAMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4222. Mr. BINGAMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4223. Mr. BINGAMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4224. Mr. OBAMA (for himself and Ms. SNOWE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4225. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4226. Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. KERRY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4227. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4228. Mr. CHAMBLISS (for himself and Mr. ISAKSON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4229. Mr. CHAMBLISS (for himself and Mr. TALENT) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4230. Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KOHL, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. NELSON, of Florida, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. REID, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mrs. CLINTON) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2766, supra.

SA 4231. Mr. DEWINE (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4232. Mr. DEWINE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the

bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4233. Mr. DEWINE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4234. Mr. SANTORUM (for himself and Mr. CORNYN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2766, supra.

SA 4235. Mr. ALLARD (for himself and Mr. SALAZAR) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4236. Mr. LUGAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4237. Mr. MARTINEZ (for himself and Mr. NELSON, of Florida) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2766, supra.

SA 4238. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4239. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4240. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4241. Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. FRIST, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. BYRD, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. REED, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. TALENT, Mr. NELSON, of Florida, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. NELSON, of Nebraska, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. DAYTON, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. BAYH, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. THUNE, Mr. ALLARD, and Mr. ALLEN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2766, supra.

SA 4242. Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BYRD, Mr. GREGG, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COBURN, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. REID, Mr. STEVENS, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. INOUYE, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. DODD, and Mr. BURNS) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2766, supra.

SA 4243. Mr. BIDEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4244. Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. CARPER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4245. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4246. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4247. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4248. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4249. Mr. DOMENICI (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4250. Mr. DOMENICI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4251. Mr. DOMENICI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4252. Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SPECTER, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4221. Mr. BINGAMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle F of title III, add the following:

SEC. 375. REDUCTION IN PETROLEUM CONSUMPTION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE VEHICLE FLEET.

(a) REDUCTION REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall take appropriate actions to ensure that the amount of petroleum consumed in fiscal year 2009 by the vehicle fleets of the Department of Defense that are subject to the provisions of section 400AA of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6374) is at least 10 percent less than the amount of petroleum consumed in fiscal year 2005 by such vehicle fleets.

(b) ACHIEVEMENT OF REDUCTION.—The Secretary may achieve the reduction required by subsection (a) by any mechanism as follows:

(1) Through the use of alternative fuels.

(2) Through the acquisition of vehicles with better fuel economy, including hybrid vehicles.

(3) Through the substitution of cars for light trucks.

(4) Through an increase in vehicle load factors.

(5) Through a decrease in vehicle miles traveled.

(6) Through a decrease in fleet size.

(7) Through any other mechanism that the Secretary considers appropriate.

(c) PILOT PROGRAMS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary may carry out one or more pilot programs to assess the feasability and advisability of utilizing any mechanism specified in subsection (b), and any other mechanism, to achieve the reduction required by subsection (a).

(d) REPORTS.—Not later than December 31 of each of 2007, 2008, and 2009, the Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the actions taken during the preceding fiscal year to meet the reduction required by subsection (a). Each report shall, for the fiscal year covered by such report, set forth the following:

(1) A description of the actions taken.

(2) An assessment of the effectiveness of such actions in meeting the reduction.

(3) An assessment of the progress of the Department toward meeting the reduction.

SA 4222. Mr. BINGAMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle F of title III, add the following:

SEC. 375. UTILIZATION OF FUEL CELLS AS BACK-UP POWER SYSTEMS IN DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE OPERATIONS.

The Secretary of Defense shall consider the utilization of fuel cells as replacements for current back-up power systems in a variety of Department of Defense operations and activities, including in telecommunications networks, perimeter security, and remote facilities, in order to increase the operational longevity of back-up power systems and stand-by power systems in such operations and activities.

SA 4223. Mr. BINGAMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title III, add the following:

SEC. 352. REPORT ON MECHANISMS TO REDUCE PETROLEUM CONSUMPTION IN DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE OPERATIONS.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress a report on actions (whether or not currently authorized by law) to be taken to achieve reductions in petroleum consumption in the operations and activities of the Department of Defense, including in the operation of military vehicles, vessels, and aircraft.

(b) ACTIONS REQUIRING ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY.—In the event an action set forth in the report required by subsection (a) cannot be taken without additional authority in law, the report shall include such recommendations for legislative action as the Secretary considers appropriate to provide adequate authority for such action.

SA 4224. Mr. OBAMA (for himself and Ms. SNOWE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 267, beginning on line 24, insert after ''mental health'' the following: ''(including Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI))''.

On page 268, line 13, insert ''(including Traumatic Brain Injury)'' after ''mental health''.

SA 4225. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of division C, add the following new title:

TITLE XXXIII—NATIONAL DEFENSE STOCKPILE

SEC. 3301. TRANSFER OF GOVERNMENT-FURNISHED URANIUM STORED AT SEQUOYAH FUELS CORPORATION, GORE, OKLAHOMA.

(a) TRANSPORT AND DISPOSAL.—Not later than March 31, 2007, the Secretary of the Army shall, subject to subsection (c), transport to an authorized disposal facility for appropriate disposal all of the Federal Government-furnished uranium in the chemical and physical form in which it is stored at the Sequoyah Fuels Corporation site in Gore, Oklahoma.

(b) SOURCE OF FUNDS.—Funds authorized to be appropriated by section 301(1) for the Army for operation and maintenance may be used for the transport and disposal required under subsection (a).

(c) LIABILITY.—The Secretary may only transport uranium under subsection (a) after receiving from Sequoyah Fuels Corporation a written agreement satisfactory to the Secretary that provides that—

(1) the United States assumes no liability, legal or otherwise, of Sequoyah Fuels Corporation by transporting such uranium; and

(2) the Sequoyah Fuels Corporation waives any and all claims it may have against the United States related to the transported uranium.

SA 4226. Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. KERRY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title V, add the following:

SEC. 552. CLARIFICATION OF APPLICATION OF UNIFORM CODE OF MILITARY JUSTICE DURING A TIME OF WAR.

Paragraph (10) of section 802(a) of title 10, United States Code (article 2(a) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), is amended by striking ''war'' and inserting ''declared war or a contingency operation''.

SA 4227. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle I of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1084. MAINTENANCE OF TROOPS STRENGTHS AND EQUIPMENT OF THE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVES PENDING REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON THE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no action described in subsection (b) may be taken until 90 days after the date of the submittal to Congress of the final report of the Commission on the National Guard and Reserves under section 513 of the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005.

(b) COVERED ACTIONS.—An action described in this section is an action as follows:

(1) To reduce the strength levels of personnel of the reserve components of the Armed Forces.

(2) To disestablish any hardware unit of a reserve component of the Armed Forces.

(3) To reduce the equipment available to the reserve components of the Armed Forces for training.

SA 4228. Mr. CHAMBLISS (for himself and Mr. ISAKSON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle F of title V, add the following:

SEC. 587. COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW ON PROCEDURES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ON MORTUARY AFFAIRS.

(a) REPORT.—As soon as practicable after the completion of the comprehensive review of the procedures of the Department of Defense on mortuary affairs, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the review.

(b) ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS.—In conducting the comprehensive review described in subsection (a), the Secretary shall also address, in addition to any other matters covered by the review, the following:

(1) The utilization of additional or increased refrigeration (including icing) in combat theaters in order to enhance preservation of remains.

(2) The relocation of refrigeration assets further forward in the field.

(3) Specific time standards for the movement of remains from combat units.

(4) The forward location of autopsy and embalming operations.

(5) Any other matters that the Secretary considers appropriate in order to speed the return of remains to the United States in a non-decomposed state.

(c) ADDITIONAL ELEMENT OF POLICY ON CASUALTY ASSISTANCE TO SURVIVORS OF MILITARY DECEDENTS.—Section 562(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (Public Law 109–163; 119 Stat. 3267; 10 U.S.C. 1475 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(12) The process by which the Department of Defense, upon request, briefs survivors of military decedents on the cause of, and any investigation into, the death of such military decedents and on the disposition and transportation of the remains of such decedents, which process shall—

''(A) provide for the provision of such briefings by fully qualified Department personnel;

''(B) ensure briefings take place as soon as possible after death and updates are provided in a timely manner when new information becomes available;

''(C) ensure that—

''(i) such briefings and updates relate the most complete and accurate information available at the time of such briefings or updates, as the case may be; and

''(ii) incomplete or unverified information is identified as such during the course of such briefings or updates; and

''(D) include procedures by which such survivors shall, upon request, receive updates or supplemental information on such briefings or updates from qualified Department personnel.''.

SA 4229. Mr. CHAMBLISS (for himself and Mr. TALENT) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title III, add the following:

SEC. 352. STUDIES ON USE OF BIODIESEL, ETHANOL, AND OTHER ALTERNATIVE FUELS.

(a) STUDY ON USE FOR FORWARD DEPLOYED AND TACTICAL PURPOSES.—The Secretary of Defense shall conduct a review and assessment of potential requirements of the Armed Forces and the Defense Agencies for increased use of biodiesel, ethanol fuel, and other alternative fuels for forward deployed uses and tactical uses, including any research and development efforts required to meet such increased requirements.

(b) STUDY ON USE OF OTHER ALTERNATIVE FUELS FOR MILITARY PURPOSES.—The Secretary shall also conduct a study of the potential use of alternative fuels (other than biodiesel and ethanol fuel) by the Armed Forces and the Defense Agencies that addresses each matter set forth in paragraph (1) and paragraphs (3) through (7) of section 357(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (Public Law 109–163; 119 Stat. 3207) with respect to such alternative fuels (rather than the fuels specified in such paragraphs).

(c) CONSTRUCTION WITH OTHER STUDY.—The studies required by this section are in addition to the study required by section 357(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives a report on the studies conducted under this section.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''biodiesel'' has the meaning given that term in section 357(d)(2) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006.

(2) The term ''ethanol fuel'' includes the following:

(A) Fuel that is 85 percent ethyl alcohol.

(B) Fuel that has a lower concentration of ethyl alcohol, such as 10 percent ethyl alcohol blend fuel.

SA 4230. Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KOHL, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. REID, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mrs. CLINTON) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end of division A, add the following:

TITLE XV—ELIMINATION OF FRAUD IN GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING

SEC. 1501. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Honest Leadership and Accountability in Contracting Act of 2006''.

Subtitle A—Elimination of Fraud and Abuse

SEC. 1511. PROHIBITION OF WAR PROFITEERING AND FRAUD.

(a) PROHIBITION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 47 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 1039. War profiteering and fraud

''(a) PROHIBITION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Whoever, in any matter involving a contract or the provision of goods or services, directly or indirectly, in connection with a war or military action knowingly and willfully—

''(A) executes or attempts to execute a scheme or artifice to defraud the United States or the entity having jurisdiction over the area in which such activities occur;

''(B) falsifies, conceals, or covers up by any trick, scheme, or device a material fact;

''(C) makes any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations, or makes or uses any materially false writing or document knowing the same to contain any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or entry; or

''(D) materially overvalues any good or service with the specific intent to excessively profit from the war or military action;

shall be fined under paragraph (2), imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.

''(2) FINE.—A person convicted of an offense under paragraph (1) may be fined the greater of—

''(A) $1,000,000; or

''(B) if such person derives profits or other proceeds from the offense, not more than twice the gross profits or other proceeds.

''(b) EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION.—There is extraterritorial Federal jurisdiction over an offense under this section.

''(c) VENUE.—A prosecution for an offense under this section may be brought—

''(1) as authorized by chapter 211 of this title;

''(2) in any district where any act in furtherance of the offense took place; or

''(3) in any district where any party to the contract or provider of goods or services is located.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 47 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''1039. War profiteering and fraud.''.

(b) CIVIL FORFEITURE.—Section 981(a)(1)(C) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''1039,'' after ''1032,''.

(c) CRIMINAL FORFEITURE.—Section 982(a)(2)(B) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking ''or 1030'' and inserting ''1030, or 1039''.

(d) TREATMENT UNDER MONEY LAUNDERING OFFENSE.—Section 1956(c)(7)(D) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting the following: '', section 1039 (relating to war profiteering and fraud)'' after ''liquidating agent of financial institution),''.

SEC. 1512. SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT OF UNETHICAL CONTRACTORS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Acquisition Regulation issued pursuant to section 25 of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 421) shall be revised to provide that no prospective contractor shall be considered to have a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics if it—

(1) has exhibited a pattern of overcharging the Government under Federal contracts; or

(2) has exhibited a pattern of failing to comply with the law, including tax, labor and employment, environmental, antitrust, and consumer protection laws.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The revised regulation required by this section shall apply with respect to all contracts for which solicitations are issued after the date that is 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1513. DISCLOSURE OF AUDIT REPORTS.

(a) DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO CONGRESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The head of each executive agency shall maintain a list of audit reports issued by the agency during the current and previous calendar years that—

(A) describe significant contractor costs that have been identified as unjustified, unsupported, questioned, or unreasonable under any contract, task or delivery order, or subcontract; or

(B) identify significant or substantial deficiencies in any business system of any contractor under any contract, task or delivery order, or subcontract.

(2) SUBMISSION OF INDIVIDUAL AUDITS.—The head of each executive agency shall provide, within 14 days of a request in writing by the chairman or ranking member of a committee of jurisdiction, a full and unredacted copy of—

(A) the current version of the list maintained pursuant to paragraph (1); or

(B) any audit or other report identified on such list.

(b) PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION ON FEDERAL CONTRACTOR PENALTIES AND VIOLATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Procurement Data System shall be modified to include—

(A) information on instances in which any major contractor has been fined, paid penalties or restitution, settled, plead guilty to, or had judgments entered against it in connection with allegations of improper conduct; and

(B) information on all sole source contract awards in excess of $2,000,000 entered into by an executive agency.

(2) PUBLICLY AVAILABLE WEBSITE.—The information required by paragraph (1) shall be made available through the publicly available website of the Federal Procurement Data System.

Subtitle B—Contract Matters

Part 1—Competition in Contracting

SEC. 1521. PROHIBITION ON AWARD OF MONOPOLY CONTRACTS.

(a) CIVILIAN AGENCY CONTRACTS.—Section 303H(d) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (41 U.S.C. 253h(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4)(A) No task or delivery order contract in an amount estimated to exceed $100,000,000 (including all options) may be awarded to a single contractor unless the head of the agency determines in writing that—

''(i) because of the size, scope, or method of performance of the requirement, it would not be practical to award multiple task or delivery order contracts;

''(ii) the task orders expected under the contract are so integrally related that only a single contractor can reasonably perform the work; or

''(iii) for any other reason, it is necessary in the public interest to award the contract to a single contractor.

''(B) The head of the agency shall notify Congress within 30 days of any determination under subparagraph (A)(iii).''.

(b) DEFENSE CONTRACTS.—Section 2304a(d) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4)(A) No task or delivery order contract in an amount estimated to exceed $100,000,000 (including all options) may be awarded to a single contractor unless the head of the agency determines in writing that—

''(i) because of the size, scope, or method of performance of the requirement, it would not be practical to award multiple task or delivery order contracts;

''(ii) the task orders expected under the contract are so integrally related that only a single contractor can reasonably perform the work; or

''(iii) for any other reason, it is necessary in the public interest to award the contract to a single contractor.

''(B) The head of the agency shall notify Congress within 30 days of any determination under subparagraph (A)(iii).''.

SEC. 1522. COMPETITION IN MULTIPLE AWARD CONTRACTS.

(a) REGULATIONS REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Acquisition Regulation shall be revised to require competition in the purchase of goods and services by each executive agency pursuant to multiple award contracts.

(b) CONTENT OF REGULATIONS.—(1) The regulations required by subsection (a) shall provide, at a minimum, that each individual purchase of goods or services in excess of $1,000,000 that is made under a multiple award contract shall be made on a competitive basis unless a contracting officer of the executive agency—

(A) waives the requirement on the basis of a determination that—

(i) one of the circumstances described in paragraphs (1) through (4) of section 303J(b) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (41 U.S.C. 253j(b)) applies to such individual purchase; or

(ii) a statute expressly authorizes or requires that the purchase be made from a specified source; and

(B) justifies the determination in writing.

(2) For purposes of this subsection, an individual purchase of goods or services is made on a competitive basis only if it is made pursuant to procedures that—

(A) require fair notice of the intent to make that purchase (including a description of the work to be performed and the basis on which the selection will be made) to be provided to all contractors offering such goods or services under the multiple award contract; and

(B) afford all contractors responding to the notice a fair opportunity to make an offer and have that offer fairly considered by the official making the purchase.

(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (2), notice may be provided to fewer than all contractors offering such goods or services under a multiple award contract described in subsection (c)(2)(A) if notice is provided to as many contractors as practicable.

(4) A purchase may not be made pursuant to a notice that is provided to fewer than all contractors under paragraph (3) unless—

(A) offers were received from at least three qualified contractors; or

(B) a contracting officer of the executive agency determines in writing that no additional qualified contractors were able to be identified despite reasonable efforts to do so.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''individual purchase'' means a task order, delivery order, or other purchase.

(2) The term ''multiple award contract'' means—

(A) a contract that is entered into by the Administrator of General Services under the multiple award schedule program referred to in section 309(b)(3) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (41 U.S.C. 259(b)(3));

(B) a multiple award task order contract that is entered into under the authority of sections 2304a through 2304d of title 10, United States Code, or sections 303H through 303K of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (41 U.S.C. 253h through 253k); and

(C) any other indefinite delivery, indefinite quantity contract that is entered into by the head of an executive agency with two or more sources pursuant to the same solicitation.

(d) APPLICABILITY.—The revisions to the Federal Acquisition Regulation pursuant to subsection (a) shall take effect not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and shall apply to all individual purchases of goods or services that are made under multiple award contracts on or after the effective date, without regard to whether the multiple award contracts were entered into before, on, or after such effective date.

(e) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO DEFENSE CONTRACT PROVISION.—Section 803 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 (Public Law 107–107; 10 U.S.C. 2304 note) is amended as follows:

(1) GOODS COVERED.—(A) The section heading is amended by inserting ''**GOODS OR**'' before ''**SERVICES**''.

(B) Subsection (a) is amended by inserting ''goods and'' before ''services''.

(C) The following provisions are amended by inserting ''goods or'' before ''services'' each place it appears:

(i) Paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (b).

(ii) Subsection (d).

(D) Such section is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(e) APPLICABILITY TO GOODS.—The Secretary shall revise the regulations promulgated pursuant to subsection (a) to cover purchases of goods by the Department of Defense pursuant to multiple award contracts. The revised regulations shall take effect in final form not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection and shall apply to all individual purchases of goods that are made under multiple award contracts on or after the effective date, without regard to whether the multiple award contracts were entered into before, on, or after such effective date.''.

(f) PROTEST RIGHTS FOR CERTAIN AWARDS.—

(1) CIVILIAN AGENCY CONTRACTS.—Section 303J(d) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act (41 U.S.C. 253j(d)) is amended by inserting ''with a value of less than $500,000'' after ''task or delivery order''.

(2) DEFENSE CONTRACTS.—Section 2304c(d) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''with a value of less than $500,000'' after ''task or delivery order''.

Part 2—Contract Personnel Matters

SEC. 1531. CONTRACTOR CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.

(a) PROHIBITION ON CONTRACTS RELATING TO INHERENTLY GOVERNMENTAL FUNCTIONS.—The head of an agency may not enter into a contract for the performance of any inherently governmental function.

(b) PROHIBITION ON CONTRACTS FOR CONTRACT OVERSIGHT.—

(1) PROHIBITION.—The head of an agency may not enter into a contract for the performance of acquisition functions closely associated with inherently governmental functions with any entity unless the head of the agency determines in writing that—

(A) neither that entity nor any related entity will be responsible for performing any of the work under a contract which the entity will help plan, evaluate, select a source, manage or oversee; and

(B) the agency has taken appropriate steps to prevent or mitigate any organizational conflict of interest that may arise because the entity—

(i) has a separate ongoing business relationship, such as a joint venture or contract, with any of the contractors to be overseen;

(ii) would be placed in a position to affect the value or performance of work it or any related entity is doing under any other Government contract;

(iii) has a reverse role with the contractor to be overseen under one or more separate Government contracts; or

(iv) has some other relationship with the contractor to be overseen that could reasonably appear to bias the contractor's judgment.

(2) RELATED ENTITY DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ''related entity'', with respect to a contractor, means any subsidiary, parent, affiliate, joint venture, or other entity related to the contractor.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''inherently governmental functions'' has the meaning given to such term in part 7.5 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

(2) The term ''functions closely associated with governmental functions'' means the functions described in section 7.503(d) of the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

(3) The term ''organizational conflict of interest'' has the meaning given such term in part 9.5 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICABILITY.—This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act and shall apply to—

(1) contracts entered into on or after such date;

(2) any task or delivery order issued on or after such date under a contract entered into before, on, or after such date; and

(3) any decision on or after such date to exercise an option or otherwise extend a contract for the performance of a function relating to contract oversight regardless of whether such contract was entered into before, on, or after such date.

SEC. 1532. ELIMINATION OF REVOLVING DOOR BETWEEN FEDERAL PERSONNEL AND CONTRACTORS.

(a) ELIMINATION OF LOOPHOLES ALLOWING FORMER FEDERAL OFFICIALS TO ACCEPT COMPENSATION FROM CONTRACTORS OR RELATED ENTITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of subsection (d) of section 27 of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 423) is amended—

(A) by striking ''or consultant'' and inserting ''consultant, lawyer, or lobbyist'';

(B) by striking ''one year'' and inserting ''two years''; and

(C) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''personally made for the Federal agency—'' and inserting ''participated personally and substantially in—''.

(2) DEFINITION.—Paragraph (2) of such subsection is amended to read as follows:

''(2) For purposes of paragraph (1), the term 'contractor' includes any division, affiliate, subsidiary, parent, joint venture, or other related entity of a contractor.''.

(b) PROHIBITION ON AWARD OF GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS TO FORMER EMPLOYERS.—Such section is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(i) PROHIBITION ON INVOLVEMENT BY CERTAIN FORMER CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEES IN PROCUREMENTS.—A former employee of a contractor who becomes an employee of the Federal Government shall not be personally and substantially involved with any Federal agency procurement involving the employee's former employer, including any division, affiliate, subsidiary, parent, joint venture, or other related entity of the former employer, for a period of two years beginning on the date on which the employee leaves the employment of the contractor unless the designated agency ethics officer for the agency determines in writing that the government's interest in the former employee's participation in a particular procurement outweighs any appearance of impropriety.''.

(c) REQUIREMENT FOR FEDERAL PROCUREMENT OFFICERS TO DISCLOSE JOB OFFERS MADE TO RELATIVES.—Subsection (c)(1) of such section is amended by inserting after ''that official'' the following: '', or for a relative of that official (as defined in section 3110 of title 5, United States Code),''.

(d) ADDITIONAL CRIMINAL PENALTIES.—Paragraph (1) of subsection (e) of such section is amended to read as follows:

''(1) CRIMINAL PENALTIES.—Whoever engages in conduct constituting a violation of—

''(A) subsection (a) or (b) for the purpose of either—

''(i) exchanging the information covered by such subsection for anything of value, or

''(ii) obtaining or giving anyone a competitive advantage in the award of a Federal agency procurement contract; or

''(B) subsection (c) or (d);

shall be imprisoned for not more than 5 years, fined as provided under title 18, Untied States Code, or both.''.

(e) REGULATIONS.—Such section is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(j) REGULATIONS.—The Director of the Office of Government Ethics, in consultation with the Administrator, shall—

''(1) promulgate regulations to carry out and ensure the enforcement of this section; and

''(2) monitor and investigate individual and agency compliance with this section.''.

Subtitle C—Other Personnel Matters

SEC. 1541. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR POLITICAL APPOINTEES HOLDING PUBLIC CONTRACTING AND SAFETY POSITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A position specified in subsection (b) may not be held by any political appointee who does not meet the requirements of subsection (c).

(b) SPECIFIED POSITIONS.—A position specified in this subsection is any position as follows:

(1) A public contracting position.

(2) A public safety position.

(c) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.—An individual shall not, with respect to any position, be considered to meet the requirements of this subsection unless such individual—

(1) has academic, management, and leadership credentials in one or more areas relevant to such position;

(2) has a superior record of achievement in one or more areas relevant to such position;

(3) has training and expertise in one or more areas relevant to such position; and

(4) has not, within the 2-year period ending on the date of such individual's nomination for or appointment to such position, been a lobbyist for any entity or other client that is subject to the authority of the agency within which, if appointed, such individual would serve.

(d) POLITICAL APPOINTEE.—For purposes of this section, the term ''political appointee'' means any individual who—

(1) is employed in a position listed in sections 5312 through 5316 of title 5, United States Code (relating to the Executive Schedule);

(2) is a limited term appointee, limited emergency appointee, or noncareer appointee in the Senior Executive Service; or

(3) is employed in the executive branch of the Government in a position which has been excepted from the competitive service by reason of its policy-determining, policy-making, or policy-advocating character.

(e) PUBLIC CONTRACTING POSITION.—For purposes of this section, the term ''public contracting position'' means the following:

(1) The Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy.

(2) The Administrator of the General Services Administration.

(3) The Chief Acquisition Officer of any executive agency, as appointed or designated pursuant to section 16 of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 414).

(4) The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics.

(5) Any position (not otherwise identified under any of the preceding provisions of this subsection) a primary function of which involves government procurement and procurement policy, as identified by the head of each employing agency in consultation with the Office of Personnel Management.

(f) PUBLIC SAFETY POSITION.—For purposes of this section, the term ''public safety position'' means the following:

(1) The Under Secretary for Emergency Preparedness and Response, Department of Homeland Security.

(2) The Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

(3) Each regional director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

(4) The Recovery Division Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

(5) The Assistant Secretary for Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security.

(6) The Assistant Secretary for Public Health Emergency Preparedness, Department of Health and Human Services.

(7) The Assistant Administrator for Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Environmental Protection Agency.

(8) Any position (not otherwise identified under any of the preceding provisions of this subsection) a primary function of which involves responding to a direct threat to life or property or a hazard to health, as identified by the head of each employing agency in consultation with the Office of Personnel Management.

(g) PUBLICATION OF POSITIONS.—Beginning not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the head of each agency shall maintain on such agency's public website a current list of all public contracting positions and public safety positions within such agency.

(h) COORDINATION WITH OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—The requirements set forth in subsection (c) shall be in addition to, and not in lieu of, any requirements that might otherwise apply with respect to any particular position.

(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''agency'' means an Executive agency (as defined by section 105 of title 5, United States Code).

(2) The terms ''limited term appointee'', ''limited emergency appointee'', and ''noncareer appointee'' have the meanings given such terms in section 3132 of title 5, United States Code.

(3) The term ''Senior Executive Service'' has the meaning given such term by section 2101a of title 5, United States Code.

(4) The term ''competitive service'' has the meaning given such term by section 2102 of title 5, United States Code.

(5) The terms ''lobbyist'' and ''client'' have the respective meanings given them by section 3 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1602).

(j) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 16(a) of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 414(a)) is amended by striking ''non-career employee as''.

SEC. 1542. PROTECTION OF CERTAIN DISCLOSURES OF INFORMATION BY FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.

(a) CLARIFICATION OF DISCLOSURES COVERED.—Section 2302(b)(8) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) by striking ''which the employee or applicant reasonably believes evidences'' and inserting '', without restriction to time, place, form, motive, context, or prior disclosure made to any person by an employee or applicant, including a disclosure made in the ordinary course of an employee's duties, that the employee or applicant reasonably believes is evidence of''; and

(B) in clause (i), by striking ''a violation'' and inserting ''any violation'';

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) by striking ''which the employee or applicant reasonably believes evidences'' and inserting '', without restriction to time, place, form, motive, context, or prior disclosure made to any person by an employee or applicant, including a disclosure made in the ordinary course of an employee's duties, of information that the employee or applicant reasonably believes is evidence of''; and

(B) in clause (i), by striking ''a violation'' and inserting ''any violation (other than a violation of this section)''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) any disclosure that—

''(i) is made by an employee or applicant of information required by law or Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or the conduct of foreign affairs that the employee or applicant reasonably believes is direct and specific evidence of—

''(I) any violation of any law, rule, or regulation;

''(II) gross mismanagement, a gross waste of funds, an abuse of authority, or a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety; or

''(III) a false statement to Congress on an issue of material fact; and

''(ii) is made to—

''(I) a member of a committee of Congress;

''(II) any other Member of Congress; or

''(III) an employee of Congress who has the appropriate security clearance and is authorized to receive information of the type disclosed.''.

(b) COVERED DISCLOSURES.—Section 2302(a)(2) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (C)(iii), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) 'disclosure' means a formal or informal communication or transmission, but does not include a communication concerning policy decisions that lawfully exercise discretionary authority unless the employee providing the disclosure reasonably believes that the disclosure evidences—

''(i) any violation of any law, rule, or regulation; or

''(ii) gross management, a gross waste of funds, an abuse of authority, or a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety.''.

(c) REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION.—Section 2302(b) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by amending the matter following paragraph (12) to read as follows:

''This subsection shall not be construed to authorize the withholding of information from Congress or the taking of any personnel action against an employee who discloses information to Congress. For purposes of paragraph (8), any presumption relating to the performance of a duty by an employee who has authority to take, direct others to take, recommend, or approve any personnel action may be rebutted by substantial evidence. For purposes of paragraph (8), a determination as to whether an employee or applicant reasonably believes that they have disclosed information that evidences any violation of law, rule, regulation, gross mismanagement, a gross waste of funds, an abuse of authority, or a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety shall be made by determining whether a disinterested observer with knowledge of the essential facts known to and readily ascertainable by the employee could reasonably conclude that the actions of the Government evidence such violations, mismanagement, waste, abuse, or danger.''.

(d) NONDISCLOSURE POLICIES, FORMS, AND AGREEMENTS; SECURITY CLEARANCES; AND RETALIATORY INVESTIGATIONS.—

(1) PERSONNEL ACTION.—Section 2302(a)(2)(A) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in clause (x), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon; and

(B) by redesignating clause (xi) as clause (xiv) and inserting after clause (x) the following:

''(xi) the implementation or enforcement of any nondisclosure policy, form, or agreement;

''(xii) a suspension, revocation, or other determination relating to a security clearance or any other access determination by a covered agency;

''(xiii) an investigation, other than any ministerial or nondiscretionary fact finding activities necessary for the agency to perform its mission, of an employee or applicant for employment because of any activity protected under this section; and''.

(2) PROHIBITED PERSONNEL PRACTICE.—Section 2302(b) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (11), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(B) in paragraph (12), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (12) the following:

''(13) implement or enforce any nondisclosure policy, form, or agreement, if such policy, form, or agreement does not contain the following statement: 'These provisions are consistent with and do not supersede, conflict with, or otherwise alter the employee obligations, rights, or liabilities created by Executive Order No. 12958; section 7211 (governing disclosures to Congress); section 1034 of title 10 (governing disclosure to Congress by members of the military); section 2302(b)(8) (governing disclosures of illegality, waste, fraud, abuse, or public health or safety threats); the Intelligence Identities Protection Act of 1982 (50 U.S.C. 421 et seq.) (governing disclosures that could expose confidential Government agents); and the statutes which protect against disclosures that could compromise national security, including sections 641, 793, 794, 798, and 952 of title 18 and section 4(b) of the Subversive Activities Control Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 783(b)). The definitions, requirements, obligations, rights, sanctions, and liabilities created by

such Executive order and such statutory provisions are incorporated into this agreement and are controlling'; or

''(14) conduct, or cause to be conducted, an investigation, other than any ministerial or nondiscretionary fact finding activities necessary for the agency to perform its mission, of an employee or applicant for employment because of any activity protected under this section.''.

(3) BOARD AND COURT REVIEW OF ACTIONS RELATING TO SECURITY CLEARANCES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 77 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 7702 the following:

''§ 7702a. Actions relating to security clearances

''(a) In any appeal relating to the suspension, revocation, or other determination relating to a security clearance or access determination, the Merit Systems Protection Board or any reviewing court—

''(1) shall determine whether paragraph (8) or (9) of section 2302(b) was violated;

''(2) may not order the President or the designee of the President to restore a security clearance or otherwise reverse a determination of clearance status or reverse an access determination; and

''(3) subject to paragraph (2), may issue declaratory relief and any other appropriate relief.

''(b)(1) If, in any final judgment, the Board or court declares that any suspension, revocation, or other determination with regards to a security clearance or access determination was made in violation of paragraph (8) or (9) of section 2302(b), the affected agency shall conduct a review of that suspension, revocation, access determination, or other determination, giving great weight to the Board or court judgment.

''(2) Not later than 30 days after any Board or court judgment declaring that a security clearance suspension, revocation, access determination, or other determination was made in violation of paragraph (8) or (9) of section 2302(b), the affected agency shall issue an unclassified report to the congressional committees of jurisdiction (with a classified annex if necessary), detailing the circumstances of the agency's security clearance suspension, revocation, other determination, or access determination. A report under this paragraph shall include any proposed agency action with regards to the security clearance or access determination.

''(c) An allegation that a security clearance or access determination was revoked or suspended in retaliation for a protected disclosure shall receive expedited review by the Office of Special Counsel, the Merit Systems Protection Board, and any reviewing court.

''(d) For purposes of this section, corrective action may not be ordered if the agency demonstrates by a preponderance of the evidence that it would have taken the same personnel action in the absence of such disclosure.''.

(B) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 77 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 7702 the following:

''7702a. Actions relating to security clearances.''.

(e) EXCLUSION OF AGENCIES BY THE PRESIDENT.—Section 2302(a)(2)(C) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking clause (ii) and inserting the following:

''(ii)(I) the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, the Central Intelligence Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, and the National Security Agency; and

''(II) as determined by the President, any executive agency or unit thereof the principal function of which is the conduct of foreign intelligence or counterintelligence activities, if the determination (as that determination relates to a personnel action) is made before that personnel action; or''.

(f) ATTORNEY FEES.—Section 1204(m)(1) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking ''agency involved'' and inserting ''agency where the prevailing party is employed or has applied for employment''.

(g) DISCIPLINARY ACTION.—Section 1215(a)(3) of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''(3)(A) A final order of the Board may impose—

''(i) disciplinary action consisting of removal, reduction in grade, debarment from Federal employment for a period not to exceed 5 years, suspension, or reprimand;

''(ii) an assessment of a civil penalty not to exceed $1,000; or

''(iii) any combination of disciplinary actions described under clause (i) and an assessment described under clause (ii).

''(B) In any case in which the Board finds that an employee has committed a prohibited personnel practice under paragraph (8) or (9) of section 2302(b), the Board shall impose disciplinary action if the Board finds that the activity protected under paragraph (8) or (9) of section 2302(b) was a significant motivating factor, even if other factors also motivated the decision, for the employee's decision to take, fail to take, or threaten to take or fail to take a personnel action, unless that employee demonstrates, by preponderance of evidence, that the employee would have taken, failed to take, or threatened to take or fail to take the same personnel action, in the absence of such protected activity.''.

(h) SPECIAL COUNSEL AMICUS CURIAE APPEARANCE.—Section 1212 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(h)(1) The Special Counsel is authorized to appear as amicus curiae in any action brought in a court of the United States related to any civil action brought in connection with section 2302(b) (8) or (9), or subchapter III of chapter 73, or as otherwise authorized by law. In any such action, the Special Counsel is authorized to present the views of the Special Counsel with respect to compliance with section 2302(b) (8) or (9) or subchapter III of chapter 73 and the impact court decisions would have on the enforcement of such provisions of law.

''(2) A court of the United States shall grant the application of the Special Counsel to appear in any such action for the purposes described in subsection (a).''.

(i) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 7703(b)(1) of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''(b)(1)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) and paragraph (2), a petition to review a final order or final decision of the Board shall be filed in the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any petition for review must be filed within 60 days after the date the petitioner received notice of the final order or decision of the Board.

''(B) During the 5-year period beginning on the effective date of this subsection, a petition to review a final order or final decision of the Board in a case alleging a violation of paragraph (8) or (9) of section 2302(b) shall be filed in the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit or any court of appeals of competent jurisdiction as provided under subsection (b)(2).''.

(2) REVIEW OBTAINED BY OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT.—Section 7703(d) of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''(d)(1) Except as provided under paragraph (2), this paragraph shall apply to any review obtained by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management. The Director of the Office of Personnel Management may obtain review of any final order or decision of the Board by filing, within 60 days after the date the Director received notice of the final order or decision of the Board, a petition for judicial review in the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit if the Director determines, in his discretion, that the Board erred in interpreting a civil service law, rule, or regulation affecting personnel management and that the Board's decision will have a substantial impact on a civil service law, rule, regulation, or policy directive. If the Director did not intervene in a matter before the Board, the Director may not petition for review of a Board decision under this section unless the Director first petitions the Board for a reconsideration of its decision, and such petition is denied. In addition to the named respondent, the Board and all other parties to the proceedings before the Board shall have the right to appear in the proceeding before the Court of Appeals. The granting of the petition for judicial review shall be at the discretion of the Court of Appeals.

''(2) During the 5-year period beginning on the effective date of this subsection, this paragraph shall apply to any review relating to paragraph (8) or (9) of section 2302(b) obtained by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management. The Director of the Office of Personnel Management may obtain review of any final order or decision of the Board by filing, within 60 days after the date the Director received notice of the final order or decision of the Board, a petition for judicial review in the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit or any court of appeals of competent jurisdiction as provided under subsection (b)(2) if the Director determines, in his discretion, that the Board erred in interpreting paragraph (8) or (9) of section 2302(b). If the Director did not intervene in a matter before the Board, the Director may not petition for review of a Board decision under this section unless the Director first petitions the Board for a reconsideration of its decision, and such petition is denied. In addition to the named respondent, the Board and all other parties to the proceedings before the Board shall have the right to appear in the proceeding before the court of appeals. The granting of the petition for judicial review shall be at the discretion of the Court of Appeals.''.

(j) NONDISCLOSURE POLICIES, FORMS, AND AGREEMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) REQUIREMENT.—Each agreement in Standard Forms 312 and 4414 of the Government and any other nondisclosure policy, form, or agreement of the Government shall contain the following statement: ''These restrictions are consistent with and do not supersede, conflict with, or otherwise alter the employee obligations, rights, or liabilities created by Executive Order No. 12958; section 7211 of title 5, United States Code (governing disclosures to Congress); section 1034 of title 10, United States Code (governing disclosure to Congress by members of the military); section 2302(b)(8) of title 5, United States Code (governing disclosures of illegality, waste, fraud, abuse or public health or safety threats); the Intelligence Identities Protection Act of 1982 (50 U.S.C. 421 et seq.) (governing disclosures that could expose confidential Government agents); and the statutes which protect against disclosure that may compromise the national security, including sections 641, 793, 794, 798, and 952 of title 18, United States Code, and section 4(b) of the Subversive Activities Act of 1950 (50

U.S.C. 783(b)). The definitions, requirements, obligations, rights, sanctions, and liabilities created by such Executive order and such statutory provisions are incorporated into this agreement and are controlling.''.

(B) ENFORCEABILITY.—Any nondisclosure policy, form, or agreement described under subparagraph (A) that does not contain the statement required under subparagraph (A) may not be implemented or enforced to the extent such policy, form, or agreement is inconsistent with that statement.

(2) PERSONS OTHER THAN GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a nondisclosure policy, form, or agreement that is to be executed by a person connected with the conduct of an intelligence or intelligence-related activity, other than an employee or officer of the United States Government, may contain provisions appropriate to the particular activity for which such document is to be used. Such form or agreement shall, at a minimum, require that the person will not disclose any classified information received in the course of such activity unless specifically authorized to do so by the United States Government. Such nondisclosure forms shall also make it clear that such forms do not bar disclosures to Congress or to an authorized official of an executive agency or the Department of Justice that are essential to reporting a substantial violation of law.

(k) CLARIFICATION OF WHISTLEBLOWER RIGHTS FOR CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE INFORMATION.—Section 214(c) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 133(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following: ''For purposes of this section a permissible use of independently obtained information includes the disclosure of such information under section 2302(b)(8) of title 5, United States Code.''.

(l) ADVISING EMPLOYEES OF RIGHTS.—Section 2302(c) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting '', including how to make a lawful disclosure of information that is specifically required by law or Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or the conduct of foreign affairs to the Special Counsel, the Inspector General of an agency, Congress, or other agency employee designated to receive such disclosures'' after ''chapter 12 of this title''.

(m) SCOPE OF DUE PROCESS.—

(1) SPECIAL COUNSEL.—Section 1214(b)(4)(B)(ii) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting '', after a finding that a protected disclosure was a contributing factor,'' after ''ordered if''.

(2) INDIVIDUAL ACTION.—Section 1221(e)(2) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting '', after a finding that a protected disclosure was a contributing factor,'' after ''ordered if''.

(n) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section and the amendment made by this section shall take effect 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 4231. Mr. DEWINE (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title VII, add the following:

SEC. 730. MENTAL HEALTH SELF-ASSESSMENT PROGRAM.

(a) FINDING.—Congress finds that the Mental Health Self-Assessment Program (MHSAP) of the Department of Defense is vital to the overall health and well-being of deploying members of the Armed Forces and their families because that program provides—

(1) a non-threatening, voluntary, anonymous self-assessment of mental health that is effective in helping detect mental health and substance abuse conditions;

(2) awareness regarding warning signs of such conditions; and

(3) information and outreach to members of the Armed Forces (including members of the National Guard and Reserves) and their families on specific services available for such conditions.

(b) EXPANSION OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Defense shall, acting through the Office of Health Affairs of the Department of Defense, take appropriate actions to expand the Mental Health Self-Assessment Program in order to achieve the following:

(1) The continuous availability of the assessment under the program to members and former members of the Armed Forces in order to ensure the long-term availability of the diagnostic mechanisms of the assessment to detect mental health conditions that may emerge over time.

(2) The availability of programs and services under the program to address the mental health of dependent children of members of the Armed Forces who have been deployed or mobilized.

(c) OUTREACH.—The Secretary shall develop and implement a plan to conduct outreach and other appropriate activities to expand and enhance awareness of the Mental Health Self-Assessment Program, and the programs and services available under that program, among members of the Armed Forces (including members of the National Guard and Reserves) and their families.

(d) REPORTS.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the actions undertaken under this section during the one-year period ending on the date of such report.

SA 4232. Mr. DEWINE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title XXVIII, add the following:

SEC. 2814. NAMING OF ADMINISTRATION BUILDING AT JOINT SYSTEMS MANUFACTURING CENTER IN LIMA, OHIO, AFTER MICHAEL G. OXLEY, A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The administration building under construction at the Joint Systems Manufacturing Center in Lima, Ohio, shall, upon completion, be known and designated as the ''Michael G. Oxley Administration and Technology Center''. Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to such administration building shall be deemed to be a reference to the Michael G. Oxley Administration and Technology Center.

SA 4233. Mr. DEWINE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D. of title VI, add the following:

SEC. 648. MODIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR COMMENCEMENT OF AUTHORITY FOR OPTIONAL ANNUITIES FOR DEPENDENTS UNDER THE SURVIVOR BENEFIT PLAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1448(d)(2)(B) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking ''who dies after November 23, 2003'' and inserting ''who dies after October 1, 2001''.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—Any annuity payable to a dependent child under subchapter II of chapter 73 of title 10, United States Code, by reason of the amendment made by subsection (a) shall be payable only for months beginning on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 4234. Mr. SANTORUM (for himself and Mr. CORNYN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activites of the Department of Energy, to presceibe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 476, between lines 5 and 6, insert the following:

Subtitle C—Iran Freedom and Support

PART I—CODIFICATION OF SANCTIONS AGAINST IRAN

SEC. 1231. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Iran Freedom and Support Act of 2006''.

SEC. 1232. CODIFICATION OF SANCTIONS.

(a) CODIFICATION OF SANCTIONS.—United States sanctions, controls, and regulations with respect to Iran imposed pursuant to Executive Order No. 12957, sections 1(b) through (1)(g) and sections (2) through (6) of Executive Order No. 12959, and sections 2 and 3 of Executive Order No. 13059 (relating to exports and certain other transactions with Iran) as in effect on January 1, 2006, shall remain in effect until the President certifies to the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate that the Government of Iran has verifiably dismantled its weapons of mass destruction programs.

(b) NO EFFECT ON OTHER SANCTIONS RELATING TO SUPPORT FOR ACTS OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.—Subsection (a) shall have no effect on United States sanctions, controls, and regulations relating to a determination under section 6(j)(1)(A) of the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. App. 2405(j)(1)(A)), section 620A(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2371(a)), or section 40(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2780(d)) relating to support for acts of international terrorism by the Government of Iran, as in effect on January 1, 2006.

SEC. 1233. LIABILITY OF PARENT COMPANIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF SANCTIONS BY FOREIGN ENTITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which an entity engages in an act outside the United

States on or after January 1, 2007, which, if committed in the United States or by a United States person, would violate Executive Order No. 12959 of May 6, 1995, Executive Order No. 13059 of August 19, 1997, or any other prohibition on transactions with respect to Iran that is imposed under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) and if that entity was created or availed of for the purpose of engaging in such an act, the parent company of that entity shall be subject to the penalties for such violation to the same extent as if the parent company had engaged in that act.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) an entity is a ''parent company'' of another entity if it owns, directly or indirectly, more than 50 percent of the equity interest in that other entity and is a United States person; and

(2) the term ''entity'' means a partnership, association, trust, joint venture, corporation, or other organization.

PART II—AMENDMENTS TO THE IRAN AND LIBYA SANCTIONS ACT OF 1996 AND OTHER PROVISIONS RELATED TO INVESTMENT IN IRAN

SEC. 1241. MULTILATERAL REGIME.

(a) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Section 4(b) of the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended to read as follows:

''(b) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than six months after the date of the enactment of the Iran Freedom Support Act of 2006 and every six months thereafter, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report regarding specific diplomatic efforts undertaken pursuant to subsection (a), the results of those efforts, and a description of proposed diplomatic efforts pursuant to such subsection. Each report shall include—

''(1) a list of the countries that have agreed to undertake measures to further the objectives of section 3 with respect to Iran;

''(2) a description of those measures, including—

''(A) government actions with respect to public or private entities (or their subsidiaries) located in their territories, that are engaged in Iran;

''(B) any decisions by the governments of these countries to rescind or continue the provision of credits, guarantees, or other governmental assistance to these entities; and

''(C) actions taken in international fora to further the objectives of section 3;

''(3) a list of the countries that have not agreed to undertake measures to further the objectives of section 3 with respect to Iran, and the reasons therefor; and

''(4) a description of any memorandums of understanding, political understandings, or international agreements to which the United States has acceded which affect implementation of this section or section 5(a).''.

(b) WAIVER.—Section 4(c) of such Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended to read as follows:

''(c) WAIVER.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may, on a case by case basis, waive for a period of not more than six months the application of section 5(a) with respect to a national of a country if the President certifies to the appropriate congressional committees at least 30 days before such waiver is to take effect that—

''(A) such waiver is vital to the national security interests of the United States; and

''(B) the country of the national has undertaken substantial measures to prevent the acquisition and development of weapons of mass destruction by the Government of Iran.

''(2) SUBSEQUENT RENEWAL OF WAIVER.—If the President determines that, in accordance with paragraph (1), such a waiver is appropriate, the President may, at the conclusion of the period of a waiver under such paragraph, renew such waiver for subsequent periods of not more than six months each.''.

(c) INVESTIGATIONS.—Section 4 of such Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(f) INVESTIGATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall initiate an investigation into the possible imposition of sanctions against a person upon receipt by the United States of credible information indicating that such person is engaged in activity related to investment in Iran as described in section 5(a).

''(2) DETERMINATION AND NOTIFICATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after an investigation is initiated in accordance with paragraph (1), the President shall determine, pursuant to section 5(a), whether or not to impose sanctions against a person engaged in activity related to investment in Iran as described in such section as a result of such activity and shall notify the appropriate congressional committees of the basis for such determination.

''(B) EXTENSION.—If the President is unable to make a determination under subparagraph (A), the President shall notify the appropriate congressional committees and shall extend such investigation for a subsequent period, not to exceed 180 days, after which the President shall make the determination required under such subparagraph and shall notify the appropriate congressional committees of the basis for such determination in accordance with such subparagraph.

''(3) DETERMINATIONS REGARDING PENDING INVESTIGATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of the Iran Freedom and Support Act of 2006, the President shall, with respect to any investigation that was pending as of January 1, 2006, concerning a person engaged in activity related to investment in Iran as described in section 5(a), determine whether or not to impose sanctions against such person as a result of such activity and shall notify the appropriate congressional committees of the basis for such determination.

''(4) PUBLICATION.—Not later than 10 days after the President notifies the appropriate congressional committees under paragraphs (2) and (3), the President shall ensure publication in the Federal Register of the identification of the persons against which the President has made a determination that the imposition of sanctions is appropriate, together with an explanation for such determination.''.

SEC. 1242. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.

(a) SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO DEVELOPMENT OF PETROLEUM RESOURCES.—Section 5(a) of the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking ''TO IRAN'' and inserting ''TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF PETROLEUM RESOURCES OF IRAN'';

(2) by striking ''(6)'' and inserting ''(5)''; and

(3) by striking ''with actual knowledge,''.

(b) SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO DEVELOPMENT OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION OR OTHER MILITARY CAPABILITIES.—Section 5(b) of such Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended to read as follows:

''(b) MANDATORY SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO DEVELOPMENT OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION OR OTHER MILITARY CAPABILITIES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the President shall impose two or more of the sanctions described in paragraphs (1) through (5) of section 6 if the President determines that a person has, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, exported, transferred, or otherwise provided to Iran any goods, services, technology, or other items knowing that the provision of such goods, services, technology, or other items would contribute to the ability of Iran to—

''(1) acquire or develop chemical, biological, or nuclear weapons or related technologies; or

''(2) acquire or develop destabilizing numbers and types of advanced conventional weapons.''.

(c) PERSONS AGAINST WHICH THE SANCTIONS ARE TO BE IMPOSED.—Section 5(c)(2) of such Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) by striking '', with actual knowledge,''; and

(B) by striking ''or'' at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (C)—

(A) by striking '', with actual knowledge,''; and

(B) by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; or''; and

(3) by adding after subparagraph (C) the following new subparagraph:

''(D) is a private or government lender, insurer, underwriter, or guarantor of the person referred to in paragraph (1) if that private or government lender, insurer, underwriter, or guarantor engaged in the activities referred to in paragraph (1).''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to actions taken on or after January 1, 2007.

SEC. 1243. TERMINATION OF SANCTIONS.

Section 8(a) of the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(C), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) poses no significant threat to United States national security, interests, or allies.''.

SEC. 1244. SUNSET.

Section 13 of the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking ''**; SUNSET**'';

(2) in subsection (a), by striking ''(a) EFFECTIVE DATE.—'' ; and

(3) by striking subsection (b).

SEC. 1245. CLARIFICATION AND EXPANSION OF DEFINITIONS.

(a) PERSON.—Section 14(14)(B) of the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

(1) by inserting after ''trust,'' the following: ''financial institution, insurer, underwriter, guarantor, any other business organization, including any foreign subsidiaries of the foregoing,''; and

(2) by inserting before the semicolon the following: '', such as an export credit agency''.

(b) PETROLEUM RESOURCES.—Section 14(15) of the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended by inserting after ''petroleum'' the second place it appears the following: '', petroleum by-products,''.

SEC. 1246. UNITED STATES PENSION PLANS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The United States and the international community face no greater threat to their security than the prospect of rogue regimes who support international terrorism obtaining weapons of mass destruction, and particularly nuclear weapons.

(2) Iran is the leading state sponsor of international terrorism and is close to

achieving nuclear weapons capability but has paid no price for nearly twenty years of deception over its nuclear program. Foreign entities that have invested in Iran's energy sector, despite Iran's support of international terrorism and its nuclear program, have afforded Iran a free pass while many United States entities have unknowingly invested in those same foreign entities.

(3) United States investors have a great deal at stake in preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons.

(4) United States investors can have considerable influence over the commercial decisions of the foreign entities in which they have invested.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS RELATING TO DIVESTITURE FROM IRAN.—It is the sense of Congress that managers of United States Government pension plans or thrift savings plans, managers of pension plans maintained in the private sector by plan sponsors in the United States, and managers of mutual funds sold or distributed in the United States should, to the extent consistent with the legal and fiduciary duties otherwise imposed on them, immediately initiate efforts to divest all investments of such plans or funds in any entity included on the list.

(c) SENSE OF CONGRESS RELATING TO PROHIBITION ON FUTURE INVESTMENT.—It is the sense of Congress that there should be, to the extent consistent with the legal and fiduciary duties otherwise imposed on them, no future investment in any entity included on the list by managers of United States Government pension plans or thrift savings plans, managers of pension plans maintained in the private sector by plan sponsors in the United States, and managers of mutual funds sold or distributed in the United States.

SEC. 1247. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Section 2 of the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended by striking paragraph (4).

(b) DECLARATION OF POLICY.—Section 3 of the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''(a) POLICY WITH RESPECT TO IRAN.—''; and

(2) by striking subsection (b).

(c) TERMINATION OF SANCTIONS.—Section 8 of the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''(a) IRAN.—''; and

(2) by striking subsection (b).

(d) DURATION OF SANCTIONS; PRESIDENTIAL WAIVER.—Section 9(c)(2)(C) of the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended to read as follows:

''(C) an estimate of the significance of the provision of the items described in section 5(a) or section 5(b) to Iran's ability to, respectively, develop its petroleum resources or its weapons of mass destruction or other military capabilities; and''.

(e) REPORTS REQUIRED.—Section 10(b)(1) of the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended by striking ''and Libya'' each place it appears.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—Section 14 of the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (9)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking '', or with the Government of Libya or a nongovernmental entity in Libya,''; and

(ii) by striking ''nongovenmental'' and inserting ''nongovernmental''; and

(B) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''or Libya (as the case may be)'';

(2) by striking paragraph (12); and

(3) by redesignating paragraphs (13), (14), (15), (16), and (17) as paragraphs (12), (13), (14), (15), and (16), respectively.

(g) SHORT TITLE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1 of the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended by striking ''and Libya''.

(2) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any other provision of law, regulation, document, or other record of the United States to the ''Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996'' shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Iran Sanctions Act of 1996''.

PART III—DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO CURTAIL IRANIAN NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION AND SPONSORSHIP OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

SEC. 1251. DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS RELATING TO UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL AND THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY.—It is the sense of Congress that the President should instruct the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations to work to secure support at the United Nations Security Council for a resolution that would impose sanctions on Iran as a result of its repeated breaches of its nuclear nonproliferation obligations, to remain in effect until Iran has verifiably dismantled its weapons of mass destruction programs.

(b) PROHIBITION ON ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES THAT INVEST IN THE ENERGY SECTOR OF IRAN.—

(1) WITHHOLDING OF ASSISTANCE.—If, on or after January 1, 2007, a foreign person (as defined in section 14 of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note), as renamed pursuant to section 1247(g)(1)) or an agency or instrumentality of a foreign government has more than $20,000,000 invested in Iran's energy sector, the President shall, until the date on which such person or agency or instrumentality of such government terminates such investment, withhold assistance under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) to the government of the country to which such person owes allegiance or to which control is exercised over such agency or instrumentality.

(2) WAIVER.—Assistance prohibited by this section may be furnished to the government of a foreign country described in subsection (a) if the President determines that furnishing such assistance is important to the national security interests of the United States, furthers the goals described in this subtitle, and, not later that 15 days before obligating such assistance, notifies the Committee on International Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate of such determination and submits to such committees a report that includes—

(A) a statement of the determination;

(B) a detailed explanation of the assistance to be provided;

(C) the estimated dollar amount of the assistance; and

(D) an explanation of how the assistance furthers United States national security interests.

SEC. 1252. STRENGTHENING THE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION TREATY.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Article IV of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, done at Washington, London, and Moscow July 1, 1968, and entered into force March 5, 1970 (21 UST 483) (commonly referred to as the ''Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty'' or ''NPT'') states that countries that are parties to the Treaty have the ''inalienable right . . . to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in conformity with articles I and II of this Treaty''.

(2) Iran has manipulated Article IV of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty to acquire technologies needed to manufacture nuclear weapons under the guise of developing peaceful nuclear technology.

(3) Legal authorities, diplomatic historians, and officials closely involved in the negotiation and ratification of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty state that the Treaty neither recognizes nor protects such a per se right to all nuclear technology, such as enrichment and reprocessing, but rather affirms that the right to the use of peaceful nuclear energy is qualified.

(b) DECLARATION OF CONGRESS REGARDING UNITED STATES POLICY TO STRENGTHEN THE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION TREATY.—Congress declares that it should be the policy of the United States to support diplomatic efforts to end the manipulation of Article IV of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, as undertaken by Iran, without undermining the Treaty itself.

PART IV—IRANIAN NUCLEAR TRADE PROHIBITION PROVISIONS

SEC. 1261. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Iran has pursued a nuclear program with assistance from foreign entities and foreign governments.

(2) It is important that Iran not seek to develop nuclear weapons under the cover of a civilian nuclear power program.

(3) The Government of Iran has asserted that its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes, however, that Government has supported terrorist organizations and uses harsh rhetoric towards allies of the United States in the Middle East, and the United States has expressed great concern with Iran's nuclear ambitions and has worked with United States allies to end Iran's nuclear program.

(4) In October 2003, the Government of Iran promised it would suspend uranium enrichment activities, but broke that promise less than a year later.

(5) In November 2004, the Government of Iran, in concert with talks with representatives of the Governments of Britain, France, and Germany (the ''EU–3'') agreed to suspend all uranium enrichment and reprocessing activities related to Iran's nuclear program under the terms of the agreement made between the Islamic Republic of Iran and France, Germany and the United Kingdom, with the support of the High Representative of the European Union (the ''Paris Agreement'').

(6) The EU–3 agreed to support the United States in taking Iran's nuclear program to the United Nations Security Council if Iran resumed its nuclear activities.

(7) In concert with the Paris Agreement, the President announced that the United States will drop its opposition to Iran's application to join the World Trade Organization and permit, on a case-by-case basis, the licensing of spare parts for Iranian commercial aircraft.

(8) Iran's uranium enrichment program is likely to be dispersed throughout the country, protected in hardened infrastructure, and highly mobile.

(9) The Parliament of Iran passed a nonbinding resolution insisting that the Government of Iran resume developing nuclear fuel.

(10) That resolution stated that Iran should develop enough nuclear fuel to generate 20,000 megawatts of electricity.

(11) In February 2005, the Atomic Energy Agency of Russia announced that Russia would ship nuclear fuel to Iran's Bushehr nuclear reactor.

(12) Russia pledged to provide fuel to this facility for 10 years and, under the commitment, Iran has pledged to return spent fuel to Russia for storage.

(13) Russia remains the only major nuclear fuel market closed to outside competition and 100 percent of Russia's nuclear fuel industry is owned by the Government of Russia.

(14) Iran is the fourth-largest oil producer in the world.

(15) Iran has a wealth of natural gas and crude oil reserves and it is estimated that Iran plans to invest $104,000,000,000 by 2015 in natural gas production and that Iran plans to increase crude oil production to 7,000,000 barrels a day by 2020.

SEC. 1262. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON TRADE RELATIONS WITH STATE SPONSORS OF TERRORISM.

It is the sense of Congress that the countries of the world should choose between trading with state sponsors of terrorism or maintaining good trade relations with the United States.

SEC. 1263. PROHIBITION OF ENTRY OF NUCLEAR FUEL ASSEMBLIES.

The Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended by inserting after section 10 the following new section:

"SEC. 10A. PROHIBITION OF ENTRY TO NUCLEAR FUEL ASSEMBLIES TO THE UNITED STATES.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the President shall prohibit the United States, or any entity of the United States, from purchasing nuclear fuel assemblies from any person or government entity, or any entity affiliated with such person or entity, that sells nuclear fuel assemblies to Iran.

''(b) WAIVER.—The President may waive the prohibition in subsection (a) if the President—

''(1) determines that the waiver is in the national security interest of the United States; and

''(2) at least 7 days before the waiver takes effect, notifies the required congressional committees of the President's intention to exercise the waiver.

''(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) NUCLEAR FUEL ASSEMBLIES.—The term 'nuclear fuel assemblies' does not include low-enriched uranium (LEU). For the purpose of the preceding sentence the term 'low-enriched uranium' means a product produced using blended down weapons-grade and highly-enriched uranium (HEU) that is provided by the Russian entity Techsnabexport (also known as TENEX) in cooperation with the U.S. Enrichment Corporation, a subsidiary of USEC, Inc.

''(2) REQUIRED CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term 'required congressional committees' means the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Finance, and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on International Relations, and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.''.

PART V—DEMOCRACY IN IRAN

SEC. 1271. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The people of the United States have long demonstrated an interest in the well-being of the people of Iran, dating back to the 1830s.

(2) Famous Americans such as Howard Baskerville, Dr. Samuel Martin, Jane E. Doolittle, and Louis G. Dreyfus, Jr., made significant contributions to Iranian society by furthering the educational opportunities of the people of Iran and improving the opportunities of the less fortunate citizens of Iran.

(3) Iran and the United States were allies following World War II, and through the late 1970s Iran was as an important regional ally of the United States and a key bulwark against Soviet influence.

(4) In November 1979, following the arrival of Mohammed Reza Shah Pahlavi in the United States, a mob of students and extremists seized the United States Embassy in Tehran, Iran, holding United States diplomatic personnel hostage until January 1981.

(5) Following the seizure of the United States Embassy, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, leader of the repressive revolutionary movement in Iran, expressed support for the actions of the students in taking American citizens hostage.

(6) Despite the May 1997 presidential election in Iran, an election in which an estimated 91 percent of the electorate participated, control of the internal and external affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran is still exercised by the courts in Iran and the Revolutionary Guards, Supreme Leader, and Council of Guardians of the Government of Iran.

(7) The election results of the May 1997 election and the high level of voter participation in that election demonstrate that the people of Iran favor economic and political reforms and greater interaction with the United States and the Western world in general.

(8) Efforts by the United States to improve relations with Iran have been rebuffed by the Government of Iran.

(9) President William J. Clinton eased sanctions against Iran and promoted people-to-people exchanges, but the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the Militant Clerics' Society, the Islamic Coalition Organization, and Supporters of the Party of God have all opposed efforts to open Iranian society to Western influences and have opposed efforts to change the dynamic of relations between the United States and Iran.

(10) For the past two decades, the Department of State has found Iran to be the leading sponsor of international terrorism in the world.

(11) In 1983, the Iran-sponsored Hezbollah terrorist organization conducted suicide terrorist operations against United States military and civilian personnel in Beirut, Lebanon, resulting in the deaths of hundreds of Americans.

(12) The United States intelligence community and law enforcement personnel have linked Iran to attacks against American military personnel at Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia in 1996 and to al Qaeda attacks against civilians in Saudi Arabia in 2004.

(13) According to the Department of State's Patterns of Global Terrorism 2001 report, ''Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and Ministry of Intelligence and Security continued to be involved in the planning and support of terrorist acts and supported a variety of groups that use terrorism to pursue their goals,'' and ''Iran continued to provide Lebanese Hizballah and the Palestinian rejectionist groups—notably HAMAS, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, and the [Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command]—with varying amounts of funding, safehaven, training and weapons''.

(14) The Government of Iran currently operates more than 10 radio and television stations broadcasting in Iraq that incite violent actions against United States and coalition personnel in Iraq.

(15) The current leaders of Iran, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and Hashemi Rafsanjani, have repeatedly called upon Muslims to kill Americans in Iraq and install a theocratic regime in Iraq.

(16) The Government of Iran has admitted pursuing a clandestine nuclear program, which the United States intelligence community believes may include a nuclear weapons program.

(17) The Government of Iran has failed to meet repeated pledges to arrest and extradite foreign terrorists in Iran.

(18) The United States Government believes that the Government of Iran supports terrorists and extremist religious leaders in Iraq with the clear intention of subverting coalition efforts to bring peace and democracy to Iraq.

(19) The Ministry of Defense of Iran confirmed in July 2003 that it had successfully conducted the final test of the Shahab-3 missile, giving Iran an operational intermediate-range ballistic missile capable of striking both Israel and United States troops throughout the Middle East and Afghanistan.

SEC. 1272. DECLARATION OF CONGRESS REGARDING UNITED STATES POLICY TOWARD IRAN.

Congress declares that it should be the policy of the United States—

(1) to support efforts by the people of Iran to exercise self-determination over the form of government of their country; and

(2) to actively support a national referendum in Iran with oversight by international observers and monitors to certify the integrity and fairness of the referendum.

SEC. 1273. ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT DEMOCRACY IN IRAN.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—The President is authorized, notwithstanding any other provision of law, to provide financial and political assistance (including the award of grants) to foreign and domestic individuals, organizations, and entities that support democracy and the promotion of democracy in Iran. Such assistance may include the award of grants to eligible independent pro-democracy radio and television broadcasting organizations that broadcast into Iran.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS ON ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANCE.—It is the sense of Congress that financial and political assistance under this section be provided to an individual, organization, or entity that—

(1) opposes the use of terrorism;

(2) advocates the adherence by Iran to nonproliferation regimes for nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons and materiel;

(3) is dedicated to democratic values and supports the adoption of a democratic form of government in Iran;

(4) is dedicated to respect for human rights, including the fundamental equality of women;

(5) works to establish equality of opportunity for people; and

(6) supports freedom of the press, freedom of speech, freedom of association, and freedom of religion.

(c) FUNDING.—The President may provide assistance under this section using amounts made available pursuant to the authorization of appropriations under subsection (g).

(d) NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 15 days before each obligation of assistance under this section, and in accordance with the procedures under section 634A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2394–1), the President shall notify the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on International Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(e) SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING COORDINATION OF POLICY AND APPOINTMENT.—It is the sense of Congress that in order to ensure maximum coordination among Federal agencies, if the President provides the assistance under this section, the President should appoint an individual who shall—

(1) serve as special assistant to the President on matters relating to Iran; and

(2) coordinate among the appropriate directors of the National Security Council on issues regarding such matters.

(f) SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING DIPLOMATIC ASSISTANCE.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) support for a transition to democracy in Iran should be expressed by United States representatives and officials in all appropriate international fora;

(2) representatives of the Government of Iran should be denied access to all United States Government buildings;

(3) efforts to bring a halt to the nuclear weapons program of Iran, including steps to end the supply of nuclear components or fuel to Iran, should be intensified, with particular attention focused on the cooperation regarding such program—

(A) between the Government of Iran and the Government of the Russian Federation; and

(B) between the Government of Iran and individuals from China, Malaysia, and Pakistan, including the network of Dr. Abdul Qadeer (A. Q.) Khan; and

(4) officials and representatives of the United States should—

(A) strongly and unequivocally support indigenous efforts in Iran calling for free, transparent, and democratic elections; and

(B) draw international attention to violations by the Government of Iran of human rights, freedom of religion, freedom of assembly, and freedom of the press.

(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Department of State $100,000,000 to carry out activities under this section.

(2) OFFSET.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 1405(1) for the Army for operation and maintenance for additional costs due to Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom is hereby decreased by $100,000,000.

SEC. 1274. REPORTING REQUIREMENT REGARDING DESIGNATION OF DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION ORGANIZATIONS.

Not later than 15 days before designating a democratic opposition organization as eligible to receive assistance under section 1272, the President shall notify the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on International Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives of the proposed designation. The notification may be in classified form.

SA 4235. Mr. ALLARD (for himself and Mr. SALAZAR) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 546, after line 22, add the following:

SEC. 2828. REPORTS ON ARMY TRAINING RANGES.

(a) LIMITATION.—The Secretary of the Army may not carry out any acquisition of real property to expand the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site at Fort Carson, Colorado until—

(1) the Secretary has provided to the congressional defense committees the extent to which the acquisition could be carried out through transactions with willing sellers of the privately held land; and

(2) 30 days after the Secretary submits the report required under subsection (b).

(b) REPORT ON PINON CANYON MANEUVER SITE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than November 30, 2006, the Secretary of the Army shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report containing an analysis of any potential expansion of the military training range at the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site at Fort Carson, Colorado.

(2) CONTENT.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include the following information:

(A) A description of the Army's current and projected military requirements for training at the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site.

(B) An analysis of the reasons for any changes in those requirements, including the extent to which they are a result of the increase of military personnel due to the 2005 round of defense base closure and realignment, the conversion of Army brigades to a modular format, or the Integrated Global Presence and Basing Strategy.

(C) A proposed plan for addressing those requirements, including a description of any proposed expansion of the existing training range by acquiring privately held land surrounding the site and an analysis of alternative approaches that do not require expansion of the training range.

(D) If an expansion of the training range is recommended pursuant to subparagraph (C), the following information:

(i) An assessment of the economic impact on local communities of such acquisition.

(ii) An assessment of the environmental impact of expanding the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site.

(iii) An estimate of the costs associated with the potential expansion, including land acquisition, range improvements, installation of utilities, environmental restoration, and other environmental activities in connection with the acquisition.

(iv) An assessment of options for compensating local communities for the loss of property tax revenue as a result of the expansion of Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site.

(v) An assessment of whether the acquisition of additional land at the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site can be carried out by the Secretary solely through transactions, including land exchanges and the lease or purchase of easements, with willing sellers of the privately held land.

(c) REPORT ON EXPANSION OF ARMY TRAINING RANGES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than February 1, 2007, the Secretary of the Army shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report containing an assessment of the training ranges operated by the Army to support major Army units.

(2) CONTENT.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include the following information:

(A) The size, description, and mission essential training tasks supported by each such Army training range during fiscal year 2003.

(B) A description of the projected changes in training range requirements, including the size, characteristics, and attributes for mission essential training of each range and the extent to which any changes in requirements are a result of the 2005 round of defense base closure and realignment, the conversion of Army brigades to a modular format, or the Integrated Global Presence and Basing Strategy.

(C) The projected deficit or surplus of training land at each such range, and a description of the Army's plan to address that projected deficit or surplus of land as well as the upgrade of range attributes at each existing training range.

(D) A description of the Army's prioritization process and investment strategy to address the potential expansion or upgrade of training ranges.

(E) An analysis of alternatives to the expansion of Army ranges to include an assessment of the joint use of ranges operated by other services.

SA 4236. Mr. LUGAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 453, strike line 1 though page 461, line 7, and insert the following:

SEC. 1206. MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITIES RELATING TO THE BUILDING OF THE CAPACITY OF FOREIGN MILITARY FORCES.

(a) AUTHORITY.—The President may direct the Secretary of State to work with the Secretary of Defense to provide assistance to help build the capacity of partner nations' military forces to disrupt or destroy terrorist networks, close safe havens, or participate in or support United States, coalition, or international military or stability operations.

(b) TYPES OF PARTNERSHIP SECURITY CAPACITY BUILDING.—The partnership security capacity building authorized under subsection (a) may include the provision of equipment, supplies, services, training, and funding.

(c) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—

(1) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—The Secretary of Defense may support partnership security capacity building as authorized under subsection (a) by transferring funds available to the Department of Defense to a partnership security building account of the Department of State for use as provided under paragraph (2). Any funds so transferred shall remain available until expended.

(2) USE OF FUNDS.—The funds transferred to the partnership security building account under paragraph (1) shall, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State, be made available for use by the Secretary of Defense to carry out activities to build partnership security capacity. The amount of funds made available for such purpose may not exceed $400,000,000 in any fiscal year.

(d) APPROVAL AND NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than 10 days before approving the use by the Secretary of Defense of funds to carry out activities to build partnership security capacity under subsection (c)(2), the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on International Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a notification of the countries chosen to be recipients and the specific type of assistance that will be provided, including the specific entity within the recipient country that will be provided the assistance and the type and duration of such assistance.

(e) APPLICABLE LAW.—The authorities and limitations in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) and the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109–102) shall be applicable to assistance provided and funds transferred under the authority of this section.

(f) EXPIRATION.—The authority in this section shall expire on September 30, 2008.

(g) REPEAL OF SUPERSEDED AUTHORITY AND MODIFICATION OF EXISTING REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Section 1206 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (Public Law 109–163; 119 Stat. 3456) is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking ''authority to build'' and inserting ''report on'';

(2) by striking subsections (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (g); and

(3) in subsection (f)—

(A) by striking ''(f) REPORT.—'';

(B) by striking ''the congressional committees specified in subsection (e)(3)'' and inserting ''the congressional defense committees and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives'';

(C) in paragraph (1), by striking '', including strengths and weaknesses for the purposes described in subsection (a)'';

(D) in paragraph (2), by striking '', including for the purposes described in subsection (a)''; and

(E) in paragraph (3), by striking '', including for the purposes described in subsection (a)''.

SA 4237. Mr. MARTINEZ (for himself and Mr. NELSON of Florida) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title I, add the following:

SEC. 114. REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT FOR THE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD.

In allocating amounts authorized to be appropriated by section 101(5) for other procurement for the Army for the procurement of replacement equipment for the National Guard, the Secretary of Defense shall afford a priority in the allocation of such funds to the States likely to experience a hurricane during the 2007 hurricane season.

SA 4238. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1209. MODIFICATION OF LIMITATIONS ON ASSISTANCE UNDER THE AMERICAN SERVICEMEMBERS' PROTECTION ACT OF 2002.

Section 2013(13)(A) of the American Servicemembers' Protection Act of 2002 (title II of Public Law 107–206; 116 Stat. 909; 22 U.S.C. 7432(13)(A)) is amended by striking ''or 5''.

SA 4239. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

RESOLUTION

Whereas the name ''United Nations'' was first coined by United States President Franklin D. Roosevelt, and used in the ''Declaration by United Nations'' of January 1, 1942;

Whereas, the United Nations is located in the prestigious Turtle Bay neighborhood of Manhattan overlooking the East River, on spacious grounds donated by John D. Rockefeller, Jr.;

Whereas, the United States has shared a unique relationship with the United Nations since its founding as being its home state and largest financial contributor;

Whereas, the United States finances 22 percent of the United Nations' budget and gives even more in voluntary contributions;

Whereas, recently the Deputy to the Secretary General of the United Nations, Mark Malloch Brown, made disparaging comments against the United States and our support of the United Nations by stating—

(1) that ''the prevailing practice of seeking to use the U.N. almost by stealth as a diplomatic tool while failing to stand up for it against its domestic critics is simply not sustainable; you will lose the U.N. one way or another'';

(2) that ''To acknowledge an America reliant on international institutions is not perceived to be good politics at home''; and

(3) that ''Exacerbating matters is the widely held perception, even among many U.S. allies, that the U.S. tends to hold on to maximalist positions when it could be finding middle ground'';

Whereas, the thrust of this speech was supported by Kofi Annan, Secretary General of the United Nations;

Whereas, such illegitimate accusations are both false and unconstructive for a diplomatic environment;

Whereas the genesis of any negative press regarding the United Nations is not the United States itself, but is openly publicized here due to the well protected freedom of speech and press;

Whereas the United States seeks management reform within the United Nations to strengthen the institution in order to provide for the mission of the United Nations, better international peacekeeping and disaster relief: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States Senate does hereby declare that the bleating accusations made by Mark Malloch Brown and supported by Kofi Annan are not constructive for a better United Nations, and that comprehensive reform should be enacted to the organization.

SA 4240. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, add the following:

SECTION———. UNITED NATIONS FUNDING STUDY.

The Office of Management and Budget shall submit to Congress within 90 days of enactment and on an annual basis thereafter a report listing all contributions for the previous fiscal year from the U.S. federal government and all other sources to the United Nations and United Nations affiliated funds, organizations, programs, and other related bodies, including but not limited to employment of U.S. government and military personnel in support of the United Nations and United Nations affiliated funds, organizations, programs, and other related bodies or their operations, voluntary contributions, in-kind contributions, and any additional costs incurred through intelligence gathering and sharing, logistical support and transportation, and assessed contributions. The report shall provide the amount contributed, the nature of the contribution, the department of the U.S. government or other entity responsible for the contribution, the purpose of the contribution, and the United Nations fund, organization, program, or other related body receiving the contribution. Upon submission to Congress, the report shall be publicly available.

SA 4241. Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. FRIST, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. BYRD, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. REED, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. TALENT, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. DAYTON, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. BAYH, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. THUNE, Mr. ALLARD, and Mr. ALLEN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 2, strike lines 1 through 3, and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; FINDINGS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007''.

(b) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Senator John Warner of Virginia was elected a member of the United States Senate on November 7, 1978, for a full term beginning on January 3, 1979. He was subsequently appointed by the Governor of Virginia to fill a vacancy on January 2, 1979, and has served continuously since that date. He was appointed a member of the Committee on Armed Services in January 1979, and has served continuously on the Committee since that date, a period of nearly 28 years. Senator Warner's service on the Committee represents nearly half of its existence since it was established after World War II.

(2) Senator Warner came to the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services after a distinguished record of service to the Nation, including combat service in the Armed Forces and high civilian office.

(3) Senator Warner enlisted in the United States Navy upon graduation from high school in 1945, and served until the summer of 1946, when he was discharged as a Petty Officer 3rd Class. He then attended Washington and Lee University on the G.I. Bill. He graduated in 1949 and entered the University of Virginia Law School.

(4) Upon the outbreak of the Korean War in 1950, Senator Warner volunteered for active duty, interrupting his education to accept a commission in the United States Marine Corps. He served in combat in Korea as a

ground officer in the First Marine Air Wing. Following his active service, he remained in the Marine Corps Reserve for several years, attaining the rank of captain.

(5) Senator Warner resumed his legal education upon returning from the Korean War and graduated from the University of Virginia Law School in 1953. He was selected by the late Chief Judge E. Barrett Prettyman of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit as his law clerk. After his service to Judge Prettyman, Senator Warner became an Assistant United States Attorney in the District of Columbia, and later entered private law practice.

(6) In 1969, the Senate gave its advice and consent to the appointment of Senator Warner as Under Secretary of the Navy. He served in this position until 1972, when he was confirmed and appointed as the 61st Secretary of the Navy since the office was established in 1798. As Secretary, Senator Warner was the principal United States negotiator and signatory of the Incidents at Sea Executive Agreement with the Soviet Union, which was signed in 1972 and remains in effect today. It has served as the model for similar agreements between states covering the operation of naval ships and aircraft in international sea lanes throughout the world.

(7) Senator Warner left the Department of the Navy in 1974. His next public service was as Director of the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission. In this capacity, he coordinated the celebration of the Nation's founding, directing the Federal role in all 50 States and in over 20 foreign nations.

(8) Senator Warner has served as chairman of the Committee on Armed Services of the United States Senate from 1999 to 2001, and again since January 2003. He served as ranking minority member of the committee from 1987 to 1993, and again from 2001 to 2003. Senator Warner concludes his service as chairman at the end of the 109th Congress, but will remain a member of the committee.

(9) This Act is the twenty-eighth annual authorization act for the Department of Defense for which Senator Warner has taken a major responsibility as a member of the Committee on Armed Services of the United States Senate, and the fourteenth for which he has exercised a leadership role as chairman or ranking minority member of the committee.

(10) Senator Warner, as seaman, Marine officer, Under Secretary and Secretary of the Navy, and member, ranking minority member, and chairman of the Committee on Armed Services, has made unique and lasting contributions to the national security of the United States.

(11) It is altogether fitting and proper that his Act, the last annual authorization Act for the national defense that Senator Warner manages in and for the United States Senate as chairman of the Committee on Armed Services, be named in his honor, as provided in subsection (a).

SA 4242. Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BYRD, Mr. GREGG, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COBURN, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. REID, Mr. STEVENS, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. INOUYE, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. DOOD, and Mr. BURNS) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end of subtitle I of title X, insert the following:

SEC. __. BUDGETING FOR ONGOING MILITARY OPERATIONS.

The President's budget submitted pursuant to section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, for each fiscal year after fiscal year 2007 shall include—

(1) a request for funds for such fiscal year for ongoing military operations in Afghanistan and Iraq;

(2) an estimate of all funds expected to be required in that fiscal year for such operations; and

(3) a detailed justification of the funds requested.

SA 4243. Mr. BIDEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title VII, add the following:

SEC. 707. ENHANCEMENT OF COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING FOR TRICARE BENEFICIARIES OVER AGE 50.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 1074d of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) Members and former members of the uniformed services described in paragraph (1) or (2) who are 50 years of age or older shall also be entitled to the colorectal cancer screening tests described in section 1861(pp)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1935x(pp)(1)) with such frequency as tests for which payment would be authorized under section 1834(d) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1935m(d)) without regard to whether such members or former members are at high risk for colorectal cancer (as described in section 1861(pp)(2) of that Act) or have otherwise previously exhibited any symptom of or associated with colorectal cancer.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (b)(8) of such section is amended by striking ''subsection (a)(2)'' and inserting ''paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (a)''.

SA 4244. Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. CARPER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title VII, add the following:

SEC. 730. MILITARY VACCINATION MATTERS.

(a) ADDITIONAL ELEMENT FOR COMPTROLLER GENERAL STUDY AND REPORT ON VACCINE HEALTHCARE CENTERS.—Section 736(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (Public Law 109–163; 119 Stat. 3356) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(10) The feasibility and advisability of transferring direct responsibility for the Centers from the Army Medical Command to the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Protection and Readiness.''.

(b) RESPONSE TO MEDICAL NEEDS ARISING FROM MANDATORY MILITARY VACCINATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall maintain a joint military medical center of excellence focusing on the medical needs arising from mandatory military vaccinations.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The joint military medical center of excellence under paragraph (1) shall consist of the following:

(A) The Vaccine Healthcare Centers of the Department of Defense, which shall be the principal elements of the center.

(B) Any other elements that the Secretary considers appropriate.

(3) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—In acting as the principal elements of the joint military medical center under paragraph (1), the Vaccine Healthcare Centers referred to in paragraph (2)(A) may carry out the following:

(A) Medical assistance and care to individuals receiving mandatory military vaccines and their dependents, including long-term case management for adverse events where necessary.

(B) Evaluations to identify and treat potential and actual health effects from vaccines before and after their use in the field.

(C) The development and sustainment of a long-term vaccine safety and efficacy registry.

(D) Support for an expert clinical advisory board for case reviews related to disability assessment questions.

(E) Long-term and short-term studies to identify unanticipated benefits and adverse events from vaccines.

(F) Educational outreach for immunization providers and those required to receive immunizations.

(G) The development, dissemination, and validation of educational materials for Department of Defense healthcare workers relating to vaccine safety, efficacy, and acceptability.

(c) LIMITATION ON RESTRUCTURING OF VACCINE HEALTHCARE CENTERS.—

(1) LIMITATION.—The Secretary of Defense may not downsize or otherwise restructure the Vaccine Healthcare Centers of the Department of Defense until the Secretary submits to Congress a report setting forth a plan for meeting the immunization needs of the Armed Forces during the 10-year period beginning on the date of the submittal of the report.

(2) REPORT ELEMENTS.—The report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) An assessment of the potential biological threats to members of the Armed Forces that are addressable by vaccine.

(B) An assessment of the distance and time required to travel to a Vaccine Healthcare Center by members of the Armed Forces who have severe reactions to a mandatory military vaccine.

(C) An identification of the most effective mechanisms for ensuring the provision services by the Vaccine Healthcare Centers to both military medical professionals and members of the Armed Forces.

(D) An assessment of current military and civilian expertise with respect to mass adult immunization programs, including case management under such programs for rare adverse reactions to immunizations.

(E) An organizational structure for each military department to ensure support of the Vaccine Healthcare Centers in the provision of services to members of the Armed Forces.

SA 4245. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title III, add the following:

SEC. ___. EXPANSION OF JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries of the military departments shall take appropriate actions to increase the number of secondary educational institutions at which a unit of the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps is organized under chapter 102 of title 10, United States Code.

(b) EXPANSION TARGETS.—In increasing under subsection (a) the number of secondary educational institutions at which a unit of the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps is organized, the Secretaries of the military departments shall seek to organize units at an additional number of institutions as follows:

(1) In the case of Army units, 15 institutions.

(2) In the case of Navy units, 10 institutions.

(3) In the case of Marine Corps units, 15 institutions.

(4) In the case of Air Force units, 10 institutions.

(c) FUNDING.—

(1) ADDITIONAL AMOUNT FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 301(5) for operation and maintenance, Defense-wide, is hereby increased by $7,000,000.

(2) AVAILABILITY.—Of the amount authorized to be appropriated by section 301(5) for operation and maintenance, Defense-wide, as increased by paragraph (1), $7,000,000 may be available for activities under this section.

SA 4246. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1044. TEMPORARY NATIONAL GUARD SUPPORT FOR SECURING THE SOUTHERN LAND BORDER OF THE UNITED STATES.

(a) AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE.—(1) With the approval of the Secretary of Defense, the Governor of a State may order any units or personnel of the National Guard of such State to annual training duty under section 502(a) of title 32, United States Code, to carry out in any State along the Southern land border of the United States the activities authorized in subsection (b) for the purpose of securing such border. Such duty shall not exceed 21 days in any year.

(2) With the approval of the Secretary of Defense, the Governor of a State may order any units or personnel of the National Guard of such State to perform duty under section 502(f) of title 32, United States Code, to provide command, control, and continuity of support for units and personnel performing annual training duty under paragraph (1).

(b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—The activities authorized by this subsection are the following:

(1) Ground surveillance activities.

(2) Airborne surveillance activities.

(3) Logistical support.

(4) Provision of translation services and training.

(5) Provision of administrative support services.

(6) Provision of technical training services.

(7) Provision of emergency medical assistance and services.

(8) Provision of communications services.

(9) Rescue of aliens in peril.

(10) Construction of roadways, patrol roads, fences, barriers, and other facilities to secure the southern land border of the United States.

(11) Ground and air transportation.

(c) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—Units and personnel of the National Guard of a State may perform activities in another State under subsection (a) only pursuant to the terms of an emergency management assistance compact or other cooperative arrangement entered into between the Governors of such States for purposes of this section, and only with the approval of the Secretary of Defense.

(d) COORDINATION OF ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Governors of the States concerned, coordinate the performance of activities under this section by units and personnel of the National Guard.

(e) ANNUAL TRAINING.—Annual training duty performed by members of the National Guard under this section shall be appropriate for the units and individual members concerned, taking into account the types of units and military occupational specialties of individual members performing such duty.

(f) PROHIBITION ON DIRECT PARTICIPATION IN LAW ENFORCEMENT.—Activities carried out under this section shall not include the direct participation of a member of the National Guard in a search, seizure, arrest, or similar activity.

(g) DURATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority of this section shall expire on January 1, 2009.

(h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''Governor of a State'' means, in the case of the District of Columbia, the Commanding General of the National Guard of the District of Columbia.

(2) The term ''State'' means each of the several States and the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.

(3) The term ''State along the southern land border of the United States'' means each of the following:

(A) The State of Arizona.

(B) The State of California.

(C) The State of New Mexico.

(D) The State of Texas.

SA 4247. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1066. REPORT ON TECHNOLOGIES FOR NEUTRALIZING OR DEFEATING THREATS TO MILITARY ROTARY WING AIRCRAFT FROM PORTABLE AIR DEFENSE SYSTEMS AND ROCKET PROPELLED GRENADES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress a report on technologies for neutralizing or defeating threats to military rotary wing aircraft posed by portable air defense systems and rocket propelled grenades that are being researched, developed, employed, or considered by the United States Government or the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

(b) CONTENT.—The report required under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) an assessment of the expected value and utility of the technologies, particularly with respect to—

(A) the saving of lives;

(B) the ability to reduce the vulnerability of aircraft; and

(C) the enhancement of the ability of aircraft and their crews to accomplish assigned missions;

(2) an assessment of the potential costs of developing and deploying such technologies;

(3) a description of efforts undertaken to develop such technologies, including—

(A) non-lethal counter measures;

(B) lasers and other systems designed to dazzle, impede, or obscure threatening weapon or their users;

(C) direct fire response systems;

(D) directed energy weapons; and

(E) passive and active systems; and

(4) a description of any impediments to the development of such technologies, such as legal restrictions under the law of war, treaty restrictions under the Protocol on Blinding Lasers, and political obstacles such as the reluctance of other allied countries to pursue such technologies.

SA 4248. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. DEFINITION OF MEMBER OF THE SPECIAL EXPOSURE COHORT.

Section 3621(14) of the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 7384*l*(14)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(D) The employee—

''(i) was so employed by the Department of Energy, or a contractor or subcontractor of that Department, before 1986 on—

''(I) Enewetak Atoll;

''(II) Bikini Atoll;

''(III) Rongelap Atoll; or

''(IV) Utrik Atoll;

''(ii) was exposed to ionizing radiation in the performance of a duty of the employee; and

''(iii) during the time the employee was so employed, was a citizen of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.''.

SA 4249. Mr. DOMENICI (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN) submitted an

amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title II, add the following:

SEC. 215. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE, NEW MEXICO.

(a) ADDITIONAL AMOUNT FOR RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION, ARMY.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(1) for research, development, test, and evaluation for the Army is hereby increased by $5,000,000.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(1) for research, development, test, and evaluation for the Army, as increased by subsection (a), $5,000,000 may be available for the development of a range-wide environmental impact statement with respect to White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico.

(2) CONSTRUCTION WITH OTHER AMOUNTS.—The amount available under paragraph (1) for the purpose set forth in that paragraph is in addition to any amounts available under this Act for that purpose.

(c) OFFSET.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 301(1) for operation and maintenance for Army is hereby reduced by $5,000,000.

SA 4250. Mr. DOMENICI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title II, add the following:

SEC. 215. WATER TREATMENT TECHNOLOGIES.

(a) ADDITIONAL AMOUNT FOR RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION, NAVY.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(2) for research, development, test, and evaluation for the Navy is hereby increased by $4,000,000.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(2) for research, development, test, and evaluation for the Navy, as increased by subsection (a), $4,000,000 may be available for research and development on water treatment technologies that will reduce the cost of producing safe drinking water through desalinization, contaminant removal, water reuse, and other mechanisms.

(2) CONSTRUCTION WITH OTHER AMOUNTS.—The amount available under paragraph (1) for the purpose set forth in that paragraph is in addition to any amounts available under this Act for that purpose.

(c) OFFSET.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 301(2) for operation and maintenance for Navy is hereby reduced by $4,000,000.

SA 4251. Mr. DOMENICI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 573, after line 20, add the following:

SEC. 3121. DECONTAMINATION AND DECOMMISSIONING OF PROCESS-CONTAMINATED FACILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy is authorized to undertake immediate decommissioning and decontamination of process-contaminated facilities located at National Nuclear Security Administration facilities. The Secretary shall allocate not less than $75,000,000 for such activities out of the amount made available under section 3102 for fiscal year 2007 for defense environmental cleanup activities.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy shall submit to Congress a report identifying all excess process-contaminated National Nuclear Security Administration facilities and a plan, including a strategy and budgetary requirements, for decontaminating such facilities.

SA 4252. Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SPECTER, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2766, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title X of division A, insert the following:

SEC. 1084. COURT SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS.

(a) JUDICIAL BRANCH SECURITY REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) ENSURING CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION WITH THE JUDICIARY.—Section 566 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(i) The Director of the United States Marshals Service shall consult and coordinate with the Judicial Conference of the United States on a continuing basis regarding the security requirements for the judicial branch of the United States Government.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 331 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''The Judicial Conference shall consult and coordinate with the Director of United States Marshals Service on a continuing basis regarding the security requirements for the judicial branch of the United States Government.''.

(b) PROTECTION OF FAMILY MEMBERS.—Section 105(b)(3) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by inserting ''or a family member of that individual'' after ''that individual''; and

(2) in subparagraph (B)(i), by inserting ''or a family member of that individual'' after ''the report''.

(c) EXTENSION OF SUNSET PROVISION.—Section 105(b)(3) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App) is amended by striking ''2005'' each place that term appears and inserting ''2009''.

(d) PROTECTIONS AGAINST MALICIOUS RECORDING OF FICTITIOUS LIENS AGAINST FEDERAL JUDGES AND FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.—

(1) OFFENSE.—Chapter 73 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1521. RETALIATING AGAINST A FEDERAL JUDGE OR FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER BY FALSE CLAIM OR SLANDER OF TITLE.

''(a) Whoever files or attempts to file, in any public record or in any private record which is generally available to the public, any false lien or encumbrance against the real or personal property of a Federal judge or a Federal law enforcement official, on account of the performance of official duties by that Federal judge or Federal law enforcement official, knowing or having reason to know that such lien or encumbrance is false or contains any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for not more than 10 years, or both.

''(b) As used in this section—

''(1) the term 'Federal judge' means a justice or judge of the United States as defined in section 451 of title 28, United States Code, a judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, a United States bankruptcy judge, a United States magistrate judge, and a judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces, United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, United States Tax Court, District Court of Guam, District Court of the Northern Mariana Islands, or District Court of the Virgin Islands; and

''(2) the term 'Federal law enforcement officer' has the meaning given that term in section 115 of this title and includes an attorney who is an officer or employee of the United States in the executive branch of the Government.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 73 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''1521. Retaliating against a Federal judge or Federal law enforcement officer by false claim or slander of title.''.

(e) PROTECTION OF INDIVIDUALS PERFORMING CERTAIN OFFICIAL DUTIES.—

(1) OFFENSE.—Chapter 7 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 118. PROTECTION OF INDIVIDUALS PERFORMING CERTAIN OFFICIAL DUTIES.

''(a) Whoever knowingly makes restricted personal information about a covered official, or a member of the immediate family of that covered official, publicly available, with the intent that such restricted personal information be used to kill, kidnap, or inflict bodily harm upon, or to threaten to kill, kidnap, or inflict bodily harm upon, that covered official, or a member of the immediate family of that covered official, shall be fined under this title and imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.

''(b) As used in this section—

''(1) the term 'restricted personal information' means, with respect to an individual, the Social Security number, the home address, home phone number, mobile phone number, personal email, or home fax number of, and identifiable to, that individual;

''(2) the term 'covered official' means—

''(A) an individual designated in section 1114;

''(B) a Federal judge or Federal law enforcement officer as those terms are defined in section 1521; or

''(C) a grand or petit juror, witness, or other officer in or of, any court of the United

States, or an officer who may be serving at any examination or other proceeding before any United States magistrate judge or other committing magistrate; and

''(3) the term 'immediate family' has the same meaning given that term in section 115(c)(2).''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 7 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''Sec. 117. Domestic assault by an habitual offender.

''Sec. 118. Protection of individuals performing certain official duties.''.

(f) PROHIBITION OF POSSESSION OF DANGEROUS WEAPONS IN FEDERAL COURT FACILITIES.—Section 930(e)(1) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''or other dangerous weapon'' after ''firearm''.

(g) CLARIFICATION OF VENUE FOR RETALIATION AGAINST A WITNESS.—Section 1513 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(g) A prosecution under this section may be brought in the district in which the official proceeding (whether or not pending, about to be instituted or completed) was intended to be affected, or in which the conduct constituting the alleged offense occurred.''.

(h) WITNESS PROTECTION GRANT PROGRAM.—Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3711 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new part:

''PART JJ—WITNESS PROTECTION GRANTS

''SEC. 3001. PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—From amounts made available to carry out this part, the Attorney General may make grants to States, units of local government, and Indian tribes to create and expand witness protection programs in order to prevent threats, intimidation, and retaliation against victims of, and witnesses to, crimes.

''(b) USES OF FUNDS.—Grants awarded under this part shall be—

''(1) distributed directly to the State, unit of local government, or Indian tribe; and

''(2) used for the creation and expansion of witness protection programs in the jurisdiction of the grantee.

''(c) PREFERENTIAL CONSIDERATION.—In awarding grants under this part, the Attorney General may give preferential consideration, if feasible, to an application from a jurisdiction that—

''(1) has the greatest need for witness and victim protection programs;

''(2) has a serious violent crime problem in the jurisdiction; and

''(3) has had, or is likely to have, instances of threats, intimidation, and retaliation against victims of, and witnesses to, crimes.

''(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2006 through 2010.''.

(i) GRANTS TO STATES TO PROTECT WITNESSES AND VICTIMS OF CRIMES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 31702 of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13862) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (3), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking the period and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) to create and expand witness and victim protection programs to prevent threats, intimidation, and retaliation against victims of, and witnesses to, violent crimes.''.

(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 31707 of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13867) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 31707. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

''There are authorized to be appropriated $20,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2006 through 2010 to carry out this subtitle.''.

(j) ELIGIBILITY OF STATE COURTS FOR CERTAIN FEDERAL GRANTS.—

(1) CORRECTIONAL OPTIONS GRANTS.—Section 515 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3762a) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) in paragraph (2), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(ii) in paragraph (3), by striking the period and inserting ''; and''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) grants to State courts to improve security for State and local court systems.''; and

(B) in subsection (b), by inserting after the period the following:

''Priority shall be given to State court applicants under subsection (a)(4) that have the greatest demonstrated need to provide security in order to administer justice.''.

(2) ALLOCATIONS.—Section 516(a) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3762b) is amended by—

(A) striking ''80'' and inserting ''70'';

(B) striking ''and 10'' and inserting ''10''; and

(C) inserting before the period the following: '', and 10 percent for section 515(a)(4)''.

(k) UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS.—Section 7253(e) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking ''district courts'' and inserting ''Courts of Appeals''.

(l) BANKRUPTCY, MAGISTRATE, AND TERRITORIAL JUDGES LIFE INSURANCE.—

(1) BANKRUPTCY JUDGES.—Section 153 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) For purposes of construing and applying chapter 87 of title 5, United States Code, including any adjustment of insurance rates by regulation or otherwise, a bankruptcy judge of the United States in regular active service or who is retired under section 377 of this title shall be deemed to be a judge of the United States described under section 8701(a)(5) of title 5.''.

(2) UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGES.—Section 634(c) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by inserting ''(1)'' after ''(c)''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) For purposes of construing and applying chapter 87 of title 5, United States Code, including any adjustment of insurance rates by regulation or otherwise, a magistrate judge of the United States in regular active service or who is retired under section 377 of this title shall be deemed to be a judge of the United States described under section 8701(a)(5) of title 5.''.

(3) TERRITORIAL JUDGES.—

(A) GUAM.—Section 24 of the Organic Act of Guam (48 U.S.C. 1424b) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) For purposes of construing and applying chapter 87 of title 5, United States Code, including any adjustment of insurance rates by regulation or otherwise, a judge appointed under this section who is in regular active service or who is retired under section 373 of title 28, United States Code, shall be deemed to be a judge of the United States described under section 8701(a)(5) of title 5.''.

(B) COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.—Section 1(b) of the Act of November 8, 1977 (48 U.S.C. 1821) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) For purposes of construing and applying chapter 87 of title 5, United States Code, including any adjustment of insurance rates by regulation or otherwise, a judge appointed under this section who is in regular active service or who is retired under section 373 of title 28, United States Code, shall be deemed to be a judge of the United States described under section 8701(a)(5) of title 5.''.

(C) VIRGIN ISLANDS.—Section 24(a) of the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands (48 U.S.C. 1614(a)) is amended—

(i) by inserting ''(1)'' after ''(a)''; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) For purposes of construing and applying chapter 87 of title 5, ÷United States Code, including any adjustment of insurance rates by regulation or otherwise, a judge appointed under this section who is in regular active service or who is retired under section 373 of title 28, United States Code, shall be deemed to be a judge of the United States described under section 8701(a)(5) of title 5.''.

(m) HEALTH INSURANCE FOR SURVIVING FAMILY AND SPOUSES OF JUDGES.—Section 8901(3) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''; and'' and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in subparagraph (D), by adding ''and'' after the semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(E) a member of a family who is a survivor of—

''(i) a Justice or judge of the United States, as defined under section 451 of title 28, United States Code;

''(ii) a judge of the District Court of Guam, the District Court of the Northern Mariana Islands, or the District Court of the Virgin Islands;

''(iii) a judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims; or

''(iv) a United States bankruptcy judge or a full-time United States magistrate judge.''.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 14, 2006, at 10 a.m., to mark up S. 418 ''Military Personnel Financial Services Protection Act,'' as amended by the committee print; S. 811 ''Abraham Lincoln Commemorative Coin Act,'' and to vote on the nominations of Ms. Sheila C. Bair, of Kansas, to be a member and chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; Ms. Kathleen L. Casey, of Virginia, to be a member of the Securities and Exchange Commission; Mr. Robert M. Couch, of Alabama, to be President of the Government National Mortgage Association; Mr. Donald L. Kohn, of Virginia, to be vice chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; and Mr. James B. Lockhart III, of Connecticut, to be the Director of the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight. Immediately following the mark up, the committee will meet in open session to conduct a hearing on ''FASB's Proposed Standard on 'Employers' Accounting for Defined Benefit Pension and Other Postretirement Plans.' ''

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 14, 2006, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing on ''Extension of HUD's Mark-to-Market Program.''

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I would like to ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to hold an oversight hearing on Wednesday, June 14, 2006, at 9:30 a.m. to consider whether potential liability deters abandoned hard rock mine clean up.

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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, June 14, 2006, at 10 a.m. for a business meeting to consider pending committee business.

Agenda

Legislation

1. S. 2145, Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Act of 2005;
2. S. 1554, a bill to establish an intergovernmental grant program to identify and develop homeland security information, equipment, capabilities, technologies, and services to further the homeland security of the United States and to address the homeland security needs of Federal, State, and local governments;
3. S. 1741, Disaster Area Health and Environmental Monitoring Act;
4. S. 1838, Federal and District of Columbia Real Property Act of 2005;
5. S. 2068, a bill to preserve existing judgeships on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia;
6. S. 2146, a bill to extend relocation expenses test programs for Federal employees;
7. S. 2296, Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Latin Americans of Japanese Descent Act;
8. H.R. 3508, 2005 District of Columbia Omnibus Authorization Act.

Post Office Naming Bills

1. S. 2228/H.R. 4456, a bill to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 2404 Race Street in Jonesboro, Arkansas, as the ''Hattie W. Caraway Station;''
2. S. 2376/H.R. 3934, a bill to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 80 Killian Road in Massapequa, New York, as the ''Gerard A. Fiorenza Post Office Building;''
3. S. 2722, a bill to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 170 East Main Street in Patchogue, New York, as the ''Lieutenant Michael P. Murphy Post Office Building;
4. H.R. 4108, a bill to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 3000 Homewood Avenue in Baltimore, Maryland, as the ''State Senator Verda Welcome and Dr. Henry Welcome Post Office Building;''
5. H.R. 3440, a bill to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 100 Avenida RL Rodriguez in Bayamon, Puerto Rico, as the ''Dr. Jose Celso Barbosa Post Office Building;''
6. H.R. 4786, a bill to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 535 Wood Street in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, as the ''H. Gordon Payrow Post Office Building;''
7. H.R. 4561, a bill to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 8624 Ferguson Road in Dallas, Texas, as the ''Franciso 'Pancho' Medrano Post Office Building;''
8. H.R. 4688, a bill to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 1 Boyden Street in Badin, North Carolina, as the ''Mayor John Thompson 'Tom' Garrison Memorial Post Office;''
9. H.R. 4995, a bill to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 7 Columbus Avenue in Tuckahoe, New York, as the ''Ronald Bucca Post Office;''
10. H.R. 3549, a bill to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 210 West 3rd Avenue in Warren, Pennsylvania, as the ''William F. Clinger Jr. Post Office Building;''
11. H.R. 2977, a bill to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 306 2nd Avenue in Brockway, Montana, as the ''Paul Kasten Post Office Building;''
12. S. 2690, a bill to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 8801 Sudley Road in Manassas, Virginia, as the ''Harry J. Parrish Post Office;''
13. S. 3187, a bill to designate the Post Office located at 5755 Post Road, East Greenwich, Rhode Island, as the ''Richard L. Cevoli Post Office;''
14. H.R. 5245, a bill to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 1 Marble Street in Fair Haven, Vermont, as the ''Matthew Lyon Post Office Building.''

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, June 14, 2006, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing on S. 374, the Tribal Parity Act and S. 1535, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Equitable Compensation Amendments Act of 2005.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on ''Judicial Nominations'' on Wednesday, June 14, 2006, at 9:30 a.m. in Dirksen Senate Office Building Room 226.

Witness list:

Panel I: The Honorable F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr. and The Honorable William Kovacic, Commissioner, Federal Trade Commission, Washington, DC.

Panel II: Vinton Cerf, Vice President & Chief Internet Evangelist, Google, Inc., Herndon, VA, David L. Cohen, Executive Vice President, Comcast Corporation, Philadelphia, PA, Walter McCormick, President and CEO, U.S. Telecom Association, Washington, DC, Christopher Putala, Executive Vice President, Public Policy, Earthlink, Inc., Washington, DC, Blair Levin, Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Inc., St. Louis, MO, Paul T. Morris, Executive Director, Utah Telecommunication Open Infrastructure Agency, West Valley City, UT, John Kuhns, Senior Director of Information Technology, Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 14, 2006, at 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed business meeting.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION, AND COMPETITIVENESS

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation Subcommittee on Technology, Innovation, and Competitiveness be authorized to meet on Wednesday, June 14, 2006, at 10 a.m. on Alternative Energy Technologies.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Ipar Demir be granted floor privileges during the duration of today's session.

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

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the privileges of the floor be granted to a fellow in my office, Michelle Aykol, for the duration of the Senate's debate on S. 2766, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007.

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

Mr. DORGAN. On behalf of Senator KENNEDY, I ask unanimous consent that his Navy detailee, Tom Crowley, and a State Department fellow, Rick Driscoll, be granted floor privileges during the consideration of the National Defense Authorization Act of fiscal year 2007.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Michelle Stefanick, a State Department fellow in Senator SNOWE's office, be granted the privileges of the floor during consideration of the Defense authorization bill.

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

CELEBRATING THE 231ST BIRTHDAY OF THE ARMY

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 512, which was submitted early today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 512) celebrating the 231st birthday of the Army and commending the men and women of the Army as exceptional individuals who live by the values of loyalty, duty, and selfless service.

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

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to our U.S. Army. On June 14, 1775, our Founding Fathers formed the U.S. Army out of a desire to defend their liberties. The Continental Army that emerged in the midst of our war for independence laid a foundation for patriotism, tenacity and courage that remains at the care of the Army of today. Since that time, American Soldiers have fought in more than 10 wars, from the American Revolution to the global war on terror. This 231st birthday serves as a reminder that today's Army continues to stand as the guardian of our nation's freedom. Today, we salute the brave men and women who call the Army home, and those soldiers that have served and died before them, in a celebration of their ''Call to Duty.''

The American soldier has always been the centerpiece of the Nation's defense. Coupled with the desires to maintain our democracy and freedom, these soldiers continue to march to the sound of the guns by putting ''boots on the ground'' in more than 120 countries around the world today. From Valley Forge to New Orleans, from Gettysburg to the Marne, from Sicily and the beaches of Normandy to Inchon and the Ia Drang Valley, from Kuwait to Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, the American Soldier: brave, professional and determined, has not faltered in his duty and stands ready to answer the next call.

Since 1775, millions of men and women, from all backgrounds and parts of our Nation, have raised their right hands and taken an oath to support and defend our Constitution. Today's 231st birthday reminds us that these soldiers are the backbone of our society. Living each day by the ''Warrior Ethos,'' these men and women personify the Army values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage.

No tribute to our men and women in uniform, whether they are from Alabama or elsewhere, would be complete without mentioning their families. America salutes our military families and the unspoken burden they bear when their husbands and wives, fathers and mothers or sons and daughters are called away to steamy jungles or unforgiving deserts to defend this great nation and our way of life. The love and support our soldier's families provide through their support and strength. We remember also their sacrifices and the long days they spend apart.

To those currently serving, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families on this 231st Army birthday. Humbled by your sacrifice and awed by your achievements, we continue to find comfort in knowing you are an eminent presence: resolute in standing watch over our democracy and freedoms. Celebrate this Army birthday and continue to live to a higher standard through the Army values and the Warrior Ethos.

Our celebration of the 231st Army birthday reminds us all of the sacrifice so many have made in the preservation of our Nation. These words are but a small token of the appreciation and thanks that are owed for the dedication to duty and sacrifice these brave men and women make on a daily basis. These soldiers deserve our gratitude, our praise and most importantly our continued support as they continue to drive on with the mission. Happy Birthday to our Army.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr President, I rise today in honor of the Army's 231st birthday. For over two centuries, the Army has served this Nation with honesty, courage, and dignity, and it is my privilege to take this opportunity to commemorate its birth. Both in times of peace, and in times of war, the U.S. Army has been poised and ready to answer the call of duty to defend our Nation. All of our Army units—Active, Guard and Reserve—share the heritage of the first Continental Army which fought so valiantly for the principles of justice, freedom and democracy. The commitment and duty of the Army soldiers who have risked their lives to preserve our freedom have left an indelible mark on this nation. During the Army's 231 year history, tens of thousands of these brave men and women have sacrificed their lives on distant battlefields to keep our nation safe. I salute them for their service to this country.

I also pay tribute to the families of those soldiers who risk their lives for our Nation. Too often the important role that families play goes unacknowledged but their faith and devotion are vital to the Army's success. The families of our soldiers have my deepest appreciation for the sacrifices they make and for the support the give our troops.

As this Nation continues to fight in the global war on terror, the Army has been key to providing the Joint force the capabilities it needs to persist in its struggle for liberty and democracy. Through the efforts of the U.S. Army the world has been made a more secure, prosperous, and better place for all of mankind. As I witnessed, firsthand, during my recent trip to Iraq, the men and women serving in the Army who so courageously defend our Nation represent the best of what our country has to offer and have my deepest respect. Thank you for your selfless service. It is an inspiration to us all.

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I rise today to wish the U.S. Army happy birthday. It was 231 years ago today, June 14, 1775, that the Continental Army of the United States was formed.

Over the past 231 years, millions of men and women have served in the oldest branch of our Armed Forces. Their honor, courage, sacrifice and service are the foundation of America's greatness.

The Army principles of ''Duty, Honor, Country'' is America. Every generation of Americans who have served in the U.S. Army from the Continental Army to our fighting men and women serving today in Iraq and Afghanistan have been shaped by these principles. The United States Army has shaped lives just as it has shaped our history.

The U.S. Army has protected our democracy and helped make the world more secure, peaceful, and prosperous.

On this 231st birthday of the U.S. Army, we also recognize and thank the individuals who have sacrificed and served our country. They inspire us and will continue to serve as role models for future generations.

''Happy Birthday'' to the U.S. Army. And, in the Army's great rich tradition and as a proud Army veteran, I proclaim my annual Senate floor ''HOOAH!''

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 512) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 512

Whereas, from the first Continental Army under General Washington to the beaches of Normandy and the city streets of Iraq, the Army has protected the flame of democracy;

Whereas the citizens of the United States continue to enjoy freedom and spread the light of democracy because the men and women of the Army have stood through adversity, remained steadfast in the most difficult of circumstances, and bravely fought against the enemies of peace throughout the world;

Whereas the sacrifices of those men and women of the Army have called all citizens

of the United States, both public and private, to the highest forms of citizenship;

Whereas the Army maintains its presence in 120 countries across the world, including Saudi Arabia, Korea, and Kosovo;

Whereas the accomplishments of the Army in the Global War on Terror have demonstrated the courage and strength of the men and women of the Army;

Whereas, in Iraq, the Army has brought freedom to a population once under tyrannical control, allowing the citizens of Iraq to enjoy the recent election of officials, the formation of a constitution, and the formation of the government under Prime Minister al-Maliki;

Whereas the men and women of the Army continued to provide stability and security to Iraqis by killing Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, who was commonly known among terrorists as the ''prince of al-Qaeda'';

Whereas Iraq has become a better place and a great ally, which was evident when the ambassador of Iraq presented his credentials to the Secretary of State for the first time in 15 years; and

Whereas those great accomplishments add to the longstanding tradition of the Army and attest to the extraordinary capability of the men and women who serve the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) salutes the men and women of the Army;

(2) commends the men and women of the Army as exceptional individuals who live by the values of loyalty, duty, and selfless service; and

(3) recognizes that those great citizens—

(A) are the reason why the Army continues to stand as the best military force in the world; and

(B) continue to perform amazing tasks and uphold the honored traditions of the Army by adhering to the principle expressed by General Douglas MacArthur when he proudly declared that ''Americans never quit.''.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, today, the significance of this resolution is something that needs the attention of this body. We are today honoring the 231st birthday of the U.S. Army.

Throughout the centuries, the noble service of Army soldiers has defended this great Nation. From the first Continental Army under GEN George Washington, to the beaches of Normandy, to the city streets of Baghdad, America's Army has protected the flame of freedom. Their sacrifice calls us all—both public and private—to the highest standard of citizenship. We enjoy our freedoms because they have been steadfast through the most difficult of circumstances and continue to spread the light of democracy to the darkest corners of the world. We stand here today because they continue to willingly put their lives in harm's way.

The Army's history is one of success. During the Mexican-American War our country expanded westward to the Pacific and south to Texas. The Philippine and Spanish-American Wars demonstrated the Army's courage against strong insurgent forces and created the vital posts that exist today in Southeast Asia. The Army continued to fight bravely in World War I and World War II to defeat the Central powers and the Axis in Europe and the Pacific. With the rise of Communism, the Army once again answered freedom's call in Korea and Vietnam.

Today, these courageous soldiers continue the great tradition by serving across the world in the war on terrorism. While the Army maintains a presence in 120 countries across the world in countries such as Djibouti, Korea, and Kosovo, the vast majority of our efforts have been focused in Iraq and Afghanistan.

I just returned from my 11th trip to the Iraqi AOR. While I was over there I observed firsthand the progress being made by our troops. The Army has taken the bulk of the responsibility, and much of what we have accomplished we owe to their outstanding service.

The Army has brought freedom to a population once under tyrannical control. Freedom shines through the recent election of officials, the formation of a constitution, and formation of the first permanent government under Prime Minister al-Maliki. Recently, the first Iraqi Ambassador in 15 years presented his credentials to the Secretary of State. We have taken out the ''prince of al-Qaida,'' al-Zarqawi. These great successes add to the longstanding tradition of our military.

Having just returned from that area, and having been there 11 times, and having talked to our U.S. Army soldiers, as well as with the other services, it is incredible that they are so much like they were in the past. I recall when I was first drafted into the U.S. Army. It was so long ago that I was drafted with Elvis Presley. And he had a little better duty than I did. Nonetheless, you learn something when you become an active member of the U.S. Army. You learn a type of discipline and a type of tradition, and that tradition stays with you all the rest of your life.

It was not long ago that my fellow Army veteran, Senator DANNY AKAKA, and I formed the Army Caucus to bring attention to the work of the Army in the past, the present, and in the future.

To let you know how things change, I can remember only 12 years ago, when I was serving in the other body, in the House Armed Services Committee, someone testified at that time that in 10 years we would no longer need ground troops. To let you know some of the problems we have—and the fact is, yes, there are a lot of smart people around—but nobody knows what contingencies we will have to be facing in the future. And I can assure you, as we proceed into the future, as we modernize our equipment, it will be in use again, and the U.S. Army will come through, as they always have since the days of George Washington.

As the Army continues to fight for freedom today and peace tomorrow, I salute each Army soldier for their sacrifice, dedication, and perseverance in protecting America. These soldiers are exceptional individuals who live by the values of loyalty, duty, and selfless service. It is in this spirit that the Army continues to uphold its highest values and take its rich tradition into the next 231 years.

May God bless the United States Army.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

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

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

REFERRAL OF DISCHARGED NOMINATION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the nomination of Randall M. Fort to be Assistant Secretary of State be discharged from the Committee on Foreign Relations and that it be referred to the Committee on Intelligence.

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

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. As in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that at 3:30 on Monday, June 19, the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following judicial nomination on the Executive Calendar: No. 699, Sandra Ikuta, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit; provided further that the time until 5:30 be equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Judiciary Committee or their designees; provided further that at 5:30, the Senate proceed to a vote on the nomination, with no intervening action or debate, and that following the vote, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT TRIBUTES TO SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD AND FORMER SENATOR BOB DOLE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senators be permitted to submit tributes to Senator BYRD and former Senator Dole for the RECORD until Friday, June 16, and that each be printed as a Senate document.

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

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF IGNACY JAN PADEREWSKI

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to consider S. Res. 491.

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

The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 491) recognizing the accomplishments of Ignacy Jan Paderewski as a musician, composer, statesman, and philanthropist, and commemorating the 65th anniversary of his death on June 29, 1941.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 491) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 491

Whereas Ignacy Jan Paderewski, born in Poland in 1860, was a brilliant and popular pianist who performed hundreds of concerts in Europe and the United States during the late 19th and early 20th centuries;

Whereas Paderewski donated the bulk of the proceeds of his concerts to charitable causes, including the establishment of the American Legion's Orphans and Veterans Fund;

Whereas, during World War I, Paderewski worked for the independence of Poland and served as the first Premier of Poland;

Whereas, in December 1919, Paderewski resigned as Premier of Poland, and in 1921 he left politics to return to his music;

Whereas the German invasion of Poland in 1939 spurred Paderewski to return to political life;

Whereas Paderewski fought against the Nazi dictatorship in World War II by joining the exiled Polish Government to mobilize the Polish forces and to urge the United States to join the Allied Forces;

Whereas, on June 29, 1941, Paderewski died in exile in the United States while all of Europe was imperiled by war and occupation;

Whereas, by the direction of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the remains of Paderewski were placed alongside the honored dead of the United States in Arlington National Cemetery, where President Roosevelt said, ''He may lie there until Poland is free.'';

Whereas, in 1963, President John F. Kennedy honored Paderewski by placing a plaque marking his remains at the Mast of the Maine at Arlington National Cemetery;

Whereas, in 1992, President George H.W. Bush, at the request of Lech Walesa, the first democratically elected President of Poland since World War II, ordered the remains of Paderewski to be returned to his native Poland;

Whereas, on June 26, 1992, the remains of Paderewski were removed from the Mast of the Maine at Arlington National Cemetery and returned to Poland 3 days later;

Whereas, on July 5, 1992, the remains of Paderewski were interred in a crypt at the St. John Cathedral in Warsaw, Poland; and

Whereas Paderewski wished his heart to be forever enshrined in the United States, where his lifelong struggle for democracy and freedom had its roots and was cultivated, and now his heart remains at the Shrine of the Czestochowa in Doylestown, Pennsylvania: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the accomplishments of Ignacy Jan Paderewski as a musician, composer, statesman, and philanthropist;

(2) on the 65th anniversary of his death, acknowledges the invaluable efforts of Ignacy Jan Paderewski in forging close ties between Poland and the United States; and

(3) recognizes Poland as an ally and strong partner in the war against global terrorism.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2006

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow, Thursday, June 15; I further ask that following the prayer and the pledge the morning hour be deemed to have expired, the Journal of the proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved, and the Senate then proceed to a period of morning business until 10 a.m., with the time equally divided between majority leader or his designee, and the Democratic leader or his designee, with the first half under the control of the majority and the second half under the control of the minority. I further ask that at 10 a.m. the Senate proceed to vote on the conference report to accompany H.R. 4939, the supplemental appropriations bill, as under the previous order. I further ask that following the vote on the conference report, the Senate resume consideration of S. 2766, the Defense authorization bill.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, we have made substantial progress today on the Defense Department authorization bill. Two important amendments were voted on and the chairman and ranking member processed a number of voice votes. So we made excellent progress and we intend to do that again tomorrow.

At 10 a.m., we will vote on the supplemental appropriations conference report. That will be the first vote of the day. Following that vote, the Senate will resume consideration of the DOD authorization bill, and we hope to be able to process a number of amendments throughout the day. Chairman WARNER and Senator LEVIN would like to get as many amendments in the queue as possible. The Santorum amendment on Iran is the pending business and we will be scheduling the vote on that in the near term.

I encourage Members to stay rather close to the floor on Thursday so we can make significant progress during tomorrow's session.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:01 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, June 15, 2006, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate June 14, 2006:

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COLONEL GREGORY A. BISCONE, 0000
COLONEL EDWARD L. BOLTON, JR., 0000
COLONEL JOSEPH D. BROWN IV, 0000
COLONEL GREGORY L. BRUNDIDGE, 0000
COLONEL TIMOTHY A. BYERS, 0000
COLONEL MICHAEL W. CALLAN, 0000
COLONEL DAVID S. FADOK, 0000
COLONEL CRAIG A. FRANKLIN, 0000
COLONEL DAVID L. GOLDFEIN, 0000
COLONEL FRANCIS L. HENDRICKS, 0000
COLONEL JOHN W. HESTERMAN III, 0000
COLONEL JAMES W. HYATT, 0000
COLONEL JOHN E. HYTEN, 0000
COLONEL MICHELLE D. JOHNSON, 0000
COLONEL RICHARD C. JOHNSTON, 0000
COLONEL JOSEPH A. LANNI, 0000
COLONEL KENNETH D. MERCHANT, 0000
COLONEL MICHAEL R. MOELLER, 0000
COLONEL HARRY D. POLUMBO, 0000
COLONEL JOHN D. POSNER, 0000
COLONEL JAMES O. POSS, 0000
COLONEL MARK F. RAMSAY, 0000
COLONEL MARK O. SCHISSLER, 0000
COLONEL LYN D. SHERLOCK, 0000
COLONEL CHARLES K. SHUGG, 0000
COLONEL MARVIN T. SMOOT, JR., 0000
COLONEL ALFRED J. STEWART, 0000
COLONEL EVERETT H. THOMAS, 0000
COLONEL WILLIAM W. UHLE, JR., 0000
COLONEL DARTANIAN WARR, 0000
COLONEL BRETT T. WILLIAMS, 0000
COLONEL TOD D. WOLTERS, 0000

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. FRANK A. CIPOLLA, 0000

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS, AND APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 5043 AND 601:

To be general

LT. GEN. JAMES T. CONWAY, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. RICHARD F. NATONSKI, 0000

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. ROBERT B MURRETT, 0000

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

CON G. PHAM, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be colonel

DARYL W. FRANCIS, 0000
JOHN J. JANSEN, 0000
TAMMY J. MAAS, 0000
JOHN R. MOSHER, 0000
DANIEL V. PHAN, 0000
KENNETH L. REINER, 0000
DWAINE M. TORGERSEN, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be colonel

BRIAN E. BISHOP, 0000
DALE A. HALL, 0000
JEFFREY H. HOLMES, 0000
FRANKLIN C. MCCAULEY, JR., 0000
HEATHER K. MEEDS, 0000
ALAN C. SAUNDERS, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be colonel

JOSE R. ATENCIO III, 0000
DAVID R. BROWN, 0000
JOHN H. DOWDLE, JR., 0000
CHRISTOPHER J. MORGAN, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be colonel

BRENT E. BRACEWELL, 0000
CHARLES J. GOSSELIN, 0000
ALLEN L. MEYER, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

To be lieutenant colonel

BRUCE R. DESCHERE, 0000
DIDAR S. SARAI, 0000
RICHARD STOERMANN, 0000
VICTORIA L. YADON, 0000

To be major

ERIC M. HEINBERG, 0000
DAN C. HUNTER, 0000
ROBERT J. MACMILLAN, 0000
SHAH NAWAZ, 0000
MICHAEL B. ROUNTREE, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY DENTAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

To be colonel

MICHAEL L. ELLIS, 0000

To be lieutenant colonel

PETER B. DODSON, 0000
KRISTINE KNUTSON, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL SPECIALIST CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

To be major

DEBRA R. HERNANDEZ, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY VETERINARY CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531 AND 3064:

To be major

ANNE M. EMSHOFF, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be major

ANDREW P. CAP, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY VETERINARY CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

To be colonel

MARK E. GANTS, 0000
GARY A. VROEGINDEWEY, 0000

To be lieutenant colonel

DEBORAH L. WHITMER, 0000

To be major

LISA M. AMOROSO, 0000
STEVEN A. BATY, 0000
JENNIFER J. BECK, 0000
DONALD L. BECKETT, 0000
AMMON W. BROWN, 0000
ERICA CARROLL, 0000
PATTY H. CHEN, 0000
WILLIAM E. CULP, 0000
CHRISTINE A. EGE, 0000
REBECCA I. EVANS, 0000
SARAH B. HINDS, 0000
JENNIFER M. KISHIMORI, 0000
THOMAS KOHLER, 0000
WENDY E. MEY, 0000
KRINON D. MOCCIA, 0000
MARY A. PARHAM, 0000
SANDI K. PARRIOTT, 0000
GERALD R. SARGENT, 0000
TIMOTHY SETTLE, 0000
LARRY J. SHELTON, 0000
WILLIAM D. SNYDER, 0000
KATHLEEN A. SZABO, 0000
WILLIAM L. WILKINS, 0000
SAMUEL L. YINGST, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY NURSE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

To be lieutenant colonel

CATHLEEN A. BURGESS, 0000
JUSTIN A. WOODHOUSE, 0000

To be major

JEFFREY W. ALBRITTON, 0000
JACQUELINE P. ALLEN, 0000
JEAN M. BARIDO, 0000
PATRICK E. BERTZ, 0000
ROBIN R. BLIXT, 0000
ANNE C. BROWN, 0000
ANDREW J. CASSIDY, 0000
ILUMINADA S. CHINNETH, 0000
SHIRLEY B. CRUMPTON, 0000
DONALD D. DENDY, 0000
GERALD M. GATES, 0000
ROBERT G. HARMON, 0000
KEITH F. HOLLIDAY, 0000
JAMES F. HOWELL, 0000
ROBERT L. KENT, 0000
JANET R. KROPF, 0000
REBECCA J. LISI, 0000
JUDITH M. LOGAN, 0000
LEONETTA T. OLIPHANT, 0000
PATRICIA A. ONEALMELLEN, 0000
FLOREYCE A. PALMER, 0000
CYNTHIA N. PHILLIPS, 0000
CINDY S. RENAKER, 0000
DONNA S. RUMFELT, 0000
COLLEEN A. SHIRAISHI, 0000
LORI A. SKINNER, 0000
NANCY M. STEELE, 0000
BRIAN R. THOMAS, 0000
RUTH J. TIMMS, 0000
JEFFREY L. WELLS, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY DENTAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

To be colonel

HAZEL P. HAYNES, 0000
RICKY J. RODGERS, 0000
STEFAN A. SHERMAN, 0000
JON A. SHNEIDMAN, 0000

To be lieutenant colonel

MICHAEL D. BARNES, 0000
ROBERT G. HALE, 0000
PHILIP D. PARK, 0000
JACK N. SEIDENBERG, 0000
JAMES A. WOOD, 0000

To be major

HOLMES C. AITA, 0000
BRIAN D. BARNHART, 0000
ANN A. BEHRENDS, 0000
RALF C. BEILHARDT, 0000
ROBERT E. BESSEY, 0000
JOHN E. BROCK, 0000
MATTHEW K. BRUNER, 0000
STEPHANIE A. CALHOUNJAMISON, 0000
JERRY M. CARBONE, 0000
MANUEL A. CASTILLO, 0000
DEEPTI S. CHITNIS, 0000
MYUNGSOOK A. CHO, 0000
SO B. CHOI, 0000
JAE W. CHUNG, 0000
CHARLES L. CLARK, 0000
STEPHEN E. CLARY, 0000
DANIEL J. CONVEY, 0000
ROBERT L. CRONYN, 0000
EDA P. DEMETRIUS, 0000
MICHAEL E. DINOS, 0000
EDWARD L. DONALDSON, 0000
DANIEL D. DUNHAM, 0000
RUSSELL S. EDDY, 0000
ALEX A. EKE, 0000
VESNA A. ELE, 0000
KENNETH J. ERLEY, 0000
MARK W. FAGAN, 0000
WILLIE R. FAISON, 0000
KURT B. FLECKENSTEIN, 0000
LISA A. FRANKLIN, 0000
ROBERT N. GALBREATH, 0000
ANA L. GARDNER, 0000
CRAIG M. GAYTON, 0000
JAMES J. GLAD, 0000
MICHAEL J. GLIDDON, 0000
MARRERO J. GONZALEZ, 0000
WILLIAM J. GREENWOOD, 0000
MICHAEL K. GREGORY, 0000
RAJDEEP S. GURAYA, 0000
ERIC A. HALL, 0000
BRETT H. HENSON, 0000
HERMANN F. HINZE, 0000
CHRISTENSEN A. HSU, 0000
MEHTAB A. HUSAIN, 0000
JAE I. HWANG, 0000
FAISON T. JONES, 0000
HEKYUNG L. JUNG, 0000
MICHAEL R. KERTES, 0000
TODD S. KIMURA, 0000
TIMOTHY A. KUHLMAN, 0000
ERIC J. KUNATH, 0000
DOUGLAS D. LANCASTER, 0000
CHRISTOPHER S. LEA, 0000
WILLIAM H. LOGAN, 0000
ANTHONY A. MAIORANA, 0000
KENNETH L. MARQUARDT, 0000
THONDIQUE T. MCGHEE, 0000
NEIL E. MOREY, 0000
SANDRA N. MUOGHALU, 0000
RICHARD A. PADRON, 0000
ANDREW D. PALALAY, 0000
DAVID E. PALO, 0000
DONG S. PARK, 0000
KIMBERLEY L. PERKINS, 0000
TODD E. PIENKOS, 0000
RICHARD V. RITTER, 0000
DAVID C. SCHAEFER, 0000
DAVID C. SCHLENKER, 0000
THOMAS K. SCHREIBER, 0000
JEAN C. SENECAL, 0000
ELIZABETH M. SHIN, 0000
YILDIZ T. SILTA, 0000
JON D. STINEMAN, 0000
ROBERT L. STONE, 0000
JASON C. STRANGE, 0000
JAMES M. SUTTON, 0000
TIMOTHY J. SWANSON, 0000
JOHN T. THOMPSON, 0000
DANIEL L. TREBUS, 0000
MICHAEL S. TROUT, 0000
EDWARD J. VANISKY, 0000
RICARDO J. VENDRELL, 0000
JOSE R. VILLANUEVA, 0000
RYAN J. WANG, 0000
ANDREW J. WARGO, 0000
TRENT A. WESTERNOFF, 0000
RICHARD L. WILLIAMS, 0000
STEPHEN A. WOLPERT, 0000
FREDERICK V. WRIGHT, 0000
GIA K. YI, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

To be lieutenant colonel

BEN L. CLARK, 0000
RONALD C. HARRISON, 0000
MARY K. ROOU, 0000
STUART W. SMYTHE, 0000
REBECCA M. SPARACINO, 0000
RICHARD A. WALKER, 0000

To be major

JEFFREY H. BLUNDEN, 0000
GREGORY W. BREWER, 0000
MICHAEL G. CAMMACK, 0000
PEDRO A. CASAS, 0000
LYNNE A. CHINTALA, 0000
CHARLES R. DERIVERA, 0000
TAMMY L. FISH, 0000
CAROLYN E. FOTA, 0000
LINDA K. GLISSON, 0000
STANFORD M. LINDQUIST, 0000
JOHN PARSLEY, 0000
SHAWN I. PARSONS, 0000
KEVIN W. ROBERTS, 0000
HAROLD S. SANO, 0000
STEVEN A. SAWYER, 0000
ALAN E. SIEGEL, 0000
HENRY S. SULLY, 0000
JENNIFER L. WILLIAMS, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATE ARMY MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

To be colonel

LYNN F. ABRAMS, 0000
EDWIN L. ANDERSON, 0000
JOHN E. ATWOOD, 0000
DAVID M. BARTOSZEK, 0000
LEO L. BENNETT, 0000
JERRY M. BROWN, 0000
WILLIAM W. CAMPBELL, 0000
JESSE O. CAVENAR, 0000
CRAIG B. COLLIER, 0000
PAUL S. DROHAN, 0000
DAVID T. ESTROFF, 0000
BRUCE D. FRIED, 0000
PAUL E. GAUSE, 0000
THOMAS C. JEFFERSON, 0000
JOHN J. LAMMIE, 0000
BOBBILYNN H. LEE, 0000
MILTON LUM, 0000
DAVID MEYER, 0000
EDWARD J. PIENKOS, 0000
RAMON M. RUBIO, 0000
JAMES M. VEAZEY, 0000
ROCHELLE T. WASSERMAN, 0000

To be lieutenant colonel

GEORGE H. ALBRIGHT, 0000
JON C. ALLISON, 0000
DONALD R. ANDERSON, 0000
ARTHUR R. BAKER, 0000
LISA J. CARDO, 0000
ENRIQUE DELAGUARDIA, 0000
DONALD C. EDELHEIT, 0000
KATHRYN K. ELLIS, 0000

RAYMOND J. EMANUEL, 0000
ROBERT W. ENQUIST, 0000
GERRY B. FARMER, 0000
TINA GARDNER, 0000
DIEGO J. GONZALEZ, 0000
KIRBY R. GROSS, 0000
CARTER J. HALE, 0000
EDWARD C. HORWITZ, 0000
CHARLES J. KESSLER, 0000
AIZENHAWAR J. MARROGI, 0000
RAFAEL V. MORA, 0000
MOSES T. MUKAI, 0000
STEPHEN R. NOVEMBER, 0000
FERNANDO L. ORTIZ, 0000
JOHN J. OSBORN, 0000
ELLEN M. PINHOLT, 0000
JOEL ROSEN, 0000
STEPHEN M. ROSENBAUM, 0000
EUGENE R. ROSS, 0000
GUNTHER J. SHEN, 0000
WILLIAM A. SMITH, 0000
HENRY SPRING, 0000
ROBERT W. STEWART, 0000
RICHARD L. WIGLE, 0000
THOMAS W. WISENBAUGH, 0000
JACINTO ZAMBRANO, 0000

To be major

JACOB W. AARONSON, 0000
VICTOR A. AGNELLO, 0000
ELIZABETH G. AKAKA, 0000
MICHAEL C. ALBRECHT, 0000
TODD S. ALBRIGHT, 0000
GREGORY D. ALES, 0000
NOEL C. ALES, 0000
WARREN L. ALEXANDER, 0000
HERMINEE O. ALEXANIAN, 0000
DONALD W. ALGEO, 0000
RONALD D. ALLEN, 0000
COLEMAN E. ALTMAN, 0000
GAURI V. ALVAREZ, 0000
DARIUS K. AMJADI, 0000
CRAIG J. AMNOTT, 0000
MARIA E. ARCILA, 0000
AMY J. ASATO, 0000
JAYSON D. AYDELOTTE, 0000
DOUGLAS A. BADZIK, 0000
REGINALD L. BAKER, 0000
TIKI BAKHSHI, 0000
TIMOTHY J. BALLING, 0000
LESLEE I. BALLSCOVEL, 0000
DONALD A. BALUN, 0000
TAMRA L. BARKER, 0000
DANIEL R. BARNES, 0000
JEFFREY G. BARNES, 0000
TIMOTHY P. BARRON, 0000
DAVID M. BARRUS, 0000
LEE J. BARTON, 0000
STEVEN J. BAUER, 0000
SUE E. BAUM, 0000
WILLIAM K. BAXTER, 0000
DOUGLAS B. BEECH, 0000
ALEC C. BEEKLEY, 0000
PHILIP J. BELMONT, 0000
THERESA A. BENCHOFF, 0000
ROBERT E. BENJAMIN, 0000
PAUL D. BENNE, 0000
CHRISTOPHER J. BENNETT, 0000
STEVEN P. BENNETT, 0000
ADAM J. BENSON, 0000
JOHN A. BENSON, 0000
MICHAEL J. BENSON, 0000
KENNETH R. BERGMAN, 0000
GREGORY M. BERNSTEIN, 0000
REONO BERTAGNOLLI, 0000
GLENN T. BESSINGER, 0000
RICHARD A. BICKEL, 0000
DANIEL P. BIGLEY, 0000
JOHN S. BIRCHFIELD, 0000
JAMES D. BISE, 0000
RACHEL J. BISHOP, 0000
KELLY S. BLAIR, 0000
ROBERT B. BLANKENSHIP, 0000
JASON R. BOOLE, 0000
MARK E. BOSELEY, 0000
DANIEL J. BOUDREAUX, 0000
BARBARA L. BOWSHER, 0000
STEVEN M. BRADY, 0000
GREGORY T. BRAMBLETT, 0000
JAMES B. BRANCH, 0000
TIMOTHY C. BRAND, 0000
STEPHEN A. BRASSELL, 0000
JOHN P. BRIDE, 0000
MIGUEL A. BRIZUELA, 0000
ROGER D. BROCKBANK, 0000
MARK C. BROWN, 0000
STEPHEN J. BROWN, 0000
ADAM G. BUCHANAN, 0000
CHARLES P. BUCK, 0000
PETER J. BUCKLEY, 0000
STEPHEN J. BUETOW, 0000
RICARDO M. BURGOS, 0000
CLAUDE A. BURNETT, 0000
RICHARD F. BURROUGHS, 0000
DAVID M. BUSHLEY, 0000
RAJ C. BUTANI, 0000
THOMAS E. BYRNE, 0000
TIMOTHY J. CAFFREY, 0000
ARTHUR B. CAJIGAL, 0000
WARNER W. CARR, 0000
SEAN T. CARROLL, 0000
VICTORIA W. CARTWRIGHT, 0000
ANNE L. CHAMPEAUX, 0000
JOHN R. CHANCE, 0000
JAMES H. CHANG, 0000
RODNEY C. CHARLES, 0000
RICHARD Z. CHENG, 0000
AUSTIN H. CHHOEU, 0000
CHARLES J. CHITWOOD, 0000
MARY CHOI, 0000
WANHEE CHOI, 0000
KAO B. CHOU, 0000
DAVID A. CLARK, 0000
ANNETTE R. CLARKBROWN, 0000
MICHAEL E. CLICK, 0000
DAVID S. COBB, 0000
MATTHEW A. CODY, 0000
MICHAEL I. COHEN, 0000
DAVID W. COLE, 0000
MARTHA E. COLGAN, 0000
GEORGE R. COLLINS, 0000
JOHN D. COMPLETO, 0000
BRENDON R. CONNOLLY, 0000
AMY B. CONNORS, 0000
ALAN D. CONWAY, 0000
PATRICK R. COOK, 0000
ELLIS O. COOPER, 0000
MARC A. COOPER, 0000
GEORGE L. COPPIT, 0000
MARK J. COSSENTINO, 0000
CORY N. COSTELLO, 0000
DANIEL J. COSTIGAN, 0000
CHRISTOPHER R. COTE, 0000
MICHEL A. COURTINES, 0000
EUGENE D. COX, 0000
DONALD M. CRAWFORD, 0000
ROBERT F. CROWE, 0000
PETER J. CUENCA, 0000
REID E. CULTON, 0000
GEORGE H. CUMMINGS, 0000
PAUL J. CUNNINGHAM, 0000
TIMOTHY M. CUPERO, 0000
BRIAN B. CUSHING, 0000
SCOTT R. DALTON, 0000
CHRISTINE M. DALY, 0000
GREGORY G. DAMMANN, 0000
JULIET M. DANIEL, 0000
RUSSELL A. DAVIDSON, 0000
JASON L. DAVIS, 0000
KEPLER A. DAVIS, 0000
KURT G. DAVIS, 0000
MICHAEL D. DAVIS, 0000
ROBERT W. DAVIS, 0000
RUSSELL O. DAVIS, 0000
SHELTON A. DAVIS, 0000
KELLY L. DAWSON, 0000
JEFFREY A. DEAN, 0000
ALAN J. DEANGELO, 0000
CARL W. DECKER, 0000
MATTHEW J. DEETER, 0000
WILLIAM S. DEITCHE, 0000
TROY M. DENUNZIO, 0000
PETER G. DEVEAUX, 0000
VICTOR A. DEWYEA, 0000
KENT J. DEZEE, 0000
BART M. DIAZ, 0000
TIMOTHY J. DICKASON, 0000
CHARLES S. DIETRICH, 0000
JENNIFER B. DISMUKES, 0000
MINHLUAN N. DOAN, 0000
KRISTIN J. DOBAY, 0000
MARTIN DOPERAK, 0000
KEVIN M. DOUGLAS, 0000
TIMOTHY J. DOWNEY, 0000
ANDREW E. DOYLE, 0000
JEFFREY DREXLER, 0000
GARY J. DROUILLARD, 0000
TIM D. DUFFY, 0000
PETER M. DUNAWAY, 0000
MARTEN B. DUNCAN, 0000
BASKAR S. DUVAL, 0000
ROBERT E. ECKART, 0000
MARY E. EDGECOMB, 0000
JESS D. EDISON, 0000
KURT D. EDWARDS, 0000
MARSHALL E. EIDENBERG, 0000
ERIC E. ELGIN, 0000
ANTHONY R. ELIAS, 0000
MICHAEL W. ELLIS, 0000
JAY C. ERICKSON, 0000
THERESA M. ESSEN, 0000
ANDRE FALLOT, 0000
TOMAS M. FERGUSON, 0000
CHRISTOPHER A. FINCKE, 0000
LAURENCE D. FINE, 0000
LOUIS N. FINELLI, 0000
ANDREW FLETCHER, 0000
MICHELLE S. FLORES, 0000
JOSEPH M. FLYNN, 0000
LISA M. FOGLIA, 0000
ANTHONY M. FOLEY, 0000
SUSAN R. FONDY, 0000
CHARLES J. FOX, 0000
FRANKLIN W. FREDERICK, 0000
MICHAEL E. FREY, 0000
TODD FUNKHOUSER, 0000
DAVID Y. GAITONDE, 0000
KEVIN J. GANCARCZYK, 0000
VINAYA A. GARDE, 0000
ROBERT P. GARNETT, 0000
PAUL D. GARRETT, 0000
MITCHELL A. GARRISON, 0000
ALAN D. GATLIN, 0000
CASEY J. GEANEY, 0000
ROGER L. GELPERIN, 0000
PHILIP J. GENTLESK, 0000
LYNN M. GIARRIZZO, 0000
MARK C. GIBBONS, 0000
BARNETT T. GIBBS, 0000
JOHN GODINO, 0000
EDUARDO R. GODOY, 0000
DENISE L. GOKSEL, 0000
KIRSTEN A. GOLDHAMMER, 0000
BENJAMIN S. GONZALEZ, 0000
RODNEY S. GONZALEZ, 0000
RAYMOND G. GOOD, 0000
CHARLES M. GOODEN, 0000
CHRISTOPHER G. GORING, 0000
ANDREW C. GORSKE, 0000
JENNIFER L. GOTKIN, 0000
JOSEPH D. GRAMLING, 0000
SHAWN P. GRANGER, 0000
JENNIFER A. GRECO, 0000
JOHN GREEN, 0000
MARK E. GREEN, 0000
JEFFERY P. GREENE, 0000
BRIAN C. GRIFFITH, 0000
KATHLEEN R. GROOM, 0000
BRET A. GUIDRY, 0000
ROBERT J. GUSTAFSON, 0000
THOMAS S. GUY, 0000
DAVID D. HAIGHT, 0000
MARK I. HAINER, 0000
CHARLES G. HAISLIP, 0000
CHAD A. HALEY, 0000
TIMOTHY F. HALEY, 0000
CHRISTOPHER S. HALL, 0000
DANIEL J. HALL, 0000
KATRINA D. HALL, 0000
MARK A. HALL, 0000
ADAM H. HAMAWY, 0000
MARC R. HAPPE, 0000
MOHAMAD I. HAQUE, 0000
KYLE C. HARNER, 0000
MICHAEL C. HARNISCH, 0000
FREDERICK B. HARRIS, 0000
STEPHEN A. HARRISON, 0000
SCOTTE R. HARTRONFT, 0000
BONNIE H. HARTSTEIN, 0000
MICHAEL D. HENRY, 0000
MATTHEW J. HEPBURN, 0000
DAVID S. HEPPNER, 0000
DEMETRICE L. HILL, 0000
KEITH J. HILL, 0000
MICHAEL W. HILLIARD, 0000
JOHN V. HIRSCH, 0000
DARRYL S. HODSON, 0000
CHRIS A. HOFLAND, 0000
ANNA D. HOHLER, 0000
SEAN A. HOLLONBECK, 0000
MICHAEL S. HOOKER, 0000
AARON Z. HOOVER, 0000
LANCE R. HOOVER, 0000
NANCY G. HOOVER, 0000
EDWARD E. HORVATH, 0000
LYNN L. HORVATH, 0000
JOSEPH R. HSU, 0000
CHRISTOPHER W. HUMPHREYS, 0000
HAROLD E. HUNT, 0000
MARC E. HUNT, 0000
FAHEEM HUSSAIN, 0000
THOMAS R. HUSTEAD, 0000
JOHNSON ISAAC, 0000
WILLIAM L. JACKSON, 0000
AARON L. JACOB, 0000
JON R. JACOBSON, 0000
ERIC R. JENSEN, 0000
ROBERT W. JENSEN, 0000
ANTHONY E. JOHNSON, 0000
CHRISTOPHER M. JOHNSON, 0000
JEREMY S. JOHNSON, 0000
JONI J. JOHNSON, 0000
KARIN A. JOHNSON, 0000
DANIEL T. JOHNSTON, 0000
CHRISTOPHER B. JONES, 0000
DAVID P. JONES, 0000
JENNIFER E. JORGENSEN, 0000
ALINA J. JOYCE, 0000
DANIEL B. JUDD, 0000
JENNIFER S. JURGENS, 0000
VALLIE KAPRELIAN, 0000
DEAN E. KARAS, 0000
JEFFREY A. KAZAGLIS, 0000
PAUL B. KEISER, 0000
MATTHEW J. KELLY, 0000
WILLIAM F. KELLY, 0000
DARIN N. KENNEDY, 0000
STEVEN M. KENT, 0000
BRUCE R. KENWOOD, 0000
DAVID J. KERSBERGEN, 0000
LLOYD H. KETCHUM, 0000
ANDREW C. KIM, 0000
JAMES Y. KIM, 0000
SAM Y. KIM, 0000
BOOKER T. KING, 0000
KEVIN M. KING, 0000
ELIZABETH R. KINZIE, 0000
KEVIN KIRK, 0000
DAVID P. KLINGENSMITH, 0000
ROBERT P. KNETSCHE, 0000
JON F. KNICKREHM, 0000
CATHERINE L. KODAMA, 0000
JONATHAN M. KOFF, 0000
JOSEPH F. KOSINSKI, 0000
SEAN C. KOSKINEN, 0000
CHRISTINE M. KOVAC, 0000
KURTIS L. KOWALSKI, 0000
PAUL W. KRANTZ, 0000
TONYA M. KRATOVIL, 0000
GENE L. KRISHINGNER, 0000
MARY V. KRUEGER, 0000
PATRICIA M. KULAS, 0000
KEVIN J. KULWICKI, 0000
MARKIAN G. KUNASZ, 0000
GEORGE M. KYLE, 0000
CRAIG S. LABUDA, 0000
JAVIER E. LAGUNARAMOS, 0000
MICHAEL T. LAKE, 0000
PETER T. LAM, 0000
JAMES G. LAMPHEAR, 0000

ANDREW L. LANDERS, 0000
JENNIFER M. LANE, 0000
JENNIFER T. LANGE, 0000
GEORGE B. LANTZ, 0000
PENNY L. LARSON, 0000
BRENT L. LECHNER, 0000
CHERYL L. LEDFORD, 0000
EVAN H. LEE, 0000
JAMES R. LEE, 0000
JOSEPH Y. LEE, 0000
TIMOTHY C. LEE, 0000
DAVID B. LEESER, 0000
RONALD LEHMAN, 0000
COLLEEN M. LENNARD, 0000
ERIC N. LEONG, 0000
JEFFREY A. LEVY, 0000
JACK E. LEWI, 0000
FELISA S. LEWIS, 0000
ROBERT B. LIM, 0000
ROMEO N. LIM, 0000
KRISTEN M. LINDELL, 0000
PETER A. LINDENBERG, 0000
CHRISTOPHER T. LITTELL, 0000
JOHN D. LIVERINGHOUSE, 0000
JOSEPH K. LLANOS, 0000
ALEX LOBERARODRIGUEZ, 0000
YINCE LOH, 0000
DARA D. LOWE, 0000
KRISTIE J. LOWRY, 0000
JAMES B. LUCAS, 0000
PEDRO F. LUCERO, 0000
VINH D. LUU, 0000
MIGDALIA MACHADO, 0000
CARLINA MADELAIRE, 0000
CHETAN P. MAINGI, 0000
MARSHALL J. MALINOWSKI, 0000
MICHAEL A. MALLOY, 0000
ROBERT F. MALSBY, 0000
ANTHONY C. MANILLA, 0000
UMESH S. MARATHE, 0000
JOHN O. MARSHALL, 0000
CHRISTOPHER R. MARTIN, 0000
GREGORY J. MARTIN, 0000
JONATHAN E. MARTIN, 0000
NICHOLAS A. MARTYAK, 0000
MARYANN MASONE, 0000
PHILLIP L. MASSENGILL, 0000
MATTHEW L. MASTERSON, 0000
PARNELL C. MATTISON, 0000
DOUGLAS MAURER, 0000
JAMES R. MAXWELL, 0000
BRYCE C. MAYS, 0000
JOHN P. MAZA, 0000
TAMARIN L. MCCARTIN, 0000
STEWART C. MCCARVER, 0000
LARRY J. MCCORD, 0000
EDWARD L. MCDANIEL, 0000
MYRON B. MCDANIELS, 0000
GAYLE P. MCDERMOTT, 0000
MICHAEL H. MCGHEE, 0000
LISA H. MCGRAIL, 0000
CHRISTOPHER K. MCGRAW, 0000
BRIAN T. MCKINLEY, 0000
LEAH P. MCMANN, 0000
JOEL W. MCMASTERS, 0000
MARK K. MCPHERSON, 0000
CHRISTOPHER D. MEDELLIN, 0000
COLIN A. MEGHOO, 0000
DAVID E. MENDOZA, 0000
WILLIAM A. MERCANTI, 0000
RANDALL M. MEREDITH, 0000
VINCENT M. MESSBARGER, 0000
JERRY A. MICHEL, 0000
ROBERT L. MILLER, 0000
JEANNE P. MITCHELL, 0000
MICHAEL J. MOFFATT, 0000
MARIA C. MOJICAOROURKE, 0000
MEREDITH L. MONA, 0000
TIMOTHY P. MONAHAN, 0000
SEAN P. MONTGOMERY, 0000
JAIME L. MONTILLASOLER, 0000
VINCENT P. MOORE, 0000
SCOTT C. MORAN, 0000
JEFFREY S. MORGAN, 0000
TOMMY J. MORGAN, 0000
JAMES J. MORRIS, 0000
STEPHEN M. MORRIS, 0000
PAUL M. MORRISSEY, 0000
PABLO M. MOUJAN, 0000
JEANNIE M. MUIR, 0000
BRIAN P. MULHALL, 0000
CHARLES R. MULLIGAN, 0000
JEFFREY B. MUSSER, 0000
OTHA MYLES, 0000
MALCOLM G. NAPIER, 0000
JOHN J. NAPIERKOWSKI, 0000
RAJEEV NARAYAN, 0000
ROBERT J. NEWSOM, 0000
TOM L. NGUYEN, 0000
NHAT NGUYENMINH, 0000
NERIS M. NIEVESROBBINS, 0000
ALEXANDER S. NIVEN, 0000
MARK W. NOLLER, 0000
TIMOTHY C. NUNEZ, 0000
RONALD P. OBERFOELL, 0000
SETH D. OBRIEN, 0000
KATHRYN R. ODONNELL, 0000
FELIX O. ODUWA, 0000
JOHN S. OH, 0000
ROBERT C. OH, 0000
LISA J. OLSEN, 0000
RICARDO C. ONG, 0000
JOSEPH R. ORCHOWSKI, 0000
ERIK C. OSBORN, 0000
ELIZABETH A. OTTNEY, 0000
CLIFTON S. OTTO, 0000
BRETT D. OWENS, 0000
JIMIE D. OWSLEY, 0000
LAURA A. PACHA, 0000
JOHN M. PAGE, 0000
DOUGLAS W. PAHL, 0000
MARK P. PALLIS, 0000
NICHOLE A. PARDO, 0000
JASON D. PARKER, 0000
MICHAEL E. PARKER, 0000
MICHAEL A. PELZNER, 0000
EDUARDO J. PEREZ, 0000
JAMES L. PERSSON, 0000
ANDREW C. PETERSON, 0000
CECILY K. PETERSON, 0000
ANDREW W. PIASECKI, 0000
JUAN S. PICO, 0000
MICHAEL PIESMAN, 0000
JEFFREY D. PINCO, 0000
ROBERT C. PIOTROWSKI, 0000
ROGER D. POLISH, 0000
MEREDITH L. PORTER, 0000
MARK B. POTTER, 0000
CHRISTOPHER R. POWERS, 0000
AMY E. PREEN, 0000
MARTIN T. PREEN, 0000
DAVID N. PRESSMAN, 0000
MICHAEL W. PRICE, 0000
ROBERT C. PRICE, 0000
CHRISTOPHER M. PRIOR, 0000
REAGAN W. QUAN, 0000
DAVID M. QUINN, 0000
AMIR M. RABII, 0000
KRISTOFER A. RADCLIFFE, 0000
MITCHELL J. RAMSEY, 0000
BRADEN R. RANCE, 0000
ELDEN R. RAND, 0000
JOSEPH W. REARDON, 0000
RUTH A. REARDON, 0000
SCOTT T. REHRIG, 0000
SHON A. REMICH, 0000
THOMAS B. REPINE, 0000
JENNIFER N. REYNARD, 0000
JOEL C. REYNOLDS, 0000
MARK E. REYNOLDS, 0000
PAUL R. REYNOLDS, 0000
THOMAS J. RICHARD, 0000
TRAVIS B. RICHARDSON, 0000
ROBERT RIDOUT, 0000
MIN S. RO, 0000
TZVI ROBBINS, 0000
STEPHEN S. ROBERTS, 0000
DONALD W. ROBINSON, 0000
SUSAN M. ROBINSON, 0000
ACEVEDO F. ROBLES, 0000
JONATHAN D. ROEBUCK, 0000
RICHARD A. ROLLER, 0000
JORGE L. ROMEU, 0000
SCOTTIE B. ROOFE, 0000
RICHARD C. ROONEY, 0000
WAYNE L. ROSEN, 0000
ALEX ROSIN, 0000
MICHAEL K. ROSNER, 0000
RONALD D. ROSS, 0000
JASON E. ROTH, 0000
MICHAEL C. ROYER, 0000
ALLEN D. RUBIN, 0000
ROBERT K. RUSSELL, 0000
GAYLE B. RYAN, 0000
SAIRA H. SAINI, 0000
SCOTT A. SALMON, 0000
CHRISTOPHER K. SANBORN, 0000
KENNETH C. SANDS, 0000
HAYRI E. SANGIRAY, 0000
IDA M. SANTIAGOMALDONADO, 0000
ROBERTO J. SARTORI, 0000
ALAN D. SBAR, 0000
CARRIE L. SCHMITT, 0000
BRETT J. SCHNEIDER, 0000
BETH A. SCHULZBUTULIS, 0000
RAFAEL A. SCHULZE, 0000
JENIFER L. SCHWARZ, 0000
DEAN A. SEEHUSEN, 0000
ROBERT F. SETLIK, 0000
ANDREW J. SHAPIRO, 0000
DAVID J. SHAW, 0000
SCOTT B. SHAWEN, 0000
PAULA J. SHEPHERD, 0000
HAN S. SHIN, 0000
ERIC A. SHRY, 0000
GRADY V. SHUE, 0000
CASTANEDA A. SIEROCKA, 0000
MARK L. SIMMONS, 0000
CLAYTON D. SIMON, 0000
JAMES F. SIMON, 0000
CHAD M. SISK, 0000
JOHN F. SLOBODA, 0000
ERIC B. SMITH, 0000
ERIC L. SMITH, 0000
JONATHAN K. SMITH, 0000
KAREN E. SMITH, 0000
MARSHALL H. SMITH, 0000
MICHAEL E. SMITH, 0000
REGINALD M. SMITH, 0000
SIDNEY B. SMITH, 0000
TAIIL T. SONG, 0000
BRIAN J. SONKA, 0000
HARLAN L. SOUTH, 0000
PHILIP C. SPINELLA, 0000
JONATHAN R. STABILE, 0000
MICHAEL G. STANLEY, 0000
MICHAEL J. STARKEY, 0000
SCOTT R. STEELE, 0000
JAMES J. STEIN, 0000
TRENT D. STERENCHOCK, 0000
TRACY K. STEVENS, 0000
CHARLES A. STILLMAN, 0000
DEREK J. STOCKER, 0000
KENNETH E. STONE, 0000
ANN M. STRAIGHT, 0000
WILLIAM J. STRIMEL, 0000
BYRON K. STROTHER, 0000
BRAD STRUMWASSER, 0000
PREM S. SUBRAMANIAN, 0000
PHILIP S. SUH, 0000
RYUNG SUH, 0000
LANCE E. SULLENBERGER, 0000
ANTHONY SULLIVAN, 0000
MARY P. SULLIVAN, 0000
NAOMI R. SULLIVAN, 0000
JAN S. SUNDE, 0000
DANIELLE C. SUYKERBUYK, 0000
STEVEN J. SVOBODA, 0000
CHRISTOPHER W. SWIECKI, 0000
COSIMA C. SWINTAK, 0000
TING J. TAI, 0000
SIMON H. TELIAN, 0000
RENEE Q. THAI, 0000
DARRYL B. THOMAS, 0000
DAVID E. THOMAS, 0000
STEPHEN J. THOMAS, 0000
MARCEL D. THOMPSON, 0000
JOHN E. THORDSEN, 0000
ALVIN Y. TIU, 0000
JOSHUA A. TOBIN, 0000
ERNESTO TORRES, 0000
SEBASTIAN T. TOSTO, 0000
MARK TRAWINSKI, 0000
LEROY J. TROMBETTA, 0000
ALEXANDER G. TRUESDELL, 0000
VU TRUONG, 0000
CREIGHTON C. TUBB, 0000
JULIE A. TULLBERG, 0000
JOSEPH C. TURBYVILLE, 0000
TIMOTHY M. UENG, 0000
NELSON G. UZQUIANO, 0000
FRANK E. VALENTIN, 0000
DAVID J. VANGURA, 0000
MARISOL VEGADERUCK, 0000
JOHN J. VERGHESE, 0000
BRIAN K. VICKARYOUS, 0000
NICHOLAS J. VIETRI, 0000
FELIPE D. VILLENA, 0000
JEFFREY A. VOS, 0000
RODNEY C. WADLEY, 0000
KIRK H. WAIBEL, 0000
MATTHEW C. WAKEFIELD, 0000
ROXANNE E. WALLACE, 0000
PAUL J. WALTING, 0000
SANDRA M. WANEK, 0000
MICHAEL B. WATTO, 0000
BRUCE K. WEATHERS, 0000
CHARLES W. WEBB, 0000
HEIDI L. WEBSTER, 0000
ALBERT C. WEED, 0000
ALDEN L. WEG, 0000
ERIC D. WEICHEL, 0000
ALAN G. WEINSTEIN, 0000
ROBERT R. WELCH, 0000
KENNETH R. WEST, 0000
ROBERT R. WESTERMEYER, 0000
LORYKAY W. WHEELER, 0000
DEREK C. WHITAKER, 0000
CHRISTOPHER E. WHITE, 0000
EDWARD A. WHITE, 0000
WENDY J. WHITFORD, 0000
KEVIN R. WHITNEY, 0000
JEAN S. WHITTEN, 0000
ANNETTE S. WILLIAMS, 0000
MYREON WILLIAMS, 0000
JOHN K. WILSON, 0000
JENNIFER S. WINK, 0000
JOSHUA B. WINSLOW, 0000
JEFFERY L. WOLFF, 0000
DAVID W. WOLKEN, 0000
ROBERT N. WOODMORRIS, 0000
BRADLEY K. WOODS, 0000
JOHNNIE WRIGHT, 0000
TANYA M. WROBLEWSKI, 0000
EYAKO K. WURAPA, 0000
ELINA T. XANOS, 0000
FARIDEH YOOSEFIAN, 0000
GERALD E. YORK, 0000
AMY L. YOUNG, 0000
RICARDO M. YOUNG, 0000
ROBERT T. ZABENKO, 0000

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be major

CHRISTOPHER J. GALFANO, 0000
SEAN M. HURLEY, 0000
KRISTA A. MCKINLEY, 0000
MICHAEL W. MONBOUQUETTE, 0000
JEFFREY M. OPSITOS, 0000
RUSSELL W. PARKER, 0000

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

ZINA L. RAWLINS, 0000