

EC-1784. A communication from the Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the internal controls and financial systems in effect during fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1785. A communication from the Chairman of the Consumer Products Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the administration of the government in the Sunshine Act for calendar year 1994; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1786. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the internal controls and financial systems in effect during fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1787. A communication from the Office of the Public Printer, Government Printing Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1 through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1788. A communication from the Chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1789. A communication from the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1 through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1790. A communication from the Deputy and Acting CEO of the Resolution Trust Corporation and the Chairman of the Thrift Depositor Oversight Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1 through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1791. A communication from the Acting Chairman of the Thrift Depositor Protection Oversight Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the internal controls and financial systems in effect during fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1792. A communication from the Inspector General of the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report on activities and accomplishments for the period April 1 through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-1793. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on appropriations legislation within five days of enactment; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-1794. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled, "Ability of Crewmembers to Take Emergency Actions"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1795. A communication from the Librarian of Congress, the Archivist of the United States, and the Public Printer, transmitting jointly, pursuant to law, the final report to establish a National Policy on Permanent Papers; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1796. A communication from the Comptroller General of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the list of General Accounting Office reports and testimony for November 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1797. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the internal controls and financial systems in effect during fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1798. A communication from the Executive Director of the Committee For Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the internal controls and financial systems in effect during fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1799. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Inspector General Act for fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1800. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled, "Restoration of False Statement Penalties Act of 1995"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1801. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report of the United States Government for fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Finance.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following reports of committee were submitted:

By Mr. MURKOWSKI from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

Report to accompany the bill (H.R. 1296) to provide for the Administration of certain Presidio properties at minimal cost to the Federal taxpayer (Rept. No. 104-202).

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

H.R. 629. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the operation of certain visitor facilities associated with, but outside the boundaries of, Rocky Mountain National Park in the State of Colorado (Rept. No. 104-203).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. ROBB:

S. 1516. A bill making appropriations to the Department of Health and Human Services for retirement pay and medical benefits for commissioned officers of the Public Health Service for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996; to the Committee on Appropriations.

S. 1517. A bill to make appropriations for the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund for fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. REID):

S. 1518. A bill to eliminate the Board of Tea Experts by prohibiting funding for the Board and by repealing the Tea Importation Act of 1987; read the first time.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. DASCHLE:

S. Con. Res. 38. A concurrent resolution restating the commitment to a seven year balanced budget; considered and agreed to.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. ROBB:

S. 1516. A bill making appropriations to the Department of Health and Human Services for retirement pay and medical benefits for commissioned officers of the Public Health Service for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996; to the Committee on Appropriations.

RETIRED COMMISSIONED OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE LEGISLATION

• Mr. ROBB. Mr. President, I introduce legislation which would fund retirement and medical benefits through September 30, 1996 for the retired commissioned officers of the Public Health Service.

I do not know whether many of my colleagues know this, Mr. President, but retired PHS commissioned officers have not received their retirement pay since our first continuing resolution expired on December 15, 1995. While retired members of the Federal Civil Service have thankfully been able to receive their retirement checks during this time period, the benefits of retired PHS commissioned officers come through a direct appropriation contained in the Labor/HHS appropriations bill, a bill which we all know has not yet been approved by this body.

The roughly 3,600 beneficiaries of this program should not be victims of our budget battles, Mr. President. They served their country for many years and their country has made a commitment to them. This bill will allow us to meet the commitment. •

By Mr. ROBB:

S. 1517. A bill to make appropriations for the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund for fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on Appropriations.

THE BLACK LUNG DISABILITY PROGRAM LEGISLATION

• Mr. ROBB. Mr. President, I introduce legislation which would fund the Black Lung Disability Program administered by the Department of Labor through September 30, 1996, and the Black Lung Program administered by the Social Security Administration through the first quarter of fiscal year 1997.

I was deeply disappointed that the limited continuing resolution approved by the House of Representatives earlier today did not include the Black Lung Programs. They should have been included, Mr. President, but they were not. When an effort was made to add funding authority for black lung beneficiaries during floor consideration of the House bill, that amendment was objected to by the other side of the aisle.

Mr. President, I've been told by the Department of Labor that unless a continuing resolution which contains black lung funding is approved by January 12, 1996, the January 15 monthly payments to beneficiaries would not be issued. It is my understanding that the Social Security Administration needs a continuing resolution which contains

black lung funding to issue its February monthly payments as well.

Mr. President, as I introduce this bill, I know that efforts are underway to bring a third continuing resolution to the House floor—and I sincerely hope that the Black Lung Programs are included in that measure. If that is the case, this legislation will be unnecessary.

These programs are vitally important to thousands of disabled miners and their families and survivors in my State of Virginia and many other coal producing States. I hope we receive a continuing resolution from the House later this evening which will allow us to uphold our historic commitment to victims of black lung and their families and survivors. ●

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 837

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from New York [Mr. MOYNIHAN], the Senator from New Hampshire [Mr. GREGG], and the Senator from New Mexico [Mr. BINGAMAN] were added as cosponsors of S. 837, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the birth of James Madison.

S. 1058

At the request of Mr. WELLSTONE, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts [Mr. KERRY] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1058, a bill to provide a comprehensive program of support for victims of torture.

S. 1178

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the name of the Senator from Indiana [Mr. LUGAR] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1178, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of colorectal screening under part B of the Medicare Program.

S. 1419

At the request of Mrs. KASSEBAUM, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts [Mr. KERRY] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1419, a bill to impose sanctions against Nigeria.

S. 1484

At the request of Mr. NICKLES, the name of the Senator from Wyoming [Mr. THOMAS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1484, a bill to enforce the public debt limit and to protect the Social Security trust funds and other Federal trust funds and accounts invested in public debt obligations.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 38—RESTATING THE COMMITMENT TO A 7-YEAR BALANCED BUDGET

Mr. DASCHLE submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 38

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring). That The President

and the Congress shall enact legislation in the 2nd session of the 104th Congress to achieve a balanced budget not later than fiscal year 2002 as estimated by the Congressional Budget Office, and the President and the Congress agree that the balanced budget must protect future generations, ensure Medicare solvency, reform welfare, and provide adequate funding for Medicaid, education agriculture, national defense, veterans, and the environment. Further, the balanced budget shall adopt tax policies to help working families and stimulate future economic growth.

The balanced budget agreement shall be estimated by the Congressional Budget Office based on its most recent current economic and technical assumptions, following a thorough consultation and review with the Office of Management and Budget, and other government and private experts.

AMENDMENT SUBMITTED

THE VA AUTHORITY EXTENSION ACT OF 1996

SIMPSON AMENDMENT NO. 3116

Mr. WARNER (for Mr. SIMPSON) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 991) to amend title 38, United States Code, and other statutes, to extend VA's authority to operate various programs, collect copayments associated with provision of medical benefits, and obtain reimbursement from insurance companies for care furnished; as follows:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF EXPIRING AUTHORITIES.

(a) **AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE PRIORITY HEALTH CARE FOR CERTAIN VETERANS EXPOSED TO TOXIC SUBSTANCES.**—(1) Effective June 29, 1995, section 1710(e)(3) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking out "after June 30, 1995," and all that follows through "December 31, 1995" and inserting in lieu thereof "after December 31, 1996".

(2) Section 1712(a)(1)(D) of such title is amended by striking out "December 31, 1995," and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1996".

(b) **DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE.**—Section 1720A(e) of such title is amended by striking out "December 31, 1995" and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1997".

(c) **PILOT PROGRAM FOR NONINSTITUTIONAL ALTERNATIVES TO NURSING HOME CARE.**—Section 1720C(a) of such title is amended by striking out "September 30, 1995," and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1997".

(d) **NEGOTIATED INTEREST RATES.**—Section 3703(c)(4)(D) of such title is amended by striking out "December 31, 1995" and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1997".

(e) **MORTGAGES FOR ENERGY EFFICIENT IMPROVEMENTS.**—Section 3710(d)(7) of such title is amended by striking out "December 31, 1995" and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1997".

(f) **ENHANCED LOAN ASSET SALE AUTHORITY.**—Section 3720(h)(2) of such title is amended by striking out "December 31, 1995" and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1996".

(g) **AUTHORITY OF LENDERS OF AUTOMATICALLY GUARANTEED LOANS TO REVIEW APPRAISALS.**—Section 3731(f)(3) of such title is amended by striking out "December 31, 1995"

and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1997".

(h) **AGREEMENTS FOR HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR HOMELESS VETERANS.**—Section 3735(c) of such title is amended by striking out "December 31, 1995" and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1997".

(i) **USE OF DATA ON COMPENSATION FOR CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHETISTS.**—Effective March 31, 1995, section 7451(d)(3)(C)(iii) of such title is amended by striking out "April 1, 1995" and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1997".

(j) **HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.**—Section 7618 of such title is amended by striking out "December 31, 1995" and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1997".

(k) **ENHANCED-USE LEASES OF REAL PROPERTY.**—Section 8169 of such title is amended by striking out "December 31, 1995" and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1997".

(l) **AUTHORITY FOR COMMUNITY-BASED RESIDENTIAL CARE FOR HOMELESS CHRONICALLY MENTALLY ILL VETERANS AND OTHER VETERANS.**—Section 115(d) of the Veterans' Benefits and Services Act of 1988 (38 U.S.C. 1712 note) is amended by striking out "September 30, 1995" and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1997".

(m) **DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM OF COMPENSATED WORK THERAPY.**—Section 7(a) of Public Law 102-54 (38 U.S.C. 1718 note) is amended by striking out "fiscal years 1991 through 1995" and inserting in lieu thereof "the period beginning on October 1, 1991, and ending on December 31, 1997".

(n) **AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS FOR ASSISTANCE IN FURNISHING SERVICES AND ASSISTANCE TO HOMELESS VETERANS.**—(1) Section 3(a) of the Homeless Veterans Comprehensive Service Programs Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-590; 106 Stat. 5136; 38 U.S.C. 7721 note) is amended by striking out "fiscal years 1993, 1994, and 1995," and inserting in lieu thereof "fiscal years 1993 through 1997".

(2) Section 12 of such Act (106 Stat. 5142) is amended by striking out "each of the fiscal years 1993, 1994, and 1995" and inserting in lieu thereof "each of fiscal years 1993 through 1997".

(o) **HOMELESS VETERANS' REINTEGRATION PROJECTS.**—(1) Section 738(e)(1) of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11448(e)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(D) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 1996.

"(E) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 1997."

(2) Section 741 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 11450) is amended by striking out "October 1, 1995" and inserting in lieu thereof "October 1, 1997".

(p) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—Except as provided in subsections (a)(1) and (i), the amendments made by this section shall take effect on October 1, 1995.

(q) **RATIFICATION OF ACTIONS.**—The following actions are hereby ratified:

(1) The furnishing by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of care and services by virtue of section 1710(a)(1)(G) of title 38, United States Code, during the period beginning on July 1, 1995, and ending on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) The furnishing by the Secretary of services in noninstitutional settings by virtue of section 1720C of such title during the period beginning on October 1, 1995, and ending on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(3) The use by any director of a Department of Veterans Affairs health-care facility of data on rates of compensation paid to certified nurse anesthetists in a labor market area under section 7451(d)(3)(C) of such title during the period beginning on April 1, 1995, and ending on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(4) The furnishing by the Secretary of care for homeless chronically mentally ill and