

times, I was always impressed with his graciousness and composure under fire. His vision led him to the Governor's office, and mine led me to the U.S. Senate.

Since that historic day when he was elected Governor, he has continued to practice what he preached for so many years—getting government out of the people's business and putting people back into the business of government. Public input is vital to him in drafting his major legislative proposals, and it shows when he invites members of the private sector to review his legislative initiatives and solicits their advice on how bills will impact Tennessee communities, businesses, and citizens. He also consults with citizens, business leaders, and State employees to find ways for State government to save money and abolish waste. The bottom line is that he welcomes innovation and he's not afraid to lead.

I want to join with the Governor's family and friends today in wishing him a happy birthday and let him know that his efforts and his commitment to the people of Tennessee have not gone unrecognized. Governor Sundquist, I wish you the very best, and I thank you for your dedication and service to our great State. Happy birthday.●

TRIBUTE TO THE SOUTHEAST OUTLOOK

● Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the members of Southeast Christian Church on the success of their first newspaper, the Southeast Outlook. The Outlook was created because the church's newsletter could no longer communicate sufficiently to the 10,000 members of Southeast Christian.

The first issue of the paper was published September 1, 1995, and averages about 20 to 28 pages a week. The Outlook lets people who are part of the congregation get to know each other—which is not easy in a church that is, as an elder of the church put it, "larger than most towns in Kentucky." The paper focuses on church events, ministries, and members of the congregation, as well as issues of State, local, and national interest.

The Outlook has profiled everyone from its elders to the chief custodian to a church member who turned to God after a suicide attempt. Church members can also keep informed about the congregation's wall-to-wall activities. Publisher and editor Ninie O'Hara has said, "Now that we have a product, our phone rings off the hook. We have 10,000 people at Southeast, and they're all out in the world doing things."

O'Hara has been a newspaper publisher and editor in Kentucky since 1979. Steve Lowery, who hired O'Hara for her first job in journalism, said of her, "She is in my opinion the best writer that we had at our company and one of the best writers in the State of Kentucky." O'Hara turned down a bet-

ter paying job from the Lexington Herald-Leader to take the job at Southeast last summer.

O'Hara said of the Outlook:

[The paper] lets the outside world look into Southeast Christian Church and see hey, these people . . . have the same pressures and stresses as us. But they're dealing with it differently because of the presence of God. If they like what they see . . . maybe they'll come and join us.

Mr. President, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the congregation of Southeast Christian Church and congratulating them on the success of their newspaper.●

CHANGE OF REFERRAL—S. 1412

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Energy Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 1412 regarding the Red River Waterway and the J. Bennett Johnston Waterway, and be referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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

CHANGE OF REFERRAL—H.R. 419

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that H.R. 419 be discharged from the Committee on Environment and Public Works and be referred to the Judiciary Committee.

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

THE BI-STATE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of House Joint Resolution 78, just received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 78) to grant the consent of the Congress to certain additional powers conferred upon the Bi-State Development Agency by the States of Missouri and Illinois.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the joint resolution?

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

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, the joint resolution before us today confers additional authority upon the Bi-State Development Agency, a compact created by the States of Illinois and Missouri. The Bi-State Agency operates a mass transit system in the St. Louis metropolitan area, which includes Belleville and other areas of southwestern Illinois.

In 1950, Congress approved a joint request from the State of Illinois and Missouri to create this Bi-State authority to operate an interstate bus system. The Bi-State Development

Agency has expanded, and now operates a successful light rail system, known as the MetroLink.

The original compact, however, that was approved by Congress in 1950, did not empower the Bi-State Development Agency to appoint or employ a security force, or to enact rules and regulations governing fare evasion and other misconduct on the light rail system. As a result, MetroLink passengers currently pay fares through a barrier-free, self-service, proof-of-payment system. This system, while successful, needs an enforcement policy and mechanism to ensure compliance.

The States of Illinois and Missouri have acted to confer such authority upon the Bi-State Development Agency. As you know, Mr. President, the Constitution requires that we then approve this request, and that is exactly the purpose of the joint resolution before us today. The House of Representatives approved this joint resolution yesterday without objection.

Because these two States have asked us, and because local, State, and Federal officials from these States support this joint resolution, I would urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of its passage.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the joint resolution be deemed read the third time, passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the joint resolution appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

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

So the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 78) was deemed read the third time and passed.

The preamble was agreed to.

WHITEWATER DEVELOPMENT CORP. AND RELATED MATTERS—MOTION TO PROCEED

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to Senate Resolution 227, the Whitewater legislation and send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Senate Resolution 227, regarding the Whitewater extension:

Alfonse D'Amato, Dan Coats, Phil Gramm, Bob Smith, Mike DeWine, Bill Roth, Bill Cohen, Jim Jeffords, R.F. Bennett, John Warner, Larry Pressler, Spencer Abraham, Conrad Burns, Al Simpson, John H. Chafee, Frank H. Murkowski.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I now withdraw the motion.

COMMONSENSE PRODUCT LIABILITY LEGAL REFORM ACT OF 1996—CONFERENCE REPORT

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate