

“(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall become effective no later than 60 days after the publication by the Attorney General of implementing regulations that shall be published on or before January 1, 1997.”

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 56—RECOGNIZING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHORNOBYL NUCLEAR DISASTER

Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mr. DOLE, Mr. HELMS, Mr. PELL, and Mr. LEVIN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 56

Whereas April 26, 1996, marks the tenth anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster;

Whereas United Nations General Assembly resolution 50/134 declares April 26, 1996, as the International Day Commemorating the Tenth Anniversary of the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant Accident and encourages member states to commemorate this tragic event;

Whereas serious radiological, health, and socioeconomic consequences for the populations of Ukraine, Belarus, and Russia, as well as for the populations of other affected areas, have been identified since the disaster;

Whereas over 3,500,000 inhabitants of the affected areas, including over 1,000,000 children, were exposed to dangerously high levels of radiation;

Whereas the populations of the affected areas, especially children, have experienced significant increases in thyroid cancer, immune deficiency diseases, birth defects, and other conditions, and these trends have accelerated over the 10 years since the disaster;

Whereas the lives and health of people in the affected areas continue to be heavily burdened by the ongoing effects of the Chernobyl accident;

Whereas numerous charitable, humanitarian, and environmental organizations from the United States and the international community have committed to overcome the extensive consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;

Whereas the United States has sought to help the people of Ukraine through various forms of assistance;

Whereas humanitarian assistance and public health research into Chernobyl's consequences will be needed in the coming decades when the greatest number of latent health effects is expected to emerge;

Whereas on December 20, 1995, the Ukrainian Government, the governments of the G-7 countries, and the Commission of the European Communities signed a memorandum of understanding to support the decision of Ukraine to close the Chernobyl nuclear power plant by the year 2000 with adequate support from the G-7 countries and international financial institutions;

Whereas the United States strongly supports the closing of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant and improving nuclear safety in Ukraine; and

Whereas representatives of Ukraine, the G-7 countries, and international financial institutions will meet at least annually to monitor implementation of the program to close Chernobyl: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Congress—

(1) recognizes April 26, 1996, as the tenth anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster;

(2) urges the Government of Ukraine to continue its negotiations with the G-7 countries to implement the December 20, 1995,

memorandum of understanding which calls for all nuclear reactors at Chernobyl to be shut down in a safe and expeditious manner; and

(3) calls upon the President—

(A) to support continued and enhanced United States assistance to provide medical relief, humanitarian assistance, social impact planning, and hospital development for Ukraine, Belarus, Russia, and other nations most heavily afflicted by Chernobyl aftermath;

(B) to encourage national and international health organizations to expand the scope of research into the public health consequences of Chernobyl, so that the global community can benefit from the findings of such research;

(C) to support the process of closing the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in an expeditious manner as envisioned by the December 20, 1995, memorandum of understanding; and

(D) to support the broadening of Ukraine's regional energy sources which will reduce its dependence on any individual country.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise to submit a resolution to commemorate the 10th anniversary of one of the most tragic, devastating events in the history of nuclear power—the Chernobyl nuclear disaster. The resolution also expresses Congress' unequivocal support for the closing of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant. I am pleased that Senators DOLE, HELMS, PELL, and LEVIN are joining me in submitting this resolution.

Friday, April 26, 1996, marks the 10th anniversary of the world's worst nuclear accident. Ten years ago, nuclear reactor No. 4 at Ukraine's Chernobyl nuclear power plant malfunctioned. The ensuing explosion and fire spewed a cloud of radiation across Europe, releasing 200 times more radioactivity than the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki combined.

The results were devastating. Millions of people were exposed to dangerously high levels of radiation.

Chernobyl's legacy is much more than the worst technological disaster in the history of nuclear power. It is a continuing humanitarian tragedy that will always be remembered the world over. The inhabitants of Ukraine, Belarus, and Russia continue to be heavily burdened by the social, economic, and health effects of the accident, and the entire international community continues to be threatened by the specter of another Chernobyl.

Ten years ago, millions of Ukrainians, Belarussians, and Russians, including over one million children and thousands of people who cleaned up after the explosion, were exposed to dangerously high levels of radiation. A 30-kilometer radius around Chernobyl was rendered uninhabitable. Families were forced from their homes. Most have never returned.

The tragic effects of this disaster have devastated millions. A 200-fold increase in thyroid cancer among children has ensued. Immune deficiency disorders, respiratory problems, and birth defects have increased at alarming rates since the disaster. The region's soil and water supplies have remained contaminated. Ukraine's econ-

omy has been overwhelmed by the costs of rebuilding.

Mr. President, the people of Chernobyl and Ukraine have not been alone in their efforts to overcome the tremendous loss. Numerous charitable and humanitarian organizations have assiduously worked to ameliorate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster. Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine and the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, from my State of New Jersey, have lent considerable support to that effort along with many others in the Ukrainian-American community. These and millions of other Americans in New Jersey and elsewhere continue to provide valuable assistance to the victims of the Chernobyl disaster. All private organizations who have been at the forefront to help Ukraine deserve commendation for their tireless efforts to assist Chernobyl's victims.

Unfortunately, more work needs to be done. Chernobyl's two working reactors continue to churn out electricity. The protective concrete covering over the obliterated reactor No. 4, the sarcophagus, has developed cracks which dangerously weaken its structure. Corrosion of this structure threatens to release even more radioactivity into the region. Experts warn that another accident is imminent.

Just yesterday, a fire started within 10 kilometers of Chernobyl. While initial assessments by specialists conclude that the abundant smoke produced by the fire may not pose further contamination dangers, all bets are off in the future. The region's inhabitants cannot be assured that radioactive particles which settled in the areas surrounding Chernobyl after the accident will not be carried into their villages or water supplies. They cannot be assured that future fires or even floods will not release dangerous levels of contamination.

This event underscores the ongoing threat Chernobyl poses to safety and the urgent need to close Chernobyl forever.

On December 20, 1995, the Ukrainian Government, the governments of the G-7 countries, and the Commission of the European Communities signed a memorandum of understanding supporting Ukraine's decision to close Chernobyl by the year 2000 and the international community has pledged financial support to facilitate the closure. Last week, President Clinton met in Moscow with Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma and leaders of other G-7 nations, and Ukraine reaffirmed its commitment to close Chernobyl.

Support from the international community is vital to help Ukraine move forward and close Chernobyl. Ukraine is working hard to implement open economic and social reforms, and its economy is strapped. At this very delicate time in Ukraine's history, the United States should support Ukraine's efforts to rebuild its infrastructure and to secure the alternative energy sources it needs to close Chernobyl in a safe and expeditious manner.

Mr. President, the devastating health effects, social distress, and economic hardship remains in the hearts and minds of the people of Ukraine who lived through the Cherbobyl explosion. They cannot forget the radioactive blanket of despair that covered their homes and forced them from their villages. They cannot forget that their livelihoods have been destroyed. For their sake and for the sake of future generations, we should commemorate this event on April 26, 1996, and redouble our efforts to ensure that the devastation of 10 years ago will not be repeated.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 250—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING TACTILE CURRENCY FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED PERSONS

Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, and Mr. SHELBY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

S. RES. 250

Whereas currency is used by virtually everyone in everyday life, including blind and visually impaired person;

Whereas the Federal reserve notes of the United States are inaccessible to individuals with visual disabilities;

Whereas the Americans with Disabilities Act enhances the economic independence and equal opportunity for full participation in society for individuals with disabilities;

Whereas most blind and visually impaired persons are therefore required to rely upon others to determine denominations of such currency;

Whereas this constitutes a serious impediment to independence in everyday living;

Whereas electronic means of bill identification will always be more fallible than purely tactile means;

Whereas tactile currency already exists in 23 countries world wide; and

Whereas the currency of the United States is presently undergoing significant changes for security purposes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Senate—

(1) endorse the efforts recently begun by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to upgrade the currency for security reasons; and

(2) strongly encourages the Secretary of the Treasury and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to incorporate cost-effective, tactile features into the design changes, thereby including the blind and visually impaired community in independent currency usage.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

THE IMMIGRATION CONTROL AND FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 1996

SIMPSON AMENDMENT NO. 3722

Mr. SIMPSON proposed an amendment to amendment No. 3669 proposed by him to the bill (S. 1664) to amend

the Immigration and Nationality Act to increase control over immigration to the United States by increasing border patrol and investigative personnel and detention facilities, improving the system used by employers to verify citizenship or work-authorized alien status, increasing penalties for alien smuggling and document fraud, and reforming asylum, exclusion, and deportation law and procedures; to reduce the use of welfare by aliens; and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the first word and insert:

214. USE OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS BY NON-IMMIGRANT FOREIGN STUDENTS.

“(a) PERSONS ELIGIBLE FOR STUDENT VISAS.—Section 101(a)(15)(F) (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(F)) is amended—

“(1) in clause (i) by striking ‘academic high school, elementary school, or other academic institution or in a language training program’ and inserting in lieu thereof ‘public elementary or public secondary school (if the alien shows to the satisfaction of the consular officer at the time of application for a visa, or of the Attorney General at the time of application for admission or adjustment of status, that (I) the alien will in fact reimburse such public elementary or public secondary school for the full, unsubsidized per-capita cost of providing education at such school to an individual pursuing such a course of study, or (II) the school waives such reimbursement), private elementary or private secondary school, or postsecondary academic institution, or in a language-training program’; and

(2) by inserting before the semicolon at the end of clause (ii) the following: ‘*Provided*, That nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to prevent a child who is present in the United States in a non-immigrant status other than that conferred by paragraph (B), (C), (F)(i), or (M)(i), from seeking admission to a public elementary school or public secondary school for which such child may otherwise be qualified.’;

“(b) EXCLUSION OF STUDENT VISA ABUSERS.—Section 212(a) (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(9) STUDENT VISA ABUSERS.—Any alien described in section 101(a)(15)(F) who is admitted as a student for study at a private elementary school or private secondary school and who does not remain enrolled, throughout the duration of his or her elementary or secondary school education in the United States, at either (A) such a private school, or (B) a public elementary or public secondary school (if (I) the alien is in fact reimbursing such public elementary or public secondary school for the full, unsubsidized per-capita cost of providing education at such school to an individual pursuing such a course of study, or (II) the school waives such reimbursement), is excludable.’, and

“(c) DEPORTATION OF STUDENT VISA ABUSERS.—Section 241(a) (8 U.S.C. 1251(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(6) STUDENT VISA ABUSERS.—Any alien described in section 101(a)(15)(F) who is admitted as a student for study at a private elementary school or private secondary school and who does not remain enrolled, throughout the duration of his or her elementary or secondary school education in the United States, at either (A) such a private school, or (B) a public elementary or public secondary school (if (I) the alien is in fact reimbursing such public elementary or public secondary school for the full, unsubsidized per-capita cost of providing education at such school to an individual pursuing such a course of

study, or (II) the school waives such reimbursement), is deportable.’.”

This section shall become effective 1 day after the date of enactment.

SIMPSON AMENDMENT NO. 3723

Mr. SIMPSON proposed an amendment to amendment No. 3670 proposed by him to the bill S. 1664, supra; as follows:

Strike all after the first word and insert:

PILOT PROGRAM TO COLLECT INFORMATION RELATING TO NONIMMIGRANT FOREIGN STUDENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) The Attorney General and the Secretary of State shall jointly develop and conduct a pilot program to collect electronically from approved colleges and universities in the United States the information described in subsection (c) with respect to aliens who—

(A) have the status, or are applying for the status, of nonimmigrants under section 101(a)(15)(F), (J), or (M) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(F), (J), or (M)); and

(B) are nationals of the countries designated under subsection (b).

(2) The pilot program shall commence not later than January 1, 1998.

(b) COVERED COUNTRIES.—The Attorney General and the Secretary of State shall jointly designate countries for purposes of subsection (a)(1)(B). The Attorney General and the Secretary shall initially designate not less than five countries and may designate additional countries at any time while the pilot program is being conducted.

(c) INFORMATION TO BE COLLECTED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The information for collection under subsection (a) consists of—

(A) the identity and current address in the United States of the alien;

(B) the nonimmigrant classification of the alien and the date on which a visa under the classification was issued or extended or the date on which a change to such classification was approved by the Attorney General; and

(C) the academic standing of the alien, including any disciplinary action taken by the college or university against the alien as a result of the alien's being convicted of a crime.

(2) FERPA.—The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. 1232g) shall not apply to aliens described in subsection (a) to the extent that the Attorney General and the Secretary of State determine necessary to carry out the pilot program.

(d) PARTICIPATION BY COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.—(1) The information specified in subsection (c) shall be provided by approved colleges and universities as a condition of—

(A) the continued approval of the colleges and universities under section 101(a)(15)(F) or (M) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, or

(B) the issuance of visas to aliens for purposes of studying, or otherwise participating, at such colleges and universities in a program under section 101(a)(15)(J) of such Act.

(2) If an approved college or university fails to provide the specified information, such approvals and such issuance of visas shall be revoked or denied.

(e) FUNDING.—(1) The Attorney General and the Secretary shall use funds collected under section 281(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as added by this subsection, to pay for the costs of carrying out this section.

(2) Section 281 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1351) is amended—

(A) by inserting “(a)” after “SEC. 281.”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following: