

section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code.”.

(v) This subparagraph shall not apply to an individual account plan if not more than 1 percent of an employee's eligible compensation deposited to the plan as an elective deferral (as so defined) is required to be invested in the qualifying employer securities.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to employer securities and employer real property acquired after the beginning of the first plan year beginning after the 90th day after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN ACQUISITIONS.—Employer securities and employer real property acquired pursuant to a binding written contract to acquire such securities and real property in effect on the date of enactment of this Act and at all times thereafter, shall be treated as acquired immediately before such date.

DASCHLE AMENDMENT NO. 565

Mr. ROTH (for Mr. DASCHLE) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 949, supra; as follows:

Beginning on page 189, line 24, strike “and” and all that follows through page 190, line 1, and insert the following:

“(III) capital expenditures related to rail operations for Class II or Class III rail carriers in the State,

“(IV) any project that is eligible to receive funding under section 5309, 5310, or 5311 of title 49, United States Code,

“(V) any project that is eligible to receive funding under section 130 of title 23, United States Code, and

“(VI) the payment of interest.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that additional material be printed in the RECORD.

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

DASCHLE AMENDMENT TO S. 949 TO EXPAND USES OF INTERCITY PASSENGER RAIL FUND FOR NON-AMTRAK STATES

LIMITATIONS PROPOSED BY S. 949

The Finance Committee bill creates an Intercity Passenger Rail Fund financed by 0.5 cent per gallon of the federal fuel excise taxes primarily to finance Amtrak. The bill also sets aside 1% of annual program funds per year for each state with no Amtrak service. The six states currently lacking Amtrak service are South Dakota, Wyoming, Oklahoma, Maine, Alaska and Hawaii. However, the bill *limits* the use of those funds by non-Amtrak States to: (1) intercity passenger rail or bus service capital improvements and maintenance, or (2) The purchase of intercity passenger rail services from the National Railroad Passenger Corporation.

PROBLEMS POSED TO NON-AMTRAK STATES

South Dakota and some of the other non-Amtrak states have no passenger rail service and only limited intercity bus service. This type of funding would not significantly benefit these states, nor could they wisely invest funds in such service.

AMENDMENT ALLOWS NON-AMTRAK STATES TO USE FUNDS PRODUCTIVELY

The amendment would expand the use of funding provided to non-Amtrak states under this provision to include the expenditure of such funds for:

1. Rural and public transportation projects that are eligible for funding under Sections 5309 (discretionary transit-urban areas), 5310 (transit capital for the elderly and handicapped), and 5311 (rural transit capital and

operations) of Title 49 USC. Rural public transportation (a portion of which is intercity in nature in transporting elderly and disabled from small towns to larger cities for medical care, shopping and other purposes, as well as providing local nutritional needs and mobility) is extremely important and needed in South Dakota in order to deal with the vast aging population in a sparsely populated area. During FY 1996 in the State, rural public transportation operators provided 1,114,672 rides and traveled 2,102,414 miles transporting the elderly and disabled of which over 50% of the rides were for medical, employment and nutritional needs. However, only about two-thirds of the State currently has access to limited Public Transportation, and over half of the existing transit vehicles in the providers' fleets are older than 7 years or have over 1000,000 miles. Therefore this funding would address significant public transit needs.

2. Rail/highway crossing safety projects that are eligible for funding under Section 130 of Title 23, USC. Only 219 out of 2025 of South Dakota's rail/highway crossings are signalized, and there is a tremendous unmet need to improve the safety of rail/highway crossings in the state.

3. Capital expenditures related to rail operations for Class II and Class III railroads within the state. Only railroads that are primarily regional carriers-not large railroads would be eligible for assistance. This is extremely important for states like South Dakota which depends on regional carriers and has made a major investment on its own and currently owns approximately 50% of the rail lines operating in the state in order to provide a core rail transportation system to benefit the state's agricultural economy.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that two joint oversight hearings have been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the House Resources Committee.

The hearings will take place Wednesday, July 9, 1997 at 11 a.m. and Thursday, July 10, 1997 at 9:30 a.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C.

The purpose of the hearings is to receive testimony on the Final Draft of the Tongass Land Management Plan as the first step in the congressional review process provided by the 1996 amendments to the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Those who wish to submit written statements should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. For further information, please call Judy Brown or Mark Rey at (202) 224-6170.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation be authorized to meet on Thursday, June 26, 1997, at 2 p.m. on pending committee business.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 26 for purposes of conducting a Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management hearing which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 26 for purposes of conducting a Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation hearing which is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Thursday, June 26, at 4 p.m. for a business meeting on issues relating to the matter of issuing subpoenas for the special investigation hearings.

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

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 26, 1997, to markup legislation pending in the Committee. The markup will begin at 9:30 a.m. in room 428A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CLEAN AIR, WETLANDS, PRIVATE PROPERTY, AND NUCLEAR SAFETY

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property, and Nuclear Safety be granted permission to conduct an oversight hearing Thursday, June 26, 1997, 9:30 a.m., Hearing Room (SD-406), on recent administrative changes and judicial decisions relating to Section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY, EXPORT AND TRADE PROMOTION

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on International Economic Policy, Export and Trade Promotion of the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 26, 1997, at 9:30 a.m. to hold a hearing.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Governmental Affairs, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 26, 1997, to hold a hearing on the prevalence of waste fraud and abuse in the health care industry, with particular focus on Medicare.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SECURITIES

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Securities of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 26, 1997, to conduct an oversight hearing on Social Security investments in the securities markets.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

DAVID G. UNGER, ASSOCIATE CHIEF OF THE USDA FOREST SERVICE

• Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I would like to take a few minutes to recognize a distinguished civil servant and new resident of the State of Maine.

My colleagues know the value of having experienced, wise, and seasoned legislators in our midst to work through many of the difficult and complex issues we face on a daily basis. We can all appreciate the tremendous loss, therefore, at the Department of Agriculture when Associate Chief Dave Unger retires from his post at the Forest Service at the end of this month.

Mr. Unger has 40 years of experience working with natural resource issues in the public arena. Most recently he has been second in command at the Forest Service, engaged in the management of the National Forest System, the Forest Service research priorities, State and private forestry programs, international forestry issues, and administrative responsibilities. As one of the most heavily forested States in the country, Maine has benefitted from his leadership through technical assistance to landowners, advanced wood products manufacturing technology from the research program, and recreational opportunities in our own corner of the White Mountain National Forest.

In addition to serving as Associate Chief for the Forest Service, Mr. Unger was Deputy Assistant Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, Associate Chief for the Soil Conservation Service, executive vice president of the National Association of Conservation Districts, Director of the Pennsylvania State Soil and Water Commission, among other leadership posts in the natural resources and conservation arena.

Recently, Mr. Unger was honored by the President of the United States with

a Distinguished Executive Rank Award. In 1991, President Bush awarded him the Presidential Meritorious Executive Rank Award. He is a fellow of the Soil and Water Conservation Society and has been recognized by many other organizations for his contributions over a long and productive career helping farmers, conserving forests and protecting wildlife.

I am also pleased to say that Mr. Unger has chosen one of the most beautiful places in the world to retire with his wife, Carolyn. He will become a permanent resident of Maine where I am sure our communities, farmers, foresters, and others will continue to reap the benefits of his illustrious career. I want to welcome the Ungers Downeast, congratulate Mr. Unger on a full and productive career, and wish them both the best in their retirement in Maine.●

TRIBUTE TO MRS. MERRILL CATT AND THE RICE PADDY KIDS

• Mr. BUMBERS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Merrill Catt, a speech therapist in the Weiner, AR, public school system and eight of her students who participated in a year-long project entitled "The Rice Paddy Kids". This project was designed to teach economics and provide hands-on learning experience to the students who ranged from third to eighth grade and were receiving speech/language therapy and resource services.

Because the students live in the heart of the rice-producing region of Arkansas, which is the leading rice-producing State in the United States, the project focused on the production and marketing of rice. In the initial phase of the project the students gathered information and knowledge about rice and its economic impact locally and nationally. The second phase of the project consisted of hands-on learning opportunities as the students planned, advertised, and produced products containing rice and marketed their products to the student body and the community. In addition to the applications of economic concepts and basic skills contained in each phase, curriculum activities were incorporated to improve the students' individual language deficiencies. The students concluded the project by planning and implementing a rice banquet for their parents, business supporters, teachers, school administration and community members.

What I've just summarized in several paragraphs takes many long hours of hard work and dedication to plan, organize, and implement. This is the second economic project Mrs. Catt has successfully undertaken to expand the knowledge and capabilities of her speech and language students, and I commend her for her initiative and willingness to go the extra mile for the benefit of her students and school. In addition to teaching these students about rice, she has shown them what can be accomplished when the impor-

tant principles of responsibility, cooperation, perseverance, and innovation are utilized. I also congratulate the eight "Rice Paddy Kids" for a job well done. Not only are these students the benefactors of the project but they are an integral part of its success. While educating and helping themselves, they also educated and benefited their school and community.

There are many school systems in Arkansas that are larger in terms of student population and funding than the Weiner school system. However, the accomplishments of Mrs. Catt and "The Rice Paddy Kids" are a perfect example of how bigger is not always better. They have demonstrated a principle in which I firmly believe: being from a small town is no excuse not to think big and achieve great things.●

TRIBUTE TO FLIP KLEFFNER

• Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, today I would like to take a few moments to pay tribute to Flip Kleffner who, after a long and distinguished career as University of Idaho alumni director, will be retiring June 30.

I take a personal interest in his retirement because, as a fellow University of Idaho graduate, I've been the beneficiary of all his work.

Flip has served as alumni director for the past 15 years and has been involved with the University of Idaho most of his life. He is a former student body president and was a standout athlete who excelled at basketball, baseball, and football. In fact, he still holds the school record for the longest punt at 82 yards.

Flip has always made everything he does a very personal effort. In that regard, he's a tremendous example of how one person really can make a difference. He has quietly given countless hours of volunteer service to his community—in everything from youth sports to education—without expecting anything in return.

In addition, his efforts to continually improve the quality of education in Idaho have helped the State keep its best and brightest at home.

Flip has a wonderful sense of humor and is one of the most personable, pleasant people I have ever had the privilege of knowing. He will be greatly missed at the university, but I'm confident he'll remain an active force for good on campus—even in retirement.

He has had a remarkable career and I wish him all the best now as he enters this new chapter in his life.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. DAN DOYLE

• Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, improvements in health care provide America with a sense of security. Knowing there are advancements in the medical field every day gives people hope that someday we will find cures for cancer, AIDS, leukemia, and other serious diseases. Although these advancements are notable, we cannot