March 22 through March 28, 1998, as "National Corrosion Prevention Week."

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

THE EDUCATION SAVINGS ACT FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS

KENNEDY AMENDMENT NO. 2054

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill (H.R. 2646) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow tax-free expenditures from education individual retirement accounts for elementary and secondary school expenses, to increase the maximum annual amount of contributions to such accounts, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike sections 101 and 106, and insert at the end the following:

TITLE III—LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR TEACHERS

SEC. 301. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Our Nation is witnessing a 10-year rise in the elementary and secondary school age population. Between the fall of 1996 and the fall of 2006, total elementary and secondary school enrollment will rise from a record 51,700,000 to 54,600,000, a rise of approximately 3,000,000 children. Elementary school enrollment is projected to grow by 2 percent, from 37,300,000 to 38,100,000, while secondary school enrollment is expected to rise by 15 percent, from 14,400,000 to 16,500,000.

(2) In addition to the enrollment increases, many of the 2,600,000 elementary and secondary school teachers working in 1998 will begin to reach retirement age. According to the National Center for Education Statistics data, between one-third and one-half of all elementary and secondary school teachers are 45 years old or older. Qualified, experienced elementary and secondary school teachers will be leaving the profession at a time when the demand for the teachers is at the highest level in our Nation's history.

(3) There is a lack of qualified elementary and secondary school teachers in specific geographic and content areas. More than one-half, 56 percent, of secondary school students taking physical science courses are taught by teachers who have no background in physical science. Twenty-seven percent of secondary school students taking any level mathematics course are taught by teachers with no mathematics background. Students in inner-city schools have only a 50 percent chance of being taught by a qualified mathematics or science teacher. States that have large percentages of classes taught by teachers without a background in a particular subject area, such as Tennessee (26.5 percent), Florida (26.4 percent), Louisiana (26.2 percent), and Maryland (25.6 percent), demonstrate the need for increased numbers of elementary and secondary school teachers with the necessary qualifications.

(4) Our Nation must address the need described in paragraph (3) to ensure a qualified elementary and secondary school teacher for every child in every elementary and secondary school course.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to create a Federal student loan forgiveness program to attract individuals to careers as elementary and secondary school teachers.

SEC. 302. LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR TEACHERS.

Part B of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1071 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 428J (20 U.S.C. 1078-10) the following:

"SEC. 428K. LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR TEACHERS.

"(a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary is authorized to carry out a program of assuming the obligation to repay a loan made, insured, or guaranteed under this title (excluding loans made under section 428A for any new borrower after July 1, 1998, who is employed as a full-time elementary school or secondary school teacher—

"(1) in a school served by a local educational agency that is eligible for assistance under part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.); or

"(2) who teaches mathematics, science, foreign language, bilingual education, or any other area that the State educational agency determines to be an area for which there is a shortage of qualified elementary school or secondary school teachers.

"(b) LOAN REPAYMENT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall assume the obligation to repay—

"(A) 15 percent of the total amount of loans incurred by the borrower under this title, not to exceed $1,200 per year, for each of the first two years the borrower meets the employment requirement described in subsection (a);

"(B) 20 percent of such total amount, not to exceed $1,600 per year, for each of the third and fourth years the borrower meets such requirement; and

"(C) 30 percent of such total amount, not to exceed $2,400, for the fifth year the borrower meets such requirement.

"(2) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to authorize the refunding of any repayment of a loan under this title.

"(3) INTEREST.—If a portion of a loan is repaid by the Secretary under this section for any year, the proportionate amount of interest on such loan which accrues for such year shall be repaid by the Secretary.

"(c) REPAYMENT TO ELIGIBLE LENDERS.—The Secretary shall pay to each eligible lender or holder for each fiscal year an amount equal to the aggregate amount of loans which are subject to repayment pursuant to this section for such year.

"(d) APPLICATION FOR REPAYMENT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible individual desiring loan repayment under this section shall submit a complete and accurate application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may reasonably require. Loan repayment under this section shall be on a first-come, first-served basis and subject to the availability of appropriations.

"(2) CONDITIONS.—An eligible individual may apply for repayment after completing each year of qualifying employment. The borrower shall receive forbearance while engaged in qualifying employment unless the borrower is in deferment while so engaged.

"(e) DEFINITIONS.—For the purpose of this section the term "eligible lender" has the meaning given the term in section 435(d).

"(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $3,600,000 for each of the fiscal years 1999 and 2000.".

DODD AMENDMENT NO. 2055

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. DODD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill, H.R. 2646, supra; as follows:

Strike section 101, and insert the following:

SEC. 101. FUNDING FOR PART B OF IDEA.

Any amounts of revenue increases resulting from the enactment of title II shall be used to carry out part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1411 et seq.).

LEVIN AMENDMENTS NOS. 2056–2057

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. LEVIN submitted two amendments intended to be proposed by him to the bill, H.R. 2646, supra; as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 2056

After title II add the following:

TITLE ___—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. ___. EXTENSION OF PERIOD OF TIME FOR COUNTING VOCATIONAL EDUCATIONAL TRAINING AS A WORK ACTIVITY UNDER THE TANF PROGRAM.

Section 407(d)(8) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 607(d)(8)) is amended by striking "12" and inserting "24".

AMENDMENT NO. 2057

At the end of title I, insert:

SEC. ___. INCREASED LIFETIME LEARNING CREDIT FOR TECHNOLOGY TRAINING OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY TEACHERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 25A(c) (relating to lifetime learning credit) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(3) SPECIAL RULE FOR TECHNOLOGY TRAINING OF CERTAIN TEACHERS.—If any portion of the qualified tuition and related expenses to which this subsection applies—

"(A) are paid or incurred by an individual who is a kindergarten through grade 12 teacher in an elementary or secondary school, and

"(B) are incurred as part of a program which is approved and certified by the appropriate local educational agency as directly related to improvement of the individual's capacity to use technology in teaching,

paragraph (1) shall be applied with respect to such portion by substituting '50 percent' for '20 percent'."

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to expenses paid after December 31, 1997, for education furnished in academic periods beginning after such date.

WELLSTONE AMENDMENT NO. 2058

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. WELLSTONE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill, H.R. 2646, supra; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. REPORT ON THE STATUS OF FORMER TANF RECIPIENTS.

Section 413 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 613) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(k) REPORT ON THE STATUS OF FORMER TANF RECIPIENTS.—

"(1) DEVELOPMENT OF PLAN.—The Secretary shall develop a plan to assess, to the extent possible based on all available information, the number and percentage of former recipients of assistance under the State programs funded under this part that are, as of the date that the assessment is performed, economically self-sufficient. In determining economic self-sufficiency, the Secretary shall consider—

''(A) the number and percentage of such recipients that are, as of the date of the assessment, employed;

''(B) the number and percentage of such recipients earning incomes at or above 150 percent of the poverty line (as defined in section 673(2) of the Community Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9902(2)), including any revision required by such section for a family of the size involved); and

''(C) the number and percentage of such recipients that have access to housing, transportation, and child care.

''(2) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Beginning 4 months after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall submit biannual reports to the appropriate committees of Congress on the assessment conducted under this subsection. The reports shall analyze the ability of former recipients of assistance under the State programs funded under this part to achieve economic self-sufficiency. The Secretary shall include in the reports all available information about the economic self-sufficiency of such recipients, including data from quarterly State reports submitted to the Department of Health and Human Services (in this paragraph referred to as the 'Department'), data from State applications submitted to the Department for bonuses, and to the extent the Secretary determines they are relevant to the assessment—

''(A) reports prepared by the Comptroller General of the United States;

''(B) samples prepared by the Bureau of the Census;

''(C) surveys funded by the Department;

''(D) studies conducted by the Department;

''(E) studies conducted by States;

''(F) surveys conducted by non-governmental entities;

''(G) administrative data from other Federal agencies; and

''(H) information and materials available from any other appropriate source.''.

MACK (AND D'AMATO) AMENDMENT NO. 2059

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. MACK (for himself and Mr. D'AMATO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by them to the bill, H.R. 2646, supra; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE ___—MEASURES TO ENCOURAGE RESULTS IN TEACHING

SEC. ___01. SHORT TITLE; FINDINGS; AND PURPOSES.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the ''Measures to Encourage Results in Teaching Act of 1998''.

(b) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) All students deserve to be taught by well-educated, competent, and qualified teachers.

(2) More than ever before, education has and will continue to become the ticket not only to economic success but to basic survival. Students will not succeed in meeting the demands of a knowledge-based, 21st century society and economy if the students do not encounter more challenging work in school. For future generations to have the opportunities to achieve success the future generations will need to have an education and a teacher workforce second to none.

(3) No other intervention can make the difference that a knowledgeable, skillful teacher can make in the learning process. At the same time, nothing can fully compensate for weak teaching that, despite good intentions, can result from a teacher's lack of opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skill needed to help students master the curriculum.

(4) The Federal Government established the Dwight D. Eisenhower Professional Development Program in 1985 to ensure that teachers and other educational staff have access to sustained and high-quality professional development. This ongoing development must include the ability to demonstrate and judge the performance of teachers and other instructional staff.

(5) States should evaluate their teachers on the basis of demonstrated ability, including tests of subject matter knowledge, teaching knowledge, and teaching skill. States should develop a test for their teachers and other instructional staff with respect to the subjects taught by the teachers and staff, and should administer the test every 3 to 5 years.

(6) Evaluating and rewarding teachers with a compensation system that supports teachers who become increasingly expert in a subject area, are proficient in meeting the needs of students and schools, and demonstrate high levels of performance measured against professional teaching standards, will encourage teachers to continue to learn needed skills and broaden teachers' expertise, thereby enhancing education for all students.

(c) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this title are as follows:

(1) To provide incentives for States to establish and administer periodic teacher testing and merit pay programs for elementary school and secondary school teachers.

(2) To encourage States to establish merit pay programs that have a significant impact on teacher salary scales.

(3) To encourage programs that recognize and reward the best teachers, and encourage those teachers that need to do better.

SEC. ___02. STATE INCENTIVES FOR TEACHER TESTING AND MERIT PAY.

(a) AMENDMENTS.—Title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6601 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating part D as part E;

(2) by redesignating sections 2401 and 2402 as sections 2501 and 2502, respectively; and

(3) by inserting after part C the following:

''PART D—STATE INCENTIVES FOR TEACHER TESTING AND MERIT PAY

''SEC. 2401. STATE INCENTIVES FOR TEACHER TESTING AND MERIT PAY.

''(a) STATE AWARDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, from funds described in subsection (b) that are made available for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall make an award to each State that—

''(1) administers a test to each elementary school and secondary school teacher in the State, with respect to the subjects taught by the teacher, every 3 to 5 years; and

''(2) has an elementary school and secondary school teacher compensation system that is based on merit.

''(b) AVAILABLE FUNDING.—The amount of funds referred to in subsection (a) that are available to carry out this section for a fiscal year is 50 percent of the amount of funds appropriated to carry out this title that are in excess of the amount so appropriated for fiscal year 1999, except that no funds shall be available to carry out this section for any fiscal year for which—

''(1) the amount appropriated to carry out this title exceeds $600,000,000; or

''(2) each of the several States is eligible to receive an award under this section.

''(c) AWARD AMOUNT.—A State shall receive an award under this section in an amount that bears the same relation to the total amount available for awards under this section for a fiscal year as the number of States that are eligible to receive such an award for the fiscal year bears to the total number of all States so eligible for the fiscal year.

''(d) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds provided under this section may be used by States to carry out the activities described in section 2207.

''(e) DEFINITION OF STATE.—For the purpose of this section, the term 'State' means each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect on October 1, 1999.

SEC. ___03. TEACHER TESTING AND MERIT PAY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a State may use Federal education funds—

(1) to carry out a test of each elementary school or secondary school teacher in the State with respect to the subjects taught by the teacher; or

(2) to establish a merit pay program for the teachers.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms ''elementary school'' and ''secondary school'' have the meanings given the terms in section 14101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8801).

WELLSTONE AMENDMENT NO. 2060

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. WELLSTONE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill, H.R. 2646, supra; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. REPEAL OF FOOD STAMP BENEFIT REDUCTIONS.

(a) THRIFTY FOOD PLAN.—Section 3(o)(4) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2011(o)(4)) is amended by inserting ''103 percent of'' after ''reflect''.

(b) INCOME EARNED BY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.—Section 5(d)(7) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2014(d)(7)) is amended by striking ''17'' and inserting ''21''.

(c) INDEXING OF STANDARD DEDUCTION.—Section 5(e)(1) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2014(e)(1)) is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: '', adjusted on October 1, 1998, and each October 1 thereafter, to the nearest lower dollar increment to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, for items other than food, for the 12 months ending the preceding June 30''.

(d) FAMILIES WITH HIGH SHELTER COSTS.—Section 5(e)(7) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2014(e)(7)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''EXPENSE DEDUCTION.—'' and all that follows through ''A household'' and inserting ''EXPENSE DEDUCTION.—A household''; and

(2) by striking subparagraph (B).

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section take effect on October 1, 1998.

GORTON (AND FAIRCLOTH) AMENDMENT NO. 2061

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. GORTON (for himself and Mr. FAIRCLOTH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by them to the bill, H.R. 2646, supra; as follows:

At the appropriate place, add the following:

SECTION 1. UNIFORM DISCIPLINARY POLICIES.

Section 615(k) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1415(k)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (10) as paragraph (11); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (9) the following:

''(10) UNIFORM DISCIPLINARY POLICIES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, each State educational agency or local educational agency may establish and implement uniform policies with respect to discipline and order applicable to all children within its jurisdiction to ensure safety and an appropriate educational atmosphere in its schools.''.

1998 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR RECOVERY FROM NATURAL DISASTERS, AND FOR OVERSEAS PEACEKEEPING EFFORTS

BYRD (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 2062

Mr. BYRD (for himself, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. STEVENS, and Mr. SARBANES) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 1768) making emergency supplemental appropriations for recovery from natural disasters, and for overseas peacekeeping efforts, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following new title:

TITLE ___—EMERGENCY TRADE DEFICIT REVIEW COMMISSION

SEC. ___01. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Emergency Trade Deficit Review Commission Act''.

SEC. ___02. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The United States continues to run substantial merchandise trade and current account deficits.

(2) Economic forecasts anticipate continued growth in such deficits in the next few years.

(3) The positive net international asset position that the United States built up over many years was eliminated in the 1980s. The United States today has become the world's largest debtor nation.

(4) The United States merchandise trade deficit is characterized by large bilateral trade imbalances with a handful of countries.

(5) The United States has one of the most open borders and economies in the world. The United States faces significant tariff and nontariff trade barriers with its trading partners. Current overall trade balances do not reflect the actual competitiveness or productivity of the United States economy.

(6) Since the last comprehensive review of national trade and investment policies was conducted by a Presidential commission in 1970, there have been massive worldwide economic and political changes which have profoundly affected world trading relationships. Globalization, the increased mobility of capital and technology, the role of transnational corporations, and the outsourcing of production across national boundaries, are reshaping both the comparative and competitive trade advantages among nations.

(7) The United States is once again at a critical juncture in trade policy development. The nature of the United States trade deficit and its causes and consequences must be analyzed and documented.

SEC. ___03. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a commission to be known as the Emergency Trade Deficit Review Commission (hereafter in this title referred to as the ''Commission'').

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Commission is to study the causes and consequences of the United States merchandise trade and current account deficits and to develop trade policy recommendations for the 21st century. The recommendations shall include strategies necessary to achieve United States market access to foreign markets that fully reflects the competitiveness and productivity of the United States and also improves the standard of living of United States citizens.

(c) MEMBERSHIP OF COMMISSION.—

(1) COMPOSITION.—The Commission shall be composed of 12 members of whom—

(A) 1 Senator and 2 other persons shall be appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader of the Senate;

(B) 1 Senator and 2 other persons shall be appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate upon the recommendation of the Minority Leader of the Senate;

(C) 1 Member of the House of Representatives and 2 other persons shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

(D) 1 Member of the House of Representatives and 2 other persons shall be appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

(2) QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS.—

(A) APPOINTMENTS.—Persons who are appointed under paragraph (1), shall be persons who—

(i) have expertise in economics, international trade, manufacturing, labor, environment, business, or have other pertinent qualifications or experience; and

(ii) are not officers or employees of the United States.

(B) OTHER CONSIDERATIONS.—In appointing Commission members, every effort shall be made to ensure that the members—

(i) are representative of a broad cross-section of economic and trade perspectives within the United States; and

(ii) provide fresh insights to analyzing the causes and consequences of United States merchandise trade and current account deficits.

(d) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT; VACANCIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Members shall be appointed not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act and the appointment shall be for the life of the Commission.

(2) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the Commission shall not affect its powers, but shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(e) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which all members of the Commission have been appointed, the Commission shall hold its first meeting.

(f) MEETINGS.—The Commission shall meet at the call of the Chairperson.

(g) CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON.—The members of the Commission shall elect a chairperson and vice chairperson from among the members of the Commission.

(h) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

(i) VOTING.—Each member of the Commission shall be entitled to 1 vote, which shall be equal to the vote of every other member of the Commission.

SEC. ___04. DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall be responsible for developing trade policy recommendations, by examining the economic, trade, tax, and investment policies and laws, and other incentives and restrictions that are relevant to addressing the causes and consequences of the United States merchandise trade and current account deficits.

(b) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Commission shall examine and make recommendations to Congress and the President on the following:

(1) The manner in which the Government of the United States establishes and administers the Nation's fundamental trade policies and objectives, including—

(A) the relationship of the merchandise trade and current account balances to the overall well-being of the United States economy and any impact the trade balance may have on wages and employment in various sectors of the United States economy;

(B) any effects the merchandise trade and current account deficits may have on the areas of manufacturing and technology and on defense production and innovation capabilities of the United States;

(C) the impact that United States monetary and fiscal policies may have on United States merchandise trade and current account deficits; and

(D) the coordination, allocation, and accountability of trade responsibilities among Federal agencies and the means for congressional oversight of the trade policy process.

(2) The causes and consequences of the merchandise trade and current account deficits and specific bilateral trade deficits, including—

(A) identification and quantification of the macroeconomic factors and bilateral trade barriers contributing to the United States merchandise trade and current account deficits;

(B) identification and quantification of any impact of the merchandise trade and current account deficits on the domestic economy, industrial base, manufacturing capacity, number and quality of jobs, productivity, wages, and the United States standard of living;

(C) identification and quantification of trade deficits within individual industrial, manufacturing, and production sectors, and any relationship to intraindustry and intracompany transactions;

(D) a review of the adequacy of the current collection and reporting of import and export data, and the identification and development of additional data bases and economic measurements that may be needed to properly quantify the factors described in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C);

(E) the relationship that tariff and nontariff barriers may have to the merchandise trade and current account deficits and the extent to which such deficits have become structural;

(F) the extent to which there is reciprocal market access substantially equivalent to that afforded by the United States in each country with which the United States has a persistent and substantial bilateral trade deficit; and

(G) the impact of transhipments on bilateral trade.

(3) Any relationship of United States merchandise trade and current account deficits to both comparative and competitive trade advantages within the global economy, including—

(A) a systematic analysis of the United States trade patterns with different trading partners, to what extent the trade patterns are based on comparative and competitive trade advantages, and how the trade advantages relate to the goods that are exported to and imported from various trading partners;

(B) the extent to which the increased mobility of capital and technology has changed both comparative and competitive trade advantages;

(C) the extent to which differences in the growth rates of the United States and its trading partners may impact on United