

agreed to, the title, as amended, be agreed to, and that any statements relating to the bill appear in the RECORD.

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The bill (H.R. 3809), as amended, was read the third time, and passed.

The title amendment was agreed to.

The title was amended so as to read: "An Act to authorize appropriations for the United States Customs Service for fiscal years 2000 and 2001."

ENERGY CONSERVATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1998

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask the Chair lay before the Senate message from the House of Representatives on the bill (S. 417) to extend energy conservation programs under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act through September 30, 2002.

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 417) entitled "An Act to extend energy conservation programs under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act through September 30, 2002", do pass with the following amendments:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Energy Conservation Reauthorization Act of 1998".

SEC. 2. ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT AMENDMENTS.

(a) STATE ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAM.—Section 365(f) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6325(f)) is amended to read as follows:

"(f) For the purpose of carrying out this part, there are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years 1999 through 2003 such sums as may be necessary."

(b) SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS.—Section 397 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6371f) is amended to read as follows:

"AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

"SEC. 397. For the purpose of carrying out this part, there are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years 1999 through 2003 such sums as may be necessary."

SEC. 3. ENERGY CONSERVATION AND PRODUCTION ACT AMENDMENT.

Section 422 of the Energy Conservation and Production Act (42 U.S.C. 6872) is amended to read as follows:

"AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

"SEC. 422. For the purpose of carrying out the weatherization program under this part, there are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years 1999 through 2003 such sums as may be necessary."

SEC. 4. ENERGY SAVINGS PERFORMANCE CONTRACTS.

(a) SUNSET.—Section 801(c) of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 8287(c)) is amended by striking "five years after" and all that follows through "subsection (b)" and inserting "on October 1, 2003".

(b) DEFINITION.—Section 804(1) of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 8287c(1)) is amended to read as follows:

"(1) The term 'Federal agency' means each authority of the Government of the United States, whether or not it is within or subject to review by another agency."

SEC. 5. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

(a) ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT.—The Energy Policy and Conservation Act is amended—

(1) in the table of contents—

(A) by striking "Sec. 301." and all that follows through "Reports to Congress.";

(B) by striking "efficiency" and inserting "conservation" in the item relating to section 325;

(C) by striking "and private labelers" in the item relating to section 326;

(D) by striking the items relating to part E of title III;

(E) by inserting after the items relating to part I of title III the following:

"PART J—ENCOURAGING THE USE OF ALTERNATIVE FUELS

"Sec. 400AA. Alternative fuel use by light duty Federal vehicles.

"Sec. 400BB. Alternative fuels truck commercial application program.

"Sec. 400CC. Alternative fuels bus program.

"Sec. 400DD. Interagency Commission on Alternative Motor Fuels.

"Sec. 400EE. Studies and reports.";

(F) by inserting "Environmental" after "Energy Supply and" in the item relating to section 505; and

(G) by striking the item relating to section 527; (2) in section 321(1) (42 U.S.C. 6291(1))—

(A) by striking "section 501(1) of the Motor Vehicle Information and Cost Savings Act" and inserting "section 32901(a)(3) of title 49, United States Code"; and

(B) by striking the second period at the end thereof;

(3) in section 322(b)(2)(A) (42 U.S.C. 6292(b)(2)(A)) by inserting close quotation marks after "type of product";

(4) in section 324(a)(2)(C)(ii) (42 U.S.C. 6294(a)(2)(C)(ii)) by striking "section 325(j)" and inserting "section 325(i)";

(5) in section 325 (42 U.S.C. 6295)—

(A) by striking "paragraphs" in subsection (e)(4)(A) and inserting "paragraph"; and

(B) by striking "BALLASTS;" in the heading of subsection (g) and inserting "BALLASTS";

(6) in section 336(c)(2) (42 U.S.C. 6306(c)(2)) by striking "section 325(k)" and inserting "section 325(n)";

(7) in section 345(c) (42 U.S.C. 6316(c)) by inserting "standard" after "meets the applicable";

(8) in section 362 (42 U.S.C. 6322)—

(A) by inserting "of" after "of the implementation" in subsection (a)(1); and

(B) by striking "subsection (g)" and inserting "subsection (f)(2)" in subsection (d)(12);

(9) in section 391(2)(B) (42 U.S.C. 6371(2)(B)) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(10) in section 394(a) (42 U.S.C. 6371c(a))—

(A) by striking the commas at the end of paragraphs (1), (3), and (5) and inserting semicolons;

(B) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (2) and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by striking the colon at the end of paragraph (6) and inserting a semicolon;

(11) in section 400 (42 U.S.C. 6371i) by striking "(a)";

(12) in section 400D(a) (42 U.S.C. 6372c(a)) by striking the commas at the end of paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) and inserting semicolons;

(13) in section 4001(b) (42 U.S.C. 6372h(b)) by striking "Secretary shall," and inserting "Secretary shall";

(14) in section 400AA (42 U.S.C. 6374) by redesignating subsection (i) as subsection (h);

(15) in section 503 (42 U.S.C. 6383)—

(A) by striking "with respect to" and inserting "with respect to" in subsection (b); and

(B) by striking "controlling" and inserting "controlling," in subsection (c)(1); and

(16) in section 552(d)(5)(A) (42 U.S.C. 6422(d)(5)(A)) by striking "notion" and inserting "motion".

(b) ENERGY CONSERVATION AND PRODUCTION ACT.—The Energy Conservation and Production Act is amended—

(1) in the table of contents—

(A) by striking "rules and regulations" and inserting "regulations and rulings" in the item relating to section 106; and

(B) by striking the item relating to section 207 and inserting the following:

"Sec. 207. State utility regulatory assistance.
"Sec. 208. Authorization of appropriations.";

and

(2) in section 202 (42 U.S.C. 6802) by striking "(b) DEFINITIONS.—"

(c) NATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION POLICY ACT.—The National Energy Conservation Policy Act is amended—

(1) in the table of contents—

(A) by striking "installation, and financing" and inserting "and installation" in the item relating to section 216;

(B) by striking "Ratings" and inserting "Rating Guidelines" in the item relating to part 6 of title II;

(C) by striking the item relating to section 304; and

(D) by striking "goals" and inserting "requirements" in the item relating to section 543; (2) in section 216(d)(1)(C) (42 U.S.C. 8217(d)(1)(C)) by striking "explicitly" and inserting "explicitly";

(3) in section 251(b)(1) (42 U.S.C. 8231(b)(1))—

(A) by striking "National Housing Act to projects" and inserting "National Housing Act to projects"; and

(B) by striking "accure" and inserting "accrue";

(4) in section 266 (42 U.S.C. 8235e) by striking "(17 U.S.C.)" and inserting "(15 U.S.C.)"; and

(5) in section 551(8) (42 U.S.C. 8259(8)) by striking "goothermal" and inserting "geothermal".

SEC. 6. MATERIALS ALLOCATION AUTHORITY EXTENSION.

Section 104(b) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act is amended by striking "(1) The authority" and all that follows through "(2)".

SEC. 7. BIODIESEL FUEL USE CREDITS.

(a) AMENDMENT.—Title III of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13211–13219) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 312. BIODIESEL FUEL USE CREDITS.

"(a) ALLOCATION OF CREDITS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall allocate one credit under this section to a fleet or covered person for each qualifying volume of the biodiesel component of fuel containing at least 20 percent biodiesel by volume purchased after the date of the enactment of this section for use by the fleet or covered person in vehicles owned or operated by the fleet or covered person that weigh more than 8,500 pounds gross vehicle weight rating.

"(2) EXCEPTIONS.—No credits shall be allocated under paragraph (1) for a purchase of biodiesel—

"(A) for use in alternative fueled vehicles; or

"(B) that is required by Federal or State law.

"(3) AUTHORITY TO MODIFY PERCENTAGE.—The Secretary may, by rule, lower the 20 percent biodiesel volume requirement in paragraph (1) for reasons related to cold start, safety, or vehicle function considerations.

"(4) DOCUMENTATION.—A fleet or covered person seeking a credit under this section shall provide written documentation to the Secretary supporting the allocation of a credit to such fleet or covered person under paragraph (1).

"(b) USE OF CREDITS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—At the request of a fleet or covered person allocated a credit under subsection (a), the Secretary shall, for the year in which the purchase of a qualifying volume is made, treat that purchase as the acquisition of one alternative fueled vehicle the fleet or covered person is required to acquire under this title, title IV, or title V.

"(2) LIMITATION.—Credits allocated under subsection (a) may not be used to satisfy more than 50 percent of the alternative fueled vehicle

requirements of a fleet or covered person under this title, title IV, and title V. This paragraph shall not apply to a fleet or covered person that is a biodiesel alternative fuel provider described in section 501(a)(2)(A).

“(c) CREDIT NOT A SECTION 508 CREDIT.—A credit under this section shall not be considered a credit under section 508.

“(d) ISSUANCE OF RULE.—The Secretary shall, before January 1, 1999, issue a rule establishing procedures for the implementation of this section.

“(e) COLLECTION OF DATA.—The Secretary shall collect such data as are required to make a determination described in subsection (f)(2)(B).

“(f) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) the term ‘biodiesel’ means a diesel fuel substitute produced from nonpetroleum renewable resources that meets the registration requirements for fuels and fuel additives established by the Environmental Protection Agency under section 211 of the Clean Air Act; and

“(2) the term ‘qualifying volume’ means—

“(A) 450 gallons; or

“(B) if the Secretary determines by rule that the average annual alternative fuel use in light duty vehicles by fleets and covered persons exceeds 450 gallons or gallon equivalents, the amount of such average annual alternative fuel use.”

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS AMENDMENT.—The table of contents of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 is amended by adding at the end of the items relating to title III the following new item: “Sec. 312. Biodiesel fuel use credits.”

SEC. 8. REPORT CONCERNING COMPLIANCE WITH ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLE PURCHASING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 310 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13218) is amended—

(1) by striking the heading and inserting the following:

“(a) GENERAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM REPORT.—” before “Not later than”; and

(2) by inserting “(a) GENERAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM REPORT.—” before “Not later than”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) COMPLIANCE REPORT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, and annually thereafter for the next 14 years, the head of each Federal agency which is subject to this Act and Executive Order No. 13031 shall prepare, and submit to Congress, a report that—

“(A) summarizes the compliance by such Federal agency with the alternative fuel purchasing requirements for Federal fleets under this Act and Executive Order No. 13031; and

“(B) includes a plan of compliance that contains specific dates for achieving compliance using reasonable means.

“(2) CONTENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include—

“(i) any information on any failure to meet statutory requirements or requirements under Executive Order No. 13031;

“(ii) (I) any plan of compliance that the agency head is required to submit under Executive Order No. 13031; or

“(II) if a plan of compliance referred to in subclause (I) does not contain specific dates by which the Federal agency is to achieve compliance, a revised plan of compliance that contains specific dates for achieving compliance; and

“(iii) any related information the agency head is required to submit to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Order No. 13031.

“(B) PENULTIMATE REPORT.—The penultimate report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include an announcement that the report for the next year shall be the final report submitted under paragraph (1).

“(3) PUBLIC DISSEMINATION OF REPORT.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall be made public, including—

“(A) placing such report on a publicly available website on the Internet; and

“(B) publishing the availability of the report, including such website address, in the Federal Register.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for the Energy Policy Act of 1992 contained in section 1(b) of that Act (106 Stat. 2776 et. seq.) is amended by striking the item relating to section 310 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 310. Reports.”

Amend the title so as to read: “An Act to extend certain programs under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act and the Energy Conservation and Production Act, and for other purposes.”

AMENDMENT NO. 3793

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate concur in the House amendments, with a further amendment which is at the desk.

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

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:.

The Senator from Vermont [Mr. JEFFORDS], for Mr. MURKOWSKI, for himself and Mr. AKAKA, proposed an amendment numbered 3793.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

At the end, insert the following:

SEC. 9. PURCHASES FROM STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE BY ENTITIES IN INSULAR AREAS OF UNITED STATES AND FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES.

(a) Section 161 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6241) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(j) PURCHASES FROM STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE BY ENTITIES IN INSULAR AREAS OF UNITED STATES AND FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) BINDING OFFER.—The term ‘binding offer’ means a bid submitted by the State of Hawaii for an assured award of a specific quantity of petroleum product, with a price to be calculated pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subsection, that obligates the offeror to take title to the petroleum product without further negotiation or recourse to withdraw the offer.

“(B) CATEGORY OF PETROLEUM PRODUCT.—The term ‘category of petroleum product’ means a master line item within a notice of sale.

“(C) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible entity’ means an entity that owns or controls a refinery that is located within the State of Hawaii.

“(D) FULL TANKER LOAD.—The term ‘full tanker load’ means a tanker of approximately 700,000 barrels of capacity, or such lesser tanker capacity as may be designated by the State of Hawaii.

“(E) INSULAR AREA.—The term ‘insular area’ means the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Freely Associated States of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau.

“(F) OFFERING.—The term ‘offering’ means a solicitation for bids for a quantity or quantities of petroleum product from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve as specified in the notice of sale.

“(G) NOTICE OF SALE.—The term ‘notice of sale’ means the document that announces—

“(i) the sale of Strategic Petroleum Reserve products;

“(ii) the quantity, characteristics, and location of the petroleum product being sold;

“(iii) the delivery period for the sale; and

“(iv) the procedures for submitting offers.

“(2) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an offering of a quantity of petroleum product during a drawdown of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve—

“(A) the State of Hawaii, in addition to having the opportunity to submit a competitive bid, may—

“(i) submit a binding offer, and shall on submission of the offer, be entitled to purchase a category of a petroleum product specified in a notice of sale at a price equal to the volumetrically weighted average of the successful bids made for the remaining quantity of the petroleum product within the category that is the subject of the offering; and

“(ii) submit 1 or more alternative offers, for other categories of the petroleum product, that will be binding if no price competitive contract is awarded for the category of petroleum product on which a binding offer is submitted under clause (i); and

“(B) at the request of the Governor of the State of Hawaii, a petroleum product purchased by the State of Hawaii at a competitive sale or through a binding offer shall have first preference in scheduling for lifting.

“(3) LIMITATION ON QUANTITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In administering this subsection, in the case of each offering, the Secretary may impose the limitation described in subparagraph (B) or (C) that results in the purchase of the lesser quantity of petroleum product.

“(B) PORTION OF QUANTITY OF PREVIOUS IMPORTS.—The Secretary may limit the quantity of a petroleum product that the State of Hawaii may purchase through a binding offer at any offering to 1/2 of the total quantity of imports of the petroleum product brought into the State during the previous year (or other period determined by the Secretary to be representative).

“(C) PERCENTAGE OF OFFERING.—The Secretary may limit the quantity that may be purchased through binding offers at any offering to 3 percent of the offering.

“(4) ADJUSTMENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any limitation imposed under paragraph (3), in administering this subsection, in the case of each offering, the Secretary shall, at the request of the Governor of the State of Hawaii, or an eligible entity certified under paragraph (7), adjust the quantity to be sold to the State of Hawaii in accordance with this paragraph.

“(B) UPWARD ADJUSTMENT.—The Secretary shall adjust upward to the next whole number increment of a full tanker load if the quantity to be sold is—

“(i) less than 1 full tanker load; or

“(ii) greater than or equal to 50 percent of a full tanker load more than a whole number increment of a full tanker load

“(C) DOWNWARD ADJUSTMENT.—The Secretary shall adjust downward to the next whole number increment of a full tanker load if the quantity to be sold is less than 50 percent of a full tanker load more than a whole number increment of a full tanker load.

“(5) DELIVERY TO OTHER LOCATIONS.—The State of Hawaii may enter into an exchange or a processing agreement that requires delivery to other locations, if a petroleum product of similar value or quantity is delivered to the State of Hawaii.

“(6) STANDARD SALES PROVISIONS.—Except as otherwise provided in this Act, the Secretary may require the State of Hawaii to

comply with the standard sales provisions applicable to purchasers of petroleum product at competitive sales.

“(7) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C) and notwithstanding any other provision of this paragraph, if the Governor of the State of Hawaii certifies to the Secretary that the State has entered into an agreement with an eligible entity to carry out this Act, the eligible entity may act on behalf of the State of Hawaii to carry out this subsection.

“(B) LIMITATION.—The Governor of the State of Hawaii shall not certify more than 1 eligible entity under this paragraph for each notice of sale.

“(C) BARRED COMPANY.—If the Secretary has notified the Governor of the State of Hawaii that a company has been barred from bidding (either prior to, or at the time that a notice of sale is issued), the Governor shall not certify the company under this paragraph.

“(7) SUPPLIES OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS.—At the request of the governor of an insular area, the Secretary shall, for a period not to exceed 180 days following a drawdown of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, assist the insular area or the President of a Freely Associated State in its efforts to maintain adequate supplies of petroleum products from traditional and non-traditional suppliers.”.

(b) REGULATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy shall issue such regulations as are necessary to carry out the amendment made by subsection (a).

(2) ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE.—Regulations issued to carry out the amendment made by subsection (a) shall not be subject to—

(A) section 523 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6393); or

(B) section 501 of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7191).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) takes effect on the earlier of—

(1) the date that is 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act; or

(2) the date that final regulations are issued under subsection (a).

SEC. 10. INDIAN ENERGY RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT.

Section 2603 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3503) is amended in subsection (c) by striking “and 1997” each place it appears and inserting “1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003” in lieu thereof.

SEC. 11. REMEDIAL ACTION.

(a) Section 1001(b)(2)(C) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 2296a) is amended by striking “\$65,000,000” and inserting “\$140,000,000”.

(b) Section 1003(a) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 2296a-2) is amended by striking “\$415,000,000” and inserting “\$490,000,000”.

(c) Section 1802(a) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2297g-1) is amended by striking “\$480,000,000” and inserting “\$488,333,333”.

VITIATION OF PASSAGE OF H.R. 3903

Mr. JEFFORDS. I ask unanimous consent that passage of H.R. 3903 be vitiated.

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

GLACIER BAY NATIONAL PARK BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 1998

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that the Sen-

ate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 3903.

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

The clerk will report.

A bill (H.R. 3903) to provide for an exchange of lands near Gustavus, Alaska, and for other purposes.

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

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

AMENDMENT NO. 3794

(Purpose: To make technical and clarifying changes)

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Vermont [Mr. JEFFORDS], for Mr. MURKOWSKI, proposes an amendment numbered 3794.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

On page 2 line 8 strike “paragraph [4]” and insert “paragraph [2]”.

On page 2 line 9 strike “paragraph [3]” and insert “paragraph [4]”.

On page 4 line 1 strike “838.66” and insert “1191.75”.

On page 11 line 19 strike “units” and insert “units resulting from this Act”.

On page 11 line 20 strike “considered in applying” and insert “charged against”.

On page 12 line 1 strike “units” and insert “units resulting from this Act”.

On page 12 beginning on line 1 strike “be considered in applying” and insert “be charged against”.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask that the amendment be agreed to, the bill be read the third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider laid upon the table.

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

The amendment (No. 3794) was agreed to.

The bill (H.R. 3903) was read the third time, and passed.

MAHATMA GANDHI MEMORIAL

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Energy Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4284, and that the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4284) to authorize the government of India to establish a memorial to honor Mahatma Gandhi in the District of Columbia.

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

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, last year I joined the distinguished senior Senator from New York, Mr. MOYNIHAN, in introducing a bill to authorize the placement of a memorial to Mohandas K.—Mahatma—Gandhi, on Federal land in the District of Columbia in the vicinity of the Indian Embassy. A similar bill was introduced in the House of Representatives.

I am pleased to report that the House unanimously passed their version of this bill on September 15 and it now rests here in the Senate awaiting our action. It is my hope that the Senate will pass this bill and it is for this reason that I rise today.

The proposed memorial will comply with the Commemorative Works Act and will be placed at no cost to the U.S. government; the Indian government will be responsible for the construction and maintenance of the memorial. In addition, the National Capital Memorial Commission and the National Park Service have designated and approved the site.

At midnight on August 15, 1947, 400 million people received their independence and an institution in world history came to an end. This is the date that India became a free nation, and the mighty British empire, in effect, ceased to exist. One man more than any other is credited with bringing this profound change to the world. Dressed in white homespun cloth, with only a handful of worldly possessions, Mohandas Gandhi—known as Mahatma, or “Great Soul”—showed the world that dedication to principles, and belief in reconciliation, can prevail over otherwise insurmountable odds. Best known for his civil disobedience characterized by nonviolence and passive resistance, Mahatma Gandhi is revered by millions throughout the world for his dedication to personal freedom, justice, and human rights.

Gandhi is not only the father of modern India, but a leader whose impact changed the world forever. Gandhi influenced great champions of freedom throughout the world including Lech Walesa of Poland, the Dalai Lama of Tibet and Aung San Suu Kyi of Burma. Albert Einstein said of Gandhi, “Generations to come will scarcely believe that such a one as this walked the earth in flesh and blood.” Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., said of Gandhi’s importance to the world, “We may ignore Gandhi at our own risk.” And Gandhi himself had strong ties to the United States. He acknowledged being influenced in his own thinking by Henry David Thoreau, as well as by the U.S. Constitution.

Mr. President, the story of India’s recent history is the story of people struggling for freedom—and this struggle is universal. Gandhi has made us all richer in our freedom through his life’s work and sacrifice. The right thing for this body to do is to support the Indian government’s efforts to erect this memorial; it will be a gift to the American people symbolic of the greater gift