

SECTION 1. CONTINUATION OF SUBMISSION OF CERTAIN SPECIES CONSERVATION REPORTS.

(a) ANNUAL COST ANALYSIS.—Section 18 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1544) is amended by striking "On" and inserting "Notwithstanding section 3003 of Public Law 104-66 (31 U.S.C. 1113 note; 109 Stat. 734), on".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section takes effect on the earlier of—

- (1) the date of enactment of this Act; or
- (2) December 19, 1999.

COMMEMORATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL VISITORS PROGRAM

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 442, S. Res. 87.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 87) commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the International Visitors Program.

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

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 87) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 87

Whereas the year 2000 marks the 60th Anniversary of the International Visitors Program;

Whereas the International Visitors Program is the public diplomacy initiative of the United States Department of State that brings distinguished foreign leaders to the United States for short-term professional programs under the authority of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961;

Whereas the purposes of the International Visitors Program include—

(1) increasing mutual understanding and strengthening bilateral relations between the United States and other nations;

(2) developing the web of human connections essential for successful economic and commercial relations, security arrangements, and diplomatic agreements with other nations; and

(3) building cooperation among nations to solve global problems and to achieve a more peaceful world;

Whereas during 6 decades more than 122,000 emerging leaders and specialists from around the world have experienced American democratic institutions, cultural diversity, and core values firsthand as participants in the International Visitors Program;

Whereas thousands of participants in the International Visitors Program rise to influential leadership positions in their countries each year;

Whereas among the International Visitors Program alumni are 185 current and former

Chiefs-of-State or Heads of Government, and more than 600 alumni have served as cabinet level ministers;

Whereas prominent alumni of the International Visitors Program include Margaret Thatcher, Anwar Sadat, F.W. de Klerk, Indira Gandhi, and Tony Blair;

Whereas a new configuration of domestic forces has emerged which is shaping global policy and empowering private citizens to an unprecedented degree;

Whereas each year more than 80,000 volunteers affiliated with 97 community-based member organizations and 7 program agency members of the National Council for International Visitors across the United States are actively serving as "citizen diplomats" organizing programs and welcoming International Visitors Program participants into their homes, schools, and workplaces;

Whereas all of the funds appropriated for the International Visitors Program are spent in the United States, and such spending leverages private contributions at a ratio of 1 to 12;

Whereas the International Visitors Program corrects distorted images of the United States, effectively countering misperceptions, underscoring common human aspirations, advancing United States democratic values, and building a foundation for national and economic security;

Whereas the International Visitors Program provides valuable educational opportunities for United States citizens through special "Back to School With International Visitor" programs and events that increase the knowledge of Americans about foreign societies and cultures, and bring attention to international issues crucial to interests of the United States;

Whereas the International Visitors Program offers emerging foreign leaders a unique view of America, highlighting its vibrant private sector, including both businesses and nonprofit organizations, through farm stays, home hospitality, and meetings with their professional counterparts; and

Whereas the International Visitors Program introduces foreign leaders, specialists, and scholars to the American tradition of volunteerism through exposure to the daily work of thousands of "citizen diplomats" who share the best of America with those foreign leaders, specialists, and scholars: Now, therefore, be it

Resolves, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the 60th Anniversary of the International Visitors Program and the remarkable public-private sector partnership that sustains it; and

(2) commends the achievements of the thousands of volunteers who are part of the National Council for International Visitors "citizen diplomats" who for 6 decades have daily worked to share the best of America with foreign leaders, specialists, and scholars.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING U.S. POSITION OF INCREASING WORLD CRUDE OIL SUPPLIES

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 444, S. Res. 263.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 263) expressing the sense of the Senate that the President should communicate to the members of the

Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries ("OPEC") cartel and non-OPEC countries that participate in the cartel of crude oil producing countries, before the meeting of the OPEC nations in March 2000, the position of the United States in favor of increasing world crude oil supplies so as to achieve stable crude oil prices.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution, which was reported by the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment to strike out all after the resolving clause and insert the part printed in italic, as follows:

S. RES. 263

Whereas the United States currently imports roughly 55 percent of its crude oil;

Whereas ensuring access to and stable prices for imported crude oil for the United States and major allies and trading partners of the United States is a continuing critical objective of United States foreign and economic policy for the foreseeable future;

Whereas the 11 countries that make up the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries ("OPEC") produce 40 percent of the world's crude oil and control 77 percent of proven reserves, including much of the spare production capacity;

Whereas beginning in March 1998, OPEC instituted 3 tiers of production cuts, which reduced production by 4,300,000 barrels per day and have resulted in dramatic increases in crude oil prices;

Whereas in August 1999, crude oil prices had reached \$21 per barrel and continued rising, exceeding \$25 per barrel by the end of 1999 and \$27 per barrel during the first week of February 2000;

Whereas crude oil prices in the United States rose \$14 per barrel during 1999, the equivalent of 33 cents per gallon;

Whereas the increase has translated into higher prices for gasoline and other refined petroleum products; in the case of gasoline, the increases in crude oil prices have resulted in a penny-for-penny passthrough of increases at the pump;

Whereas increases in the price of crude oil result in increases in prices paid by United States consumers for refined petroleum products, including home heating oil, gasoline, and diesel fuel; and

Whereas increases in the costs of refined petroleum products have a negative effect on many Americans, including the elderly and individuals of low income (whose home heating oil costs have doubled in the last year), families who must pay higher prices at the gas station, farmers (already hurt by low commodity prices, trying to factor increased costs into their budgets in preparation for the growing season), truckers (who face an almost 10-year high in diesel fuel prices), and manufacturers and retailers (who must factor in increased production and transportation costs into the final price of their goods): Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) *the President and Congress should take both a short-term and a long-term approach to reducing and stabilizing crude oil prices as well as reducing dependence on foreign sources of energy;*

(2) *to address the problem in the short-term, the President should communicate to the members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries ("OPEC") cartel and non-OPEC countries that participate in the cartel of crude oil producing countries, prior to their scheduled meeting on March 27, 2000, that—*

(A) the United States seeks to maintain strong relations with crude oil producers around the world while promoting international efforts to

remove barriers to energy trade and investment and increased access for United States energy firms around the world;

(B) the United States believes that restricting supply in a market that is in demand of additional crude oil does serious damage to the efforts that OPEC members have made to demonstrate that they represent a reliable source of crude oil supply;

(C) the United States believes that stable crude oil prices and supplies are essential for strong economic growth throughout the world; and

(D) the United States seeks an immediate increase in the OPEC crude oil production quotas and not simply an agreement at the March 27, 2000, meeting to lift production quotas at a later date;

(3) the President should be commended for sending Secretary of Energy Richardson to personally communicate with leaders of several members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries on the need to increase the supply of crude oil;

(4) to ameliorate the long-term problem of the United States dependence on foreign oil sources, the President should—

(A) review all administrative policies, programs, and regulations that put an undue burden on domestic energy producers; and

(B) consider lifting unnecessary regulations that interfere with the ability of United States' domestic oil, gas, coal, hydro-electric, biomass, and other alternative energy industries to supply a greater percentage of the energy needs of the United States; and

(5) to ameliorate the long-term problem of United States dependence on foreign oil sources, the Senate should appropriate sufficient funds for the development of domestic energy sources, including measures to increase the use of biofuels and other renewable resources.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee amendment be agreed to.

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

The committee amendment was agreed to.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution, as amended, be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to this resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 263), as amended, was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 2366

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I understand that H.R. 2366 is at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2366) to provide small businesses certain protections from litigation expenses and to limit the product liability of nonmanufacturer product sellers.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I now ask for its second reading and object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the rule, the bill will be read for a second time on the next legislative day.

CIVIL ASSET FORFEITURE REFORM ACT OF 2000

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of H.R. 1658, reported today by the Judiciary Committee.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1658) to provide a more just and uniform procedure for Federal civil forfeitures, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported by the Committee on the Judiciary with an amendment to strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic, as follows:

H.R. 1658

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Civil Asset Forfeiture Reform Act of 2000".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Creation of general rules relating to civil forfeiture proceedings.
- Sec. 3. Compensation for damage to seized property.
- Sec. 4. Attorney fees, costs, and interest.
- Sec. 5. Seizure warrant requirement.
- Sec. 6. Use of forfeited funds to pay restitution to crime victims.
- Sec. 7. Civil forfeiture of real property.
- Sec. 8. Stay of civil forfeiture case.
- Sec. 9. Civil restraining orders.
- Sec. 10. Cooperation among Federal prosecutors.
- Sec. 11. Statute of limitations for civil forfeiture actions.
- Sec. 12. Destruction or removal of property to prevent seizure.
- Sec. 13. Fungible property in bank accounts.
- Sec. 14. Fugitive disentitlement.
- Sec. 15. Enforcement of foreign forfeiture judgment.
- Sec. 16. Encouraging use of criminal forfeiture as an alternative to civil forfeiture.
- Sec. 17. Access to records in bank secrecy jurisdictions.
- Sec. 18. Application to alien smuggling offenses.
- Sec. 19. Enhanced visibility of the asset forfeiture program.
- Sec. 20. Proceeds.
- Sec. 21. Effective date.

SEC. 2. CREATION OF GENERAL RULES RELATING TO CIVIL FORFEITURE PROCEEDINGS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 46 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 982 the following:

"§983. General rules for civil forfeiture proceedings

"(a) NOTICE; CLAIM; COMPLAINT.—
 "(1)(A)(i) Except as provided in clauses (ii) through (v), in any nonjudicial civil forfeiture proceeding under a civil forfeiture statute, with respect to which the Government is required to send written notice to interested parties, such notice shall be sent in a manner to achieve proper notice as soon as practicable, and in no case more than 60 days after the date of the seizure.
 "(ii) No notice is required if, before the 60-day period expires, the Government files a civil judicial forfeiture action against the property and provides notice of that action as required by law.

"(iii) If, before the 60-day period expires, the Government does not file a civil judicial forfeiture action, but does obtain a criminal indictment containing an allegation that the property is subject to forfeiture, the government shall either—

"(I) send notice within the 60 days and continue the nonjudicial civil forfeiture proceeding under this section; or

"(II) terminate the nonjudicial civil forfeiture proceeding, and take the steps necessary to preserve its right to maintain custody of the property as provided in the applicable criminal forfeiture statute.

"(iv) In a case in which the property is seized by a State or local law enforcement agency and turned over to a Federal law enforcement agency for the purpose of forfeiture under Federal law, notice shall be sent not more than 90 days after the date of seizure by the State or local law enforcement agency.

"(v) If the identity or interest of a party is not determined until after the seizure or turnover but is determined before a declaration of forfeiture is entered, notice shall be sent to such interested party not later than 60 days after the determination by the Government of the identity of the party or the party's interest.

"(B) A supervisory official in the headquarters office of the seizing agency may extend the period for sending notice under subparagraph (A) for a period not to exceed 30 days (which period may not be further extended except by a court), if the official determines that the conditions in subparagraph (D) are present.

"(C) Upon motion by the Government, a court may extend the period for sending notice under subparagraph (A) for a period not to exceed 60 days, which period may be further extended by the court for 60-day periods, as necessary, if the court determines, based on a written certification of a supervisory official in the headquarters office of the seizing agency, that the conditions in subparagraph (D) are present.

"(D) The period for sending notice under this paragraph may be extended only if there is reason to believe that notice may have an adverse result, including—

"(i) endangering the life or physical safety of an individual;

"(ii) flight from prosecution;

"(iii) destruction of or tampering with evidence;

"(iv) intimidation of potential witnesses; or

"(v) otherwise seriously jeopardizing an investigation or unduly delaying a trial.

"(E) Each of the Federal seizing agencies conducting nonjudicial forfeitures under this section shall report periodically to the Committees on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Senate the number of occasions when an extension of time is granted under subparagraph (B).

"(F) If the Government does not send notice of a seizure of property in accordance with subparagraph (A) to the person from whom the property was seized, and no extension of time is granted, the Government shall return the property to that person without prejudice to the right of the Government to commence a forfeiture proceeding at a later time. The Government shall not be required to return contraband or other property that the person from whom the property was seized may not legally possess.

"(2)(A) Any person claiming property seized in a nonjudicial civil forfeiture proceeding under a civil forfeiture statute may file a claim with the appropriate official after the seizure.

"(B) A claim under subparagraph (A) may be filed not later than the deadline set forth in a personal notice letter (which deadline may be not earlier than 35 days after the date the letter is mailed), except that if that letter is not received, then a claim may be filed not later than 30 days after the date of final publication of notice of seizure.

"(C) A claim shall—

"(i) identify the specific property being claimed;