

S. RES. 13

Whereas in contrast to the economic prosperity enjoyed by Americans over the past several years, many agriculture-dependent rural economies have continued to experience serious economic hardship;

Whereas independently owned and operated farms and ranches that are integral to the economic and social stability of rural America, but that are relatively less able to withstand economic shock, have suffered disproportionately during this period of ongoing economic distress;

Whereas the contract payments authorized by the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7201 et seq.) increasingly are considered by producers to be inequitable because—

(1) the contract payments are not based on current production, but are instead based on 85 percent of program yields established in 1986 and frozen in 1990;

(2) the contract payments are provided to owners and producers that may no longer be producing the crop on which the contract payments are calculated;

(3) the contract payments are not available to producers of nonprogram crops, including soybeans and other oilseeds, resulting in further inequities and arbitrariness in making emergency farm payments;

(4) the contract payments are not available to owners and producers that did not enter into production flexibility contracts under the Agricultural Market Transition Act; and

(5) the contract payments are made for crops regardless of whether the crops are experiencing low prices;

Whereas despite being promoted as a means of limiting farm program spending, current farm policy necessitated record levels of program spending and emergency assistance packages;

Whereas the previous record of \$26,000,000,000 in direct payments through the Commodity Credit Corporation for fiscal year 1986 during the heart of the farm crisis in the 1980's was eclipsed by direct payments made for fiscal year 2000 by nearly \$6,300,000,000;

Whereas even at these high levels of farm program and emergency spending, the farm economy and the financial condition of farm and ranch families and rural communities continues to decline;

Whereas agricultural producers are extremely frustrated and dissatisfied with the inconsistent criteria for receipt of disaster payments, the unpredictability of the payments, and the inequity of the payments across producers, regions, and agricultural commodities; and

Whereas over the past 3 years, Congress has waited until well into the legislative year before considering and responding to the need for disaster payments and then has justified the use of unnecessarily simplistic and fiscally wasteful payment formulas by claiming that there was inadequate time to devise superior alternatives: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Congress should—

(1) enact a new farm bill during the 1st session of the 107th Congress;

(2) include in the budget resolution for fiscal year 2002 sufficient funds to provide an adequate farm income safety net and eliminate the need for off-budget, emergency spending;

(3) ensure that all farm-related payments are allocated fairly and reasonably and in relation to need; and

(4) provide such additional sums as are necessary to fund other farm bill priorities, such as priorities involving rural development and telecommunication, conservation, research, nutrition, and food safety.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet on Monday, January 22, 2001, to conduct a mark-up on the nomination of the Honorable Mel Martinez, of Florida, to serve as Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

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

NOTICE—REGISTRATION OF MASS MAILINGS

The filing date for 2000 fourth quarter mass mailings is January 25, 2001. If your office did no mass mailings during this period, please submit a form that states "none."

Mass mailing registrations, or negative reports, should be submitted to the Senate Office of Public Records, 232 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-7116.

The Public Records office will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on the filing date to accept these filings. For further information, please contact the Public Records office at (202) 224-0322.

NOTICE—2000 YEAR END REPORT

The mailing and filing date of the 2000 Year End Report required by the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended, is Wednesday, January 31, 2001. Principal campaign committees supporting Senate candidates file their reports with the Senate Office of Public Records, 232 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-7116.

The Public Records office will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on the filing date to accept these filings. For further information, please contact the Public Records office at (202) 224-0322.

INAUGURAL CEREMONY

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the proceedings of Saturday's Inaugural Ceremony be printed in today's RECORD.

There being no objection, the proceedings of the Inaugural Ceremony were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

INAUGURATION CEREMONY, SATURDAY,
JANUARY 20, 2001, 11:47 A.M.

Members of the House of Representatives, Members of the Senate, Justices of the Supreme Court, nominees to the Cabinet, the Governors of the States, and the Mayor of the District of Columbia, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and other distinguished guests assembled on the West Front.

Mr. Martin Paone, Senate Secretary for the Majority, escorted Senator Clinton and Mrs. Gore, accompanied by Mrs. Clegg Dodd, Mrs. Gephardt, and Mrs. Daschle, to the President's platform.

Mrs. Elizabeth Letchworth, Senate Secretary for the Minority, escorted Mrs. Bush and Mrs. Cheney, accompanied by Mrs.

McConnell (Elaine Chao), Mrs. Lott, Mrs. Hastert, and Mrs. Arney, to the President's platform.

Mr. Jay Eagen, House CAO, Mr. Gary Sisco, Secretary of the Senate, and Mr. Jeff Trandahl, Clerk of the House, escorted President Clinton and Vice President Gore, accompanied by Senator Dodd, Representative Gephardt, and Senator Daschle, to the President's platform.

Ms. Lani Gerst, Executive Director, JCCIC, Mrs. Loretta Symms, Senate Deputy Sergeant at Arms, and Ms. Kerri Hanley, House Deputy Sergeant at Arms, escorted Vice President-elect Cheney, accompanied by Senator Lott and Representative Arney, to the President's platform.

Ms. Tamara Somerville, Chief of Staff, JCCIC, Mr. Jim Ziglar, Senate Sergeant at Arms, and Mr. Bill Livingood, House Sergeant at Arms, escorted President-elect Bush, accompanied by Senator McConnell, Senator Dodd, Speaker Hastert, and Senator Lott, to the President's platform.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Everyone, please be seated so we can begin.

Welcome to the 54th inauguration of the President and the Vice President of the United States of America. Today we honor the past in commemorating two centuries of inaugurations in Washington, DC. As well, we embrace the future, this day marking the first inauguration of the 21st century and the new millennium.

America has now spanned four centuries, her promise still shining bright—beginning and present—linked by timeless ideals and faith. The enduring strength of our Constitution, which brings us to the West Front of the Capitol today, attests to the wisdom of America's founders and the heroism of generations of Americans who fought wars and toiled in peace to preserve this legacy of liberty. In becoming the 43rd President of the United States, George W. Bush will assume the sacred trust as guardian of our Constitution. Dick Cheney will be sworn in as our new Vice President. Witnessed by the Congress, Supreme Court, Governors, and Presidents past, the current President will stand by as the new President peacefully takes office. This is a triumph of our democratic Republic, a ceremony befitting a great nation.

In his father's stead, the Rev. Franklin Graham is with us today to lead the Nation in prayer. Please stand for the invocation.

Reverend Graham.

Reverend GRAHAM. Let us pray:

Blessed are You, O Lord our God. Yours, O God, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and Earth is Yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom. You are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from You. You are the ruler of all things. In Your hands are strength and power to exalt and to give strength to all.

As President Lincoln once said, we have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven. We have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity. We have grown in numbers, wealth, and power, as no other nation has ever grown, but we have forgotten God. It behooves us then to humble ourselves before the offended powers, to confess our national sins, and to pray for clemency and forgiveness.

O Lord, as we come together on this historic and solemn occasion to inaugurate once again a President and Vice President, teach us afresh that power, wisdom, and salvation come only from Your hand.

We pray, O Lord, for President-elect George W. Bush and Vice President-elect Richard B. Cheney to whom You have entrusted leadership of this Nation at this moment in history. We pray that You will help them bring our country together so that we