

TVA is responding to this Congressional mandate, the TVA would be required to cease and desist from incurring new obligations or entering into any arrangements for the development or financing of new, additional, or replacement plant, equipment, or capacity. Likewise, during this period the TVA would be required to gain the concurrence of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget and the appropriate Senate and House Committee leaders before undertaking any additional financing or refinancing activities. The legislation specifically provides for the necessary flexibility for the TVA to continue normal operations and fund necessary maintenance activities while complying with this Congressional mandate.

I strongly support the TVA and I recognize its importance to the economic health of several states in the southeastern United States, including my own. Indeed, the TVA is a critical component of the infrastructure that supports the economy of the entire United States. It is my desire in introducing this legislation that the TVA be positioned to meet the challenges of the 21st Century. Introduction of this legislation is the first step to help the TVA achieve that goal.

By Mr. CRAIG

S. 3062. A bill to direct the Secretary of agriculture to conduct a study of the effectiveness of silver-based biocides as an alternative treatment to preserve wood; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, today I am introducing the Wood Preservation Safety Act of 2002. If enacted, this legislation would authorize the Forest Products Laboratory of the U.S. Forest Service to study the effectiveness of silver-based biocides as a wood preservative treatment.

According to silver experts and academics, silver biocides could serve as a viable, safe and cost effective alternative wood preservative. Given silver's long-standing role as an effective biocide, testing should be undertaken to determine silver's suitability as a wood preservative. Thus, I feel it is important to study and fully explore the potential of silver as a wood preservative.

Mining has been an important part of Idaho's history since the late 1800s. It became Idaho's first industry and remains a critical part of Idaho and the nation's economy. Mining in Idaho has supplied the nation with minerals necessary for today's modern lifestyle which many of us take for granted. In 1985, the mines of Idaho's Coeur d'Alene mining district produced their one billionth ounce of silver. The Sunshine Mine was America's richest silver mine, producing over 300 million ounces of silver, more than the entire output of Nevada's famous Comstock Lode. Silver contributes to our quality of life in many ways, and its use as a biocide in wood products is an important application that must be explored.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass legislation that would create a comprehensive research program to test the viability of silver-based biocides for the treatment of wood products.

STATEMENTS ON SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 333—EX- PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE RELATING TO A DIS- PUTE BETWEEN THE PACIFIC MARITIME ASSOCIATION AND THE INTERNATIONAL LONGSHORE AND WAREHOUSE UNION

Mr. HUTCHINSON (for himself, Mr. LOTT, Mr. HELMS, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. BURNS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. BOND, Mr. FRIST, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. HATCH) submitted the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 333

Whereas the ongoing dispute between the Pacific Maritime Association and the International Longshore and Warehouse Union, relating to a collective bargaining agreement, has shut down 29 West Coast ports;

Whereas this dispute has sent harmful economic reverberations far beyond the shipping industry, the West Coast, or even the borders of the United States;

Whereas 7 percent of the Nation's gross domestic product travels through those ports and the flow of goods in and out of those ports is critical to the operation of businesses, farms, and factories, and the business of retailers and consumers, all across the United States;

Whereas the stay of all West Coast transport by sea has already prevented farmers from selling their crops, shut down manufacturing plants, idled trucks and trains, and precluded consumers from purchasing goods;

Whereas, due to the interruption of the flow of commerce caused by the dispute, thousands of persons in the United States have been laid off and are living without a paycheck through no fault of their own;

Whereas the United States is already enduring an economic recession and high unemployment; and

Whereas if the shutdown of those ports continues, the shutdown will present a serious threat to the Nation's safety and health: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. SENSE OF THE SENATE.

It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the Pacific Maritime Association and the International Longshore and Warehouse Union should enter into mediation to resolve the dispute, adopt 24-hour extensions of the expired collective bargaining agreement, and end the current lockout; and

(2) if the Pacific Maritime Association and the International Longshore and Warehouse Union do not reach a settlement or reopen the ports through that mediation during a reasonable period (as determined by the President), the President should appoint a board of inquiry, to begin the emergency dispute-settling procedure under the Labor-Management Relations Act, 1947.

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, today, many of my colleagues have

joined me in submitting a resolution urging the President to invoke the Taft Hartley emergency dispute resolution procedures in response to the complete shutdown of twenty-nine West Coast ports due to a labor dispute. I deeply regret that this legislation is necessary, but the grave economic consequences of the shutdown and the serious ramifications on our country's ability to improve homeland security have made it so.

It is estimated that 7 percent of our Nation's gross domestic product flow through these ports. However, that does not begin to calculate the cost to the workers and families who are and will be affected by this impasse. Transportation of products to West Coast ports has been shut down. The jobs of railroad employees, barge employees, and independent truck drivers, whose livelihoods all depend upon the flow of goods in and out these ports, are being endangered by this dispute. In addition, manufacturers who are unable to move products are facing unexpected storage costs that have already resulted in thousands of layoffs.

In the agriculture sector, the inability to ship grains, vegetables, livestock, and other perishables is having a catastrophic effect on farmers and ranchers, many of whom are already facing consecutive years of drought and economic hardship. The ability to move agricultural products and sell them to foreign markets when prices are best is essential to the health of rural communities across our country. In addition, the inability to move these products off our own domestic market threatens to push commodity and livestock prices even lower. Agricultural producers and marketers have spent millions of dollars to open and develop Asian markets amidst heavy competition from Canada, Australia, and many other countries vying for access. This dispute is threatening thousands of jobs and years of work to increase trade with these emerging markets.

At a time when the country is already experiencing economic hardships, this shutdown is jeopardizing the jobs and livelihoods of thousands of citizens across our country. From auto-workers in Michigan and Missouri to rice and wheat farmers in Arkansas and Kansas, the human cost of this dispute far exceeds the financial and technical issues that have provoked it.

This resolution calls on the Pacific Maritime Association and the International Longshore and Warehouse Union to adopt 24-hour extensions of the expired collective bargaining agreement and end the current lockout while they go through mediation.

It also urges the President to appoint a board of inquiry and begin the emergency dispute settling procedures called for under the Taft Hartley Labor Management Relations Act, 1947, if he determines that mediation has failed.

My colleagues and I have taken this action out of concern for our home states and the safety and health of the

nation. Much of the industry in my home state of Arkansas relies on product import and export, and much of it travels through west coast docks. Arkansas is already feeling the effect of the shutdown, and it is critical that labor dispute be solved before even more damage is done.

Mr. Craig. Mr. President, I rise to commend my colleague, the Senator from Arkansas, Mr. HUTCHINSON, and an happy to join him as an original cosponsor, upon his submission of a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate about the recent shutdown of shipping that has occurred on the West Coast.

We are at war with terrorism. The Senate is now debating action on another front in that war. We are at a critical moment in our economic recovery, when we are eager for that economy to continue to grow, and we want to protect and resume creating good jobs for American workers.

At such a time, frankly, I am at a loss to understand how such a dispute has ever come about in these 29 ports on the West Coast. I would hope the parties involved understand that they risk strangling an estimated 7 percent of our Nation's economy. I would hope they realize the implications a prolonged dispute would have for millions of workers and their families, as well as for our Nation's health and safety.

This shutdown already is hurting agriculture, one of the largest sectors of Idaho's economy. I have been in touch with farmers and ranchers in Idaho. The impact of this shutdown has been immediate and it threatens to be devastating. I know it is affecting other industries as well. We have all heard the estimates that it will cost the Nation's economy \$1 billion a day, but I understand that is the cost in the early days of the shutdown. The harm will grow, and it is something that workers, families, farmers, and employers in Idaho and across the Nation should not be forced to bear.

So, I commend Senator HUTCHINSON for his leadership in the submission of this resolution. I join him in imploring the disputing parties to work with urgency to resolve differences and reach a settlement, while adopting twenty-four extensions of the expired collective bargaining agreement, allowing the ports to reopen, and restoring the full, brisk, efficient flow of American goods to markets overseas.

I also appreciate the fact that the administration already is working to resolve this problem. A Federal mediator has gotten engaged. Now it is time for the Senate to add its voice to the constructive efforts of the administration.

With my colleagues, I call on the disputing parties to consider the good of the country at a critical time; to recognize the responsibilities of a good neighbor to employers and labor across our land; and to come back to the table and come back to work.

SENATE RESOLUTION 334—RECOGNIZING THE ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL OF HONOR

Mr. DASCHLE (for Mrs. CLINTON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 334

Whereas the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, established by the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations in 1986, pays tribute to individuals of various ethnic origins who have distinguished themselves through their contributions to the United States;

Whereas the Ellis Island Medal of Honor has been awarded on a bipartisan basis to 6 Presidents and numerous Representatives and Senators;

Whereas the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations is the largest organization of its kind in the United States, representing more than 5,000,000 family members and serving as an umbrella group for more than 250 organizations that span the spectrum of ethnic heritage, culture, and religion;

Whereas the mandate of the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations is to preserve ethnic diversity, promote equality and tolerance, combat injustice, and bring about harmony and unity among all peoples;

Whereas the Ellis Island Medal of Honor is named for the gateway through which more than 12,000,000 immigrants passed in their quest for freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and economic opportunity;

Whereas the Ellis Island Medal of Honor celebrates the richness and diversity of American life by honoring not only individuals, but the pluralism and democracy that have enabled the Nation's ethnic groups to maintain their identities while becoming integral parts of the American way of life;

Whereas during the 15-year history of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, more than 1,500 individuals from scores of different ethnic groups have received the Medal, and more than 5,000 individuals are nominated each year for the Medal; and

Whereas at the 2002 Ellis Island Medal of Honor ceremony in New York City, individuals from different ethnic groups will be honored for their contributions to the rescue and recovery efforts of September 11, 2001, the war against terrorism, and the enhancement of the Nation's homeland security; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes the Ellis Island Medal of Honor for acknowledging individuals who live exemplary lives as Americans while preserving the values of their particular ethnic heritage.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Friday, October 4, 2002, at 11 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Mr. Philip Merrill, of Maryland, to be president of the Export-Import Bank of the United States.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be author-

ized to meet during the session of the Senate on Friday, October 4, 2002, at 10 a.m., to hold a nomination hearing.

Agenda

Nominees: The Honorable John R. Hamilton, of North Carolina, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Guatemala; Mr. John F. Keane, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Paraguay; and the Honorable David N. Greenlee, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Bolivia.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Friday, October 4, 2002, at 11 a.m., to hold a closed hearing on intelligence matters.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I also ask unanimous consent that Ryan Montgomery, an intern in the Finance Committee staff, be accorded floor privileges for the day.

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

MEASURE INDEFINITELY POSTPONED—H. CON. RES. 401

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Calendar No. 583, H. Con. Res. 401, be indefinitely postponed.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION ADVANCEMENT ACT OF 2002

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to Calendar No. 432, S. 2064.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2064) to reauthorize the United States Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time and passed; that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 2064) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 2064

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