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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. OTTER).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 26, 2003.

I hereby appoint the Honorable C.L. ''BUTCH'' OTTER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend Ed Sears, Pastor, Grace Baptist Temple, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, offered the following prayer:

Eternal God, Father of Nations. We come into Your presence this day asking for Your blessing and Your help. Your Holy Word admonishes us to pray for those in authority over us. Therefore, Lord, we lift the men and women of the 108th United States Congress to You. Remind them of past blessings and present responsibilities. Exhort them to personal integrity and empower them with truth and honor to carry out the awesome task of government.

We would ask also that our President, George W. Bush, be granted the wisdom and ability to lead us in accordance with Your divine plan.

Please, Lord, give protection to the men and women in our Nation's military as they are placed in harm's way. Grant victory quickly. We make these petitions because of Your grace and mercy. In the name of Jesus Christ we humbly pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. KAPTUR led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING THE REVEREND ED SEARS, PASTOR, GRACE BAPTIST TEMPLE, WINSTON-SALEM, NC

(Mr. BURR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURR. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure that I rise today in recognition of our guest chaplain, the Reverend Ed Sears of Winston-Salem, North Carolina. He is a blessing to our community, and it is an honor to have him in Washington and in this House today.

Reverend Sears is the senior pastor at Grace Baptist Temple in Winston-Salem. He has been faithfully serving this congregation of over 1,000 members for the past 22 years. His faithfulness to the ministry and gift of leadership extends into his work as a teacher at the Piedmont Baptist College and Calvary Baptist College. His service on various leadership boards, such as the General Council of Baptist Mid-Missions and his chairmanship of the Board of Trustees of the Baptist World Missionary Outreach Ministries, is only a partial list of his extensive community service.

Reverend Sears has been happily married for 36 years. He is joined today by his wife, Linda, and also by their daughter, Heather.

I want to thank Reverend Sears for his commitment to his ministry and to our community and take this opportunity to welcome him to the United States Capitol.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to have Reverend Sears open the House of Representatives with prayer this morning.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain ten 1-minutes on each side.

FDA STARTING NEW DRUG WAR

(Mr. GUTKNECHT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, a new drug war is starting. The first shots have been fired by the FDA. Those shots are being fired at American seniors. This is a dumb fight, dumbly fought.

The Bush administration, which claims to support open markets, must decide whether it will stand with American consumers or with the new elitist drug lords that run the multinational pharmaceutical industry.

The FDA has decided to use the iron fist of the Federal Government to defend the abusive monopolistic practices of those drug lords. This is a policy and political mistake of historic proportions.

Who is the FDA really trying to protect? Surely Teddy Roosevelt is rolling in his grave.

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RECOGNIZING HELEN HUTT AND HER 75 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Helen Hutt, joining us in our gallery, a distinguished citizen from Ohio. When Helen first began her service to the American Red Cross, Calvin Coolidge was President of the United States, a first-class stamp cost 2 cents, and the first Academy Awards were presented. That was 1928. Since that time, Helen has touched countless lives through her 75 years of service to the American Red Cross.

Helen began her involvement with the Red Cross in 1928 when she became certified to teach swimming lessons. During World War II, she worked in the South Pacific as a ''Doughnut Dolly,'' serving GIs coffee and doughnuts. In the 1950s and 1960s, she organized a ''Learn to Swim'' program for Port Clinton children and the blind. Helen worked as a local Disaster Relief Volunteer during the 1970s, and then volunteered at Magruder Hospital recruiting blood donors and sharing expertise with the Ottawa County Advisory Board. She is still an active volunteer for the Ottawa County district office of the Red Cross.

Throughout her years of volunteerism, Helen has received numerous honors, including the Volunteer of the Year Award for the Ottawa County District, and the highest local award for the Red Cross that it ever bestows, the Clara Barton Volunteer Leadership Award.

Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that this incredible American now is over 90 years of age and she will be receiving her 75-year volunteer pin at the National Red Cross Headquarters here in Washington, D.C., I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating this magnificent American.

Congratulations. We are so very, very proud of you, Helen Hutt.

SIMPLE SAVINGS TAX RELIEF ACT

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, the House will soon mark up tax legislation, including the elimination of dividend double taxation. I propose we also provide tax relief for interest earned from savings in bank accounts. I have introduced the Simple Savings Tax Relief Act, H.R. 1163, which would help all savers, including those in lower-income levels who do not earn corporate dividends.

Like dividend recipients, bank and credit union customers report interest as income to the IRS, increasing their tax burden. Let us not punish those who invest for a rainy day. Let us encourage them.

In 1998, the Joint Economic Committee wrote that exemption of interest from taxation is a significant economic step we should take, and ''such a proposal would primarily benefit the low- and middle-income taxpayers.''

H.R. 1163 would permit a single filer to earn up to $200, $400 for a joint filer, in bank account interest tax-free.

It is very simple: let us help those who are primarily low- and middle-income taxpayers today.

HONORING AMERICA'S SERVICEWOMEN

(Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month, to pay tribute to the dedication and courage of the millions of women who have served in the United States Armed Services.

Since the earliest days of our Nation, women have played an integral part in our military operations, either behind the front lines or in actual combat. As far back as the Revolutionary War, there are stories of women who posed as men so that they could go and fight at the frontline. Others offered their services as nurses. Still others worked to support the war movement by leaving their domestic roles to take on jobs that were necessary to maintain the Nation's economy.

More recently, the role of women in the armed services has greatly expanded. In 1978, women began to be assigned to duty aboard ships; in 1991, women were assigned to aircraft in both the Air Force and the Navy; and by 1994, the ban on women on combat ships was lifted, allowing women greater opportunities in our armed services.

As the war in the Persian Gulf looms ahead, we send our thanks and support to all our members of the armed services. But let us not forget the women and their contributions in this time of need.

ROLE OF THE RURAL EDUCATION CAUCUS

(Mr. REHBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. REHBERG. Mr. Speaker, schools in rural districts face a barrage of problems unheard of in more populous areas. Country schools have continually had to confront the one-size-fits-all mentality of Washington, DC, when it comes to Federal education policy. For rural States like Montana, the sun always seems to set on the Potomac, where policymakers seem to ignore the rest of the map stretching 3,000 miles beyond that river.

In my home State, our schools fight year after year to come up with enough funding to cover the federally mandated Individuals With Disabilities Education Act, IDEA. In just 5 years, the estimated Federal shortfall in IDEA funding has cost my State nearly $93 million, money that larger and wealthier school districts in more populous States can easily afford; but in Montana it is real money that comes out of funds for new teachers, computers, books and Internet access.

Our families in western and rural States deserve the same access to quality education for their children that urban families have. That is why I, along with the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND), the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE), and the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PETERSON), have formed the bipartisan Rural Education Caucus. Together we have come together to devise solutions to the unique problems associated with the business of educating children in rural areas.

INVEST IN CHILDREN, THE FUTURE OF OUR COUNTRY

(Ms. WOOLSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have declared this week Children's Week. Their actions, however, speak louder than their words.

Last week they pushed for a budget that fails children and fails families. The Republican budget that barely passed fell $6.15 billion short for funding title I, the largest source of Federal education aid to disadvantaged youth and the centerpiece of the Bush education reform program. It cut $81 million from programs to improve State and local teacher quality, which was a stated goal of the President's education reform plan.

We must remember, Mr. Speaker, that the biggest challenge facing American families is how to bridge their responsibilities between work and caring for their children, and the budget that passed last week did nothing to help working parents.

Mr. Speaker, if my colleagues want to support children, they will not shy away from promises for our children in favor of big-money special interests. They will invest in children. Children are 25 percent of our population. They are 100 percent of our future.

TRIBUTE TO LANCE CORPORAL DAVID FRIBLEY

(Mr. SOUDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart I stand before you today. Near An Nasiriyah, Iraq, Marine Lance Corporal David K. Fribley, from Atwood, Indiana, and seven of his fellow Marines were killed in the opening march of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Reports of the incident indicate that a

group of Iraqi soldiers approached the Marines under a flag of surrender and proceeded to open fire. It is tragic that Corporal Fribley died. It is outrageous that he was murdered under a white flag.

David grew up in Kosciusko County. There he attended Warsaw Community High School, where he lettered 4 years in football and track and field. A former teacher said of David that he could not think of anyone who worked harder, both on the field and the classroom.

David continued his track career at Indiana State University. After graduating from college in 2001, David moved to Fort Myers, Florida. The tragic events of September 11, 2001, his father said, played a major role in motivating David to join the Marine Corps.

□ 1015

Lance Corporal David Fribley is survived by his parents, Gary and Linda Fribley, who remain residents of Kosciusko County. I ask that my colleagues join me and my fellow residents of the Third District in offering our most sincere condolences to the Fribley family and all who loved David.

DENIAL OF WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP TO TAIWAN IS UNJUSTIFIED

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, in mid-February the World Health Organization began reporting cases of an atypical pneumonia throughout Asia identified as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome. Since then, more than 450 cases, with 17 deaths, have been reported in 13 countries.

As members of the World Health Organization, most of these countries have received assistance in confronting this pandemic, but Taiwan, not a member, has not received any assistance from WHO.

The WHO's refusal to assist Taiwan is unfair not only for the people of Taiwan but for the world at large, given the transnational nature of this outbreak. With a population of 23 million people, Taiwan is larger than 75 percent of the countries that belong to WHO and is prepared to contribute meaningfully to the global health efforts discussed at the World Health Assembly, but without membership or observer status, its delegates cannot even enter the room.

Taiwan has eradicated smallpox and cholera and polio and has achieved infant mortality rates on par with western countries.

Earlier this year, this House passed a bill ordering the State Department to endorse observer status for Taiwan at the World Health Assembly, yet the Bush administration continues to say no. The denial of WHO membership to Taiwan is an unjustifiable violation of its people's basic right to good health.

SUPPORT H. RES. 153, DESIGNATING A NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING FOR OUR TROOPS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, we live in extraordinary times. Never in history has the public been able to experience a war so vividly, watching battles unfold on their television screens as the heroes of our military secure freedom and liberty for the people of Iraq and rid the world of the threat of Saddam Hussein and his weapons of mass destruction.

As these battlefield images can fill us with anxiety, it is now more important than ever to take time to pray for God's protection over our valiant soldiers and that he would grant wisdom, guidance, and strength to our Commander in Chief, President George W. Bush, and his team.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting the proposal of the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN), House Resolution 153, to designate a national day of prayer and fasting. As it is written in the book of Psalms: ''God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.''

May God bless our troops and may God continue to bless America.

TRIBUTE TO WORKERS AT MCALESTER AMMUNITION DEPOT

(Mr. CARSON of Oklahoma asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARSON of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to recognize almost 1,200 constituents of mine whose job is unknown to most Americans. They go to work every day at a 45,000 acre compound the size of the District of Columbia with a sense of pride and patriotism as they do their part to help this country defend our freedoms and fight the war on terrorism.

Ever since October, 1943, the McAlester Ammunition Depot has led our country in the production of ammunitions. Through World War II, the depot employed 8,000 people and produced 325,000 tons of ammunition. During the Korean and Vietnam Wars, the depot employed more than 3,000 workers. Today, this state-of-the-art maintenance and renovation facility for the weaponry of the United States Armed Forces continues to build vital ammo to defend and protect our great country.

These workers, most all of them civilians, come to work every single day with a very deep understanding about the purpose of their job. As one worker who has passed through those guarded gates for the last 14 years stated, ''I have always felt a lot of pride having a job here. But now, when I come through that front gate, I just feel so good knowing that what we do supports the people who are out there really taking care of this country.''

Mr. Speaker, I will close by saying that I am proud and honored that I can call these 1,200 workers my constituents; and at a time when our Nation is at war, let us not forget those men and women in and out of uniform who dedicate their lives so that we can all live in peace and freedom.

LIBERATION FOR IRAQ COMING SOON

(Mrs. MILLER of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, many have questioned whether or not a war with Iraq is just and if the dictatorship of Saddam Hussein is a threat to the world. Well, certainly the events of the last few days have shown just how brutal and how uncaring of human life Saddam and his gang of thugs actually are.

The Geneva Convention requires that prisoners of war be treated with dignity and protected at all times from torture and public humiliation. Just as Saddam has not followed the mandates imposed upon his regime by the cease-fire agreement of 1991 and the United Nations Security Council resolutions, he has now disregarded the Geneva Convention.

The need for our intervention in Iraq is now clearer than ever. If Saddam would so brutally violate international protocol with regard to prisoners of war, just think how badly he has repressed his own people.

This dictator, like countless others before him, will earn his fate.

Now there are reports of a popular uprising of the Iraqi people in Basra against Saddam's tyrannical regime.

I say to the people of Iraq, rise up and join our coalition fighting to secure your freedom. Rise up and embrace your liberation.

Liberation Day is coming soon to the Iraqi people.

TOWN HALL MEETING ON AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, March 28, at 1 o'clock, I shall join the Chicago Urban League, several Chicago land chapters of the NAACP, the National Association of Health Service Executives, the National Alliance of Black School Educators, and others in a town hall meeting to address the need for the continuation of affirmative action as a way of helping to level the playing field for all races and gender groups in employment, education, and upward mobility.

There has been tremendous progress in these areas, but not nearly enough. Therefore, we must continue to move

America towards becoming a land of equal opportunity, which affords to every man and every woman his or her chance, their golden opportunity to become whatever their manhood, womanhood, talents, and ambitions combine to make them.

That is indeed the promise of America.

NOMINEE HELD HOSTAGE

(Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, we live in difficult times, as we all know. Yet, in the other body, the nomination of a brilliant young lawyer, Miguel Estrada, is being held hostage. Today is the fiftieth day of that tragic event, the fiftieth day of holding a man hostage using innuendoes and double standards and fake accusations and, again, double standards. A person who got here at 17, who worked, studied, became a brilliant jurist, worked under 2 presidents, one Democrat and one Republican, who deserves to be on the court, on the bench of this country.

Again, I repeat, he is being held hostage, is being held to a higher standard, a different standard than every other judge that has gone through that illustrious body.

Mr. Speaker, it is a sad day to know that, again, with all of the difficult times and all of the difficult things going on, this one man is not being allowed to have a vote on the other floor.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OTTER). The Chair would remind the Members of the House that they should avoid comments which urge action in the other body.

FCC SHOULD CORRECT BAD DECISION

(Mr. WHITFIELD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to comment briefly on the flawed regulatory decision recently announced by the Federal Communications Commission. The FCC's approach can be deemed as borrowed from what the railroad industry refers to as trackage rights; that is, using another company's property.

Under the FCC rules, competitors are able to pay a bare minimum to use the incumbent phone company's networks. The prices are set using a complicated formula devised by the FCC and administered by State commissions. It is Federal price controls at their worst.

This approach has two negative effects. First, it discourages investment in the U.S. network by incumbent phone companies. Why would you invest if someone else is going to be able to use your property? Second, by deliberately underpricing network access, the FCC has discouraged investment in other networks by other firms. It hurts facilities-based competitors who cannot hope to match the FCC-mandated artificially low rates. Even Wall Street has expressed their dismay at this decision.

Mr. Speaker, this country should be encouraging investment, not discouraging it. We should be creating jobs, not discouraging it. I hope that the FCC will correct this bad decision as soon as possible.

COMMENDING THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI'S CENTER FOR ECOSYSTEM AND SCIENCE POLICY

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the University of Miami for launching its Center for Ecosystem and Science Policy.

This new center, led by its Director, Professor Mary Doyle, will work to ensure that sound environmental decisions are made based on the best scientific knowledge and understanding available. It will combine expertise in government and the environmental sciences in order to positively impact policy creation.

The Center for Ecosystem and Science Policy emphasizes the University of Miami's stance as a first-rate educational institution.

So I highly commend the President of the University of Miami, Donna Shalala, and the Center's Director, Mary Doyle, for taking leadership roles in the field of environmental research and policy.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are requested or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later today.

RECOGNIZING THE SOCIAL PROBLEM OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT, AND SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO ENHANCE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE PROBLEM

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 113) recognizing the social problem of child abuse and neglect, and supporting efforts to enhance public awareness of the problem, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 113

Whereas approximately 3,000,000 reports of suspected or known child abuse and neglect involving 5,000,000 American children are made to child protective service agencies each year;

Whereas 556,000 American children are unable to live safely with their families and are placed in foster homes and institutions;

Whereas it is estimated that more than 1,200 children, 85 percent of whom are under the age of 6 years and 44 percent of whom are under the age of 1 year, lose their lives as a direct result of abuse and neglect every year in the United States;

Whereas this tragic social problem results in human and economic costs due to its relationship to crime and delinquency, drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence, and welfare dependency; and

Whereas Childhelp USA has initiated a ''Day of Hope'' to be observed on Wednesday, April 2, 2003, during Child Abuse Prevention Month, to focus public awareness on this social ill: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) it is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

(A) all Americans should keep the victims of child abuse and neglect in their thoughts and prayers;

(B) all Americans should seek to break the cycle of child abuse and neglect and to give these victimized children hope for the future; and

(C) the faith community, nonprofit organizations, and volunteers across the United States should recommit themselves and mobilize their resources to assist these abused and neglected children; and

(2) the House of Representatives—

(A) supports the goals and ideals of the ''Day of Hope'', which was initiated by Childhelp USA; and

(B) commends Childhelp USA for all of its efforts on behalf of abused and neglected children throughout the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 113.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nevada?

There was no objection.

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 113 offered by my colleague, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH).

House Resolution 113 recognizes the social problem of child abuse and neglect and supports efforts to enhance public awareness of child maltreatment. The resolution is timely and appropriate, as next week begins National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Every year, approximately 3 million reports of possible child abuse and neglect are made to child protective services. According to the most recent report, it is estimated that 63 percent of

victims suffered neglect, 19 percent were physically abused, and 10 percent were sexually abused in the year of 2000. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, 1,200 children died in that same year due to child maltreatment.

Child abuse and neglect have tragic social repercussions. Human and economic costs related to crime and delinquency, drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence, and welfare dependency affect all citizens; and all citizens should seek to break this cycle and give victimized children hope for a brighter future.

This resolution also commends Child Help USA for its efforts on behalf of abused and neglected children throughout the United States. Child Help USA is one of the Nation's oldest and largest nonprofit organizations dedicated to the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect.

Mr. Speaker, their mission is to meet the physical, emotional, educational, and spiritual needs of abused and neglected children.

Child Help USA has also created a National Day of Hope to be observed on April 2, 2003, to focus public awareness on child maltreatment.

□ 1030

National Day of Hope is a time for all Americans to remember the young victims of abuse and neglect by keeping them in their thoughts and prayers and encouraging community involvement to ensure that all appropriate resources are available to assist the abused and neglected children.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution is important and timely in that it draws attention to the need for more public awareness of the problem of child abuse and neglect and supports the goals and ideals of the National Day of Hope.

I would like to thank the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH) for bringing this resolution forward and urge my colleagues to vote in support of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of House Resolution 113, recognizing the social problems of child abuse and neglect and to bring attention to this issue. I also want to commend the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH) for introducing such a timely and important piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, today we call attention to the important fact that in the year 2000 about 879,000 children were victims of abuse and neglect in this country. Of this number, approximately 1,200 children died of abuse or neglect, and 44 percent of those children were under the age of 1 year. It is indeed a disturbing thought that an adult would want to hurt an innocent, helpless child; yet it still occurs daily in our country.

By the United States Congress taking a moment to bring this issue to the floor, we are not only acknowledging that there is a problem, but expressing a concern to help a child in need. I am pleased to report that in the past 7 years, the State of Illinois, my State, has seen a significant drop in its number of abuse cases. There was a 39 percent decrease in the number of cases of children that were victims of sexual abuse, as well as a 45 percent decrease in child abuse and neglect cases.

However, there is always the correlation between the state of the economy and violence. As the economy worsens and the number of unemployed rises, it is likely that we will see the number of crimes also increase. We will see the level of frustration increase. We will see an increase in the number of individuals who will take out their anger and frustration on whoever and whatever is closest to them. Oftentimes, these are innocent children.

We must ensure that crimes towards one's child are prevented as much as crimes towards one's neighbor. The National Institute of Justice reported that maltreatment in childhood increases the likelihood of arrest as a juvenile by 53 percent and as an adult by 38 percent. Therefore, we need to intervene today and every day to keep our children safe and protected before we severely pay for it tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, I again commend the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH) for this thoughtful and timely legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH), the distinguished author of this legislation.

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, let me also, at the outset, begin with a personal note: how pleased I am to have my neighbor from Nevada here managing this legislation on the floor of the House, the first such opportunity he has had. I predict he will have many more opportunities to serve his home State of Nevada and this Nation with great distinction.

Let me also take time at the outset to thank my friend, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), on the other side of the aisle for his support of this resolution, House Resolution 113, a resolution that recognizes the scope of child abuse and neglect and declares support for efforts to raise public awareness of this tragic problem.

Mr. Speaker, in many ways this House Chamber becomes America's town hall. We are able to focus the collective attention of our Nation on vital concerns of the day. While war rages around the globe, while our men and women in harm's way are doing their best to liberate another nation, it is worth noting that here at home we have serious problems; and, indeed, these problems extend to the youngest among us.

Mr. Speaker, homicide is the only major cause of childhood death that has increased over the last 30 years. Think about that for just a minute. In the last 3 decades, while we have made such tremendous strides against childhood disease, a cause of death so brutal as the premeditated taking of another's life continues to be on the rise among our youngest. Mr. Speaker, the tragic fact is, murders of children 5 years old and younger are most often committed by family members through beatings or suffocation.

While we welcome the strides my friend, the gentleman from Illinois, talked about in his home State, Mr. Speaker, I am compelled to come to the floor and talk about the challenges my home State of Arizona confronts. An average of 89 reports of alleged child abuse and neglect are made to Arizona's Child Protective Services each day. Of the over 17,000 reports of alleged maltreatment received from April 1 of 2002 to September 30 of that same year, 60 percent alleged neglect, 32 percent physical abuse, 6 percent sexual abuse, and 2 percent emotional abuse.

My friend, the gentleman from Illinois, touched on it earlier; but it bears repeating: sadly, parents who abuse all too often raise children who become abusers when they become parents. Maltreated children are at a higher risk of arrest at a younger age, with more significant and repeated criminal involvement. They can be expected to commit nearly twice as many crimes as children raised in a healthier environment.

We come to this floor today to recognize this social ill, but to go beyond that, not only to draw the scrutiny of our Nation, Mr. Speaker, to this problem, not only to talk about the width and breadth of the challenge we confront, that approximately 3 million cases of suspected or known child abuse and neglect involving 5 million American children are made each year, but also the sobering speculation and belief among many who study this problem that the actual incidence of abuse and neglect is estimated to be three times greater than the number actually reported to authorities. Mr. Speaker, we move beyond mere statistics to the very real human equation of the desperation confronted by the youngest among us.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, this resolution expresses the sense of Congress that all Americans should keep victims of child abuse and neglect in their thoughts and prayers and urges the faith community, nonprofit organizations, and individual volunteers to recommit and mobilize their resources to assist the victims.

Mr. Speaker, we might also make a personal appeal to those parents who, for reasons of rage or helplessness or, sadly, convenience, reach out almost

reflexively to strike a child. Mr. Speaker, in this place at this time we would ask those parents and those adults to stop and think. Indeed, Mr. Speaker, this resolution urges Americans to seek to break the cycle of child abuse and neglect and to give these victimized children hope for the future.

As was noted earlier, the upcoming month of April is distinguished as Child Abuse Prevention Month. The nonprofit organization Childhelp USA, which I am honored by the fact that it is headquartered in the Fifth Congressional District of Arizona, has initiated the National Day of Hope to focus public awareness of child abuse and neglect. As my colleagues mentioned earlier, this year National Day of Hope is scheduled for Wednesday, April 2.

This resolution also commends Childhelp USA for its efforts on behalf of children and its embracing of the goals of the National Day of Hope.

Lost among all the platitudes about children representing our future is this stunning fact that we cannot ignore: millions of American children are abused and neglected each year. This brutal behavior is so devastating that not only those children, but also our society, are victimized.

The challenge we confront demands the attention and compassionate action of every American. That is why I would urge Members' support for this resolution today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA).

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I first would like to extend my commendation to the sponsor of this resolution, my good friend, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH), who also happens to be the co-chair of our Congressional Native American Caucus. I am very moved by the leadership and the initiative that this gentleman has taken to bring this resolution to the floor for consideration by the Members of this Chamber.

I also would like to thank my good friend, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), as co-manager of this legislation, and the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER) for his management of this proposed resolution.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of House Resolution 113 to recognize the social problems of child abuse and neglect and support efforts to enhance public awareness of the problem. Currently, much of the world is focused on the current global events, and as a Nation we support our troops overseas and pray for their safe return home.

I would also like to express my gratitude to our Committee on Armed Services for their diligence and bravery, as well as to their family members who continue to remain stalwart in support of them.

Mr. Speaker, as we continue to keep abreast of these global events, we must also remember that we have a generation of children who need our support and our protection. Each year, child protective service agencies receive approximately 3 million reports of suspected or known child abuse and neglect. Many of these children are removed from their unsafe home conditions and placed in foster care; tragically, some die as a result of abuse and neglect.

Mr. Speaker, our children require our assistance. They need us to defend their right to provide safe havens for them to grow and flourish. There has been a recognition for the need to get out into the public and educate families regarding parenting skills aimed at rehabilitating the family and preventing out-of-home placement of children.

We have seen a struggle between old, traditional views of childrearing and modern society's views. As a society, it has been important for us to recognize that child abuse and neglect occurs in our community and that we as a collective unit are charged with preventing such abuses. We cannot continue to ignore the problems our children face. Now is the time for us to act to stand up for our children's rights, to report abuse that we see take place, and to get involved.

With all the trials and tribulations that life holds, we owe it to our children to provide them a safe environment while they are young, one where they have the opportunity to grow, to learn, and to live without fear. We can achieve this goal by supporting this resolution and calling on all Americans to participate in breaking the cycle of child abuse and neglect and to give these victimized children hope for the future.

Again, I am always impressed by the eloquence of my good friend, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH), and I thank him for his initiative and efforts to bring this resolution to the floor. I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I will just make two observances in closing. One is to follow up on the comments of Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, that there is a tremendous need for parenting classes and parenting help, for many of our young parents, especially, who have children but not much opportunity to really know about parenting. That is one of the needs that exists and one of the program areas that we need to pay serious attention to.

□ 1045

The other is, people often ask me, are these kind of resolutions of any value? Do they make any sense?

I thought of a story that I heard the other day that a man was walking along the beach, and he saw a silver fish, and he picked it up and threw it in the water. Another fellow walking behind him says, I hate to bother you, he said, but can you tell me what you are doing? He said, well, I am throwing the silver fish back into the water. He said, I do not know why you are doing that. There are so many of them you could never throw them all in, and even if you did all of them in this particular area, there are beaches all over the world, and so you are kind of wasting your time. Do you really think it will make a difference?

The man never answered. He just reached down, threw another fish into the water. Of course, when the fish fall into the water, they oxidate and continue to live, and he said it made a difference to that one, picked up another one, made a difference to that one.

If we only make a difference in the life of one child with this resolution, we have made a difference to that one.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution and thank my colleague from Arizona for introducing it.

The problem of child abuse and neglect is one of the great social ills of our society and must be a major focus of our nation. The statistics are staggering. More than three children die each day as a result of abuse in the home, with 85% of the victims under the age of six. Approximately three million child abuse reports are made each year, and it is estimated that the actual incidence of abuse and neglect is estimated to be three times that of the number reported to authorities.

We all know that the federal government is limited in our ability to combat this problem. It takes the individuals on the front lines in child protective services, law enforcement, and the volunteer community to break the cycle of abuse and neglect, ensuring that the most fragile and innocent among us are protected. We are fortunate that such individuals and organizations exist among us.

In my home county of Fairfax, we are fortunate to have the Childhelp USA Children's Center of Virginia working to combat abuse. Last week, they entered into an agreement with the Fairfax County Police Department, Fairfax County Department of Family Services, Fairfax/Falls Church Community Services Board, Office of the Commonwealth Attorney, Inova Fairfax Hospital for children, and Hispanics Against Child Abuse and Neglect to better integrate our efforts to prevent and respond to child abuse and neglect in Fairfax County. I commend this partnership for their commitment and for their efforts.

We can never appropriately thank or recognize the individuals and organizations that make up this network for the services, compassion, and hope that they provide to children all across our great nation. We can, however, ensure that we work with them and help to provide the necessary resources to ensure that all children have the ability to hope, dream, and achieve their full potential. Together we can break the cycle of abuse that threatens the future of so many of our nation's children.

Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ. Mr. Speaker, I commend the gentleman from Arizona for bringing this critical issue to the floor of the House, and I join him in calling for a Day of Hope during Child Abuse Month. Thank you for your commitment and dedication to addressing this issue that impacts over 5 million children in the United States.

It is also my hope that this will be a year of action by this Congress in working to strengthen our nation's response to child abuse and foster care.

Sadly, as is the case on the Mainland, child abuse and neglect are very serious and urgent problems in Puerto Rico. The twin evils of poverty and substance abuse have combined to conspire against our children and have placed too many of them at risk for abuse and neglect. In 2002, the Commonwealth received around 30,000 complaints of abuse and neglect and nearly 10,000 children went through our foster care system,

Governor Calderon has made this issue a top priority, and, with an additional investment of $12 million in Commonwealth funds, and no additional support from the federal government, doubled the number of social workers in the Family Department, lowered caseloads to 31, and practically eliminated the backlog of complaints. A pilot program to reduce investigation time to less than 48 hours was implemented successfully and is being expanded, and a new inter-agency, multi-service transitional housing center for foster children was inaugurated. We know this is not enough, but we think it is an excellent start, and the Commonwealth will be more aggressive in reaching out and partnering with the community based and church affiliated organizations on the island in order to succeed.

In fact, some of the residential services offered to our foster children are being provided by a variety of community and faith based organizations throughout the Island, such as ''Ave Maria,'' in Bayamón, which is run by priests and shelters children from infancy to five years, and ''Aldea Juvenil,'' in San Lorenzo, a specialized facility for boys with behavioral problems that is run by a local pastor.

Mr. Speaker, as you may know, on the mainland a child in need of foster care is entitled to federal/state assistance for foster care through the Title IV-E program. However, because of statutory restrictions, children in Puerto Rico do not have that same guaranteed access. Our children get care, but once the limit of federal support is reached, it is the Commonwealth alone providing the resources. Even when the Commonwealth has earned a performance bonus for its good work, if it means the so-called cap is exceeded, the Commonwealth is denied the bonus. Just last year a $200,000 adoption bonus payment was denied because of limitations on Title IV-E funds—a restriction that children on the mainland do not have to worry about.

This resolution calls on us to give children hope for the future.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that my colleagues will join with me this year in working to see that Puerto Rico's abused and neglected children are provided the same access to federal assistance during the darkest times of their lives—without the imposition of arbitrary limits that bear no relationship to their actual needs.

If we are able to accomplish this goal, it will get one more positive step in making sure no child living under the laws of our land be left behind.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the gentleman from Arizona for bringing this important issue to the floor of this House and I join with him in urging the resolution's adoption.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today the House considered H. Res. 113, a resolution that recognizes the scope of child abuse and neglect and declares support for efforts to raise public awareness of this tragic problem. I wholeheartedly support H. Res. 113 for several reasons. Approximately 3 million cases of suspected or known child abuse and neglect involving 5 million American children occur each year. The actual incidence of abuse and neglect is estimated to be 3 times greater than then number reported to authorities. This social problem results in human and economic costs due to its relationship to crime, delinquency, drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence, and welfare dependency.

As a child growing up in Indiana, I personally experienced the horrors of child abuse in my own family. Children in abusive homes have very few options to improve their situations. I believe that the public needs to be better educated about the effects of abuse. It is important that children living in abusive homes know that there are people and organizations available to help them. Children shouldn't have to live in fear of abuse. The law should be there to protect them, and when it doesn't we should take steps to ensure their safety.

H. Res. 113 recognizes the need for better public awareness of the tragedy of child abuse. I urge my colleagues to continue to promote awareness of this tragic problem.

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 113 offered by my friend and colleague, the gentleman from Arizona, Mr. HAYWORTH. House Resolution 113 recognizes the social problem of child abuse and neglect and supports the goals and ideals of the National Day of Hope. I am pleased to have the opportunity today to speak on behalf of it.

This resolution addresses an issue that, unfortunately, plagues many of our districts. Each year approximately 3 million reports of possible child abuse and neglect are made to child welfare agencies. As a result, about 556,000 children are unable to live safely with their families at home and are placed in foster care.

Child abuse and neglect is a social problem that affects all Americans. The results of such abuse and neglect have great human and economic costs and are related to crime and delinquency, drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence, and welfare dependency. Therefore, all Americans should strive to break the cycle of child abuse and neglect to give victimized children hope for the future.

Childhelp USA is one of the Nation's oldest and largest nonprofit organizations dedicated to the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect. As part of their efforts to bring attention to this issue, Childhelp USA has initiated a National Day of Hope to be observed on April 2, 2003. A day that is appropriate and timely as April is designated as National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

This day of hope is a reminder to all Americans that they should keep the victims of child maltreatment in their thoughts and prayers, and it encourages community efforts to mobilize resources to assist abused and neglected children.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution is very simple and straightforward. It rightly recognizes the need for more public awareness of the problem of child maltreatment and supports the goals and ideals of the National Day of Hope.

I commend the gentleman from Arizona for his leadership on this matter and urge my colleagues to vote in support of the resolution.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I applaud all the speakers this morning. We have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OTTER). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 113, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1104, CHILD ABDUCTION PREVENTION ACT

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 160 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 160

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1104) to prevent child abduction, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour, with 45 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary and 15 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. No amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order

against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. After passage of H.R. 1104, it shall be in order to consider in the House S. 151. All points of order against the Senate bill and against its consideration are waived. It shall be in order to move to strike all after the enacting clause of the Senate bill and to insert in lieu thereof the provisions of H.R. 1104 as passed by the House. All points of order against that motion are waived. If the motion is adopted and the Senate bill, as amended, is passed, then it shall be in order to move that the House insist on its amendments to S. 151 and request a conference with the Senate thereon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purposes of debate only.

Yesterday, the Committee on Rules met and granted a structured rule for H.R. 1104, the Child Abduction Prevention Act. This fair rule also facilitates resolving the differences between the two bodies by making in order the motion requesting a conference with the Senate after the passage of H.R. 1104.

The Child Abduction Prevention Act sends a clear message to those that prey upon children that, should they commit these crimes, they will be punished. This legislation provides stronger penalties against kidnapping, ensures lifetime supervision of sexual offenders and kidnappers of children, gives law enforcement the tools it needs to effectively prosecute these crimes, and provides assistance to the community when a child is abducted.

It is hard for me to understand how someone could prey on a defenseless child. It is the worst nightmare a parent has to hear, that his or her child has been taken by a stranger and that they do not know what has happened. The agony that they must go through every day is something that no parent should have to endure.

Unfortunately, a family in my area has been living with this agony since Valentine's Day of 2000. Asha Degree has been missing since she left her Fallston, North Carolina, home in the early hours of the morning with a book bag and other items. She was only 9 years old at the time.

It has been quite a while; and, after time, there are torn and damaged billboards seeking information about Asha, and faded yellow ribbons still around town. If this legislation had been enacted earlier, her story may have been very different.

This is a bill that will make a difference. We know that if we can find a missing child within 24 hours after they are abducted, we have the best chance for a safe recovery. To accomplish this, H.R. 1104 authorizes increased funding for a National AMBER Alert Program.

AMBER is an acronym for America's Missing Broadcast Emergency Response. The AMBER program was created in 1996 as a legacy to 9-year-old Amber Hagerman, who was kidnapped and murdered in Arlington, Texas.

States can apply for grants so that information can be broadcast on radio and television. Outdoor boards can be posted; and, in some States, the electronic highway message boards are used so that license plates or vehicles or a description of the child can actually be displayed along the highway. The purpose is to provide a rapid response to the most serious child abduction cases.

Doing this bill will enable all 50 States to implement this life-saving program, and we have seen several examples of it very recently working and saving children's lives.

For the individuals who would harm a child we can ensure that the punishment is severe and that sexual predators are not allowed to slip through the cracks of the system to harm other children. We all know that the recidivism rate of sexual offense is about 70 percent. No excuse for that.

To this end, this legislation provides a 20-year mandatory minimum sentence of imprisonment for stranger abductions of a child under the age of 18, lifetime supervision of sex offenders and mandatory life imprisonment for second-time offenders. We know that, as I said before, that most of them are repeat offenders.

Furthermore, this bill removes any statute of limitations and opportunity for pretrial release for crimes of child abduction and sex offenses. Often times it is years later that the sex offense comes to light out of fear. The child is very afraid to tell.

That is why this bill is so important. Not only does it come to the aid of children after the abduction with the AMBER alert, but it aims to prevent the abduction with the provisions that I just mentioned.

I would also like to note that these provisions have overwhelmingly passed the House in the previous Congress. So there is no reason not to support this overall bill. It is a good bill. I urge my colleagues to support this rule and to support the underlying bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to make a lengthy statement in just a moment, but I think it should be made clear to people who may be watching this on television, listening to this, Members listening to this in their offices or watching it, what is really going on here today. We have a noncontroversial bill, the AMBER alert bill, that was passed unanimously by the Senate both last year and this year; and we have an omnibus bill with all kinds of provisions, the AMBER alert provision being one of those that has now been reported out of the committee.

While this omnibus bill passed the House in the last session, it did not pass the Senate because there are a number of provisions that the Senate finds objectionable. So what we are doing is we are holding hostage the AMBER bill, the stand-alone AMBER bill, because some Members in the other party want an omnibus crime bill with controversial provisions.

If the leadership on the other side would simply let us have a separate vote on the AMBER provisions that have already passed the Senate unanimously this year, those would be passed by this House immediately and then could be sent to the President for his signature, but that is not what is being done today.

What we are doing is considering an omnibus bill with AMBER as one part of it, an omnibus bill that contains some very controversial provisions that indications are the Senate will not accept.

I would paraphrase something that is often said in criminal court: Justice delayed is justice denied. That is basically what is happening here today, is that we are packaging something that we know probably will not be accepted by the Senate, and even if it is accepted, it would be after a long and lengthy discussion and perhaps a conference committee.

Mr. Speaker, I have been a Member of this House for 25 years, and over that time I have been disappointed with the majority leadership on more than one occasion, but I cannot recall anything as utterly indefensible as the fact that the House leadership, Republican leadership, continues to block a very simple, very noncontroversial legislation, to set up a nationwide network of AMBER alerts to help save abducted children. If that sort of obstructionism is not out of touch, then I do not know what is.

Mr. Speaker, the rule for the Child Abduction Prevention Act is fine enough, fine enough that is if one is okay with politics as usual, fine enough if one is okay with delaying help to abducted children. America's children desperately need a nationwide system of AMBER alerts, and passing the Child Abduction Prevention Act through the House will not provide that anytime soon, if ever, and abducted children do not have time to wait any longer for politics as usual.

□ 1100

Mr. Speaker, House Republican leaders have blocked the simple AMBER Alert bill for 6 long months, and I am confident they have carefully constructed talking points to confuse the issue even further today.

So I want to be very clear about what the House is doing. We will be debating in a little bit two separate bills. One is the large, complicated and somewhat controversial bill this rule makes in order, the Child Abduction Prevention Act, H.R. 1104, of the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER). The other bill this bill does not make in order is the simple, noncontroversial AMBER Alert Network, S. 121, which has already passed the Senate unanimously and which could become law tomorrow if Republican leaders would only allow us to vote on it today.

I am not here to oppose the bill of the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER). I am not trying to defeat it. That is why Democrats did not offer a substitute yesterday in the Committee on Rules. All I am asking, as I and others like Ed Smart and Marc Klass have asked for the past 6 months, is for a separate vote on a separate bill, the AMBER Alert Network Act. Why? Because the Senate has passed the simple AMBER bill unanimously; because it has 220 cosponsors in the House, a clear majority; because the President supports it; and because if Republican leaders allow the House to pass it, then it will become law and communities across the Nation will get desperately needed resources to set up and/or strengthen the AMBER Alert systems that save children's lives.

Mr. Speaker, there is no valid reason that the House could not easily pass both bills, the simple AMBER Alert bill and the larger bill of the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) today, but the rule only allows a vote on the bill of the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER), and passing it through the House will not send immediate help to AMBER Alerts any more than passing bankruptcy reform last week did.

Mr. Speaker, that is because the bill of the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) is a large and complicated piece of legislation. It has not even been introduced in the Senate, much less passed by the Senate Judiciary Committee or the full Senate, or reconciled with the House bill in a conference committee. No one knows whether it will ever become law. That is why I tried to bring up the simple AMBER bill by unanimous consent last week, but the Republican leadership refused to allow it, and that is why I tried to amend the rule last night in the Committee on Rules to bring up both bills today on the floor, but Republicans blocked the AMBER bill as a stand-alone bill in a party-line vote last night.

Mr. Speaker, this is about protecting our children. It is not about party politics; so I cannot understand why Republican leaders insist on blocking the simple, stand-alone AMBER bill passed by the Senate. But they have been doing it for 6 months, and they make plenty of arguments. Last night in the Committee on Rules, one Republican member, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS), called it a feel-good, do-nothing piece of legislation. Like me, he is from North Texas where the AMBER Alert was invented, so I was surprised to hear him say that. The gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) said that those of us arguing for a simple, stand-alone vote on the simple AMBER bill are misinformed about the impacts such a bill would have.

Mr. Speaker, with due respect to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER), the family of Elizabeth Smart is not misinformed. That is why they wrote an open letter to the House last week stating, ''As you know, I can't express enough how our children can't wait another day for the National AMBER Alert to be signed into law by President Bush. Please, please, please, pass the stand-alone AMBER Alert legislation now. You cannot comprehend the joy and adulation of having your child return. The AMBER Alert will make this a reality for countless families. Please don't underestimate the immediacy and power of this legislation.''

Similarly, Mr. Speaker, Marc Klass, the father of Polly Klass, was not misinformed when he wrote a letter expressing support for a nationwide network of AMBER Alerts.

And several Republican Members of the other body, including the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, were not misinformed when they urged the House to pass the simple stand-alone AMBER bill. Finally, the President of the United States was not misinformed when he said passing the AMBER bill is critical. All of these people are advocates for passing the simple AMBER legislation. Why? Because they understand that the AMBER Alert system works.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The Chair would ask the gentleman to refrain from quoting Senators unless the quotations are from Senate proceedings.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I did not mention them by name, but I thank the Chair.

Mr. Speaker, they understand that the AMBER system works. It has helped to recover 52 abducted children, five of them in the month of March alone; but it does not work where it does not exist, and the AMBER Alert Network Act will help set up a nationwide network of AMBER Alerts. It provides 10 times the resources to communities that the President has requested for next year.

But the AMBER Alert bill will never become law as long as House Republican leaders are holding it hostage. Over the past 6 months, they have proven their willingness to do just that. As a result, Mr. Speaker, there is only one way to pass the AMBER Alert Network Act through this House, by defeating the previous question today. If we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to bring up S. 121, the Senate-passed stand-alone AMBER bill immediately after the House passes H.R. 1104, the Sensenbrenner bill. That way the AMBER bill can become law and we can immediately begin strengthening AMBER Alerts around the country to save abducted children. The larger bill by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) can continue through the legislative process, hopefully through the Senate, through a conference committee, and back to the House and Senate as a conference report, and maybe one day become law. But abducted children cannot wait that long.

I urge Members, especially the 220 who have cosponsored the AMBER Alert Network Act, to defeat the previous question so we can vote on this bill today and begin helping abducted children.

Mr. Speaker, defeating the previous question will not stop the Child Abduction Prevention Act, but it is the only way to immediately strengthen AMBER Alerts around the country.

In closing, let me quote from a letter that the family of Elizabeth Smart sent to all Members of the House this morning. They write: ''Chairman Sensenbrenner's efforts on this issue are greatly appreciated, and his bill contains several worthy measures. But there is no reason the House can't vote on this bill while also passing the AMBER Alert Network Act that has been delayed for over 6 months.

''So we urge Members of the House who want to strengthen the AMBER Alert to vote 'no' on the previous question today. That is the only way for the House to pass the National AMBER Alert to help protect America's children immediately.

''Our children can't afford to wait another day for the National AMBER Alert so we urge the House not to waste this opportunity to act on the legislation that has already passed the Senate twice.''

Mr. Speaker, I believe the Smart family has stated the case very clearly, so I urge my colleagues to oppose the previous question.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST) is aware, there are technical problems with the stand-alone Senate bill that need to be corrected and that is being done so it can come to the House floor.

My second point is some have suggested that this stand-alone AMBER bill would implement the system. That is erroneous information. It is very misleading because this legislation provides for grants to the States, and the States can apply for that money and then implement the program if they wish to do so. Currently, 38 States have done it, but there is nothing in this bill that says that the other 12 States will be required to implement it

if they chose not to. That is their choice.

I find it difficult to understand how these following things are controversial. We are talking about a 20-year mandatory minimum sentence of imprisonment for abduction of a child under the age of 18, for lifetime supervision of child abductors and sex offenders, for mandatory life imprisonment for second-time offenders. It also removes any statute of limitations for child abduction and sex offenders. It denies pretrial release for those who rape or kidnap children, and it allows local law enforcement agencies to receive funding to establish sex offender apprehension programs, and it doubles the authorization for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children to $20 million a year.

I would think that any parent who has a child abducted not only wants to find that child, but wants to be sure when that happens the maximum punishment is given to the person who did that horrible thing. That is what this omnibus bill does. Again, I recommend that Members support this rule and the underlying bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LINDER), another member of the Committee on Rules.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the rule and the underlying legislation, H.R. 1104, the Child Abduction Prevention Act of 2003.

H. Res. 160 is a structured, but fair, rule designed to ensure that the whole House has the opportunity to consider a number of substantive amendments to improve upon the underlying legislation. The Committee on Rules has worked to be as evenhanded as possible and has permitted the overwhelming majority of amendments that were submitted for review last evening.

Mr. Speaker, it is disheartening to know that the youth of this country are exposed to the harsh realities of life earlier in their lives than ever before. This does not mean, however, that they are better prepared to face those realities. We must do everything possible to protect those who cannot defend themselves.

During this debate, it will be argued that we should simply take up a more limited bill that would be acceptable to the other body. Mr. Speaker, I do not believe that we serve in this House simply to pass legislation acceptable to the other body. We are elected to pass effective legislation that will have the optimum benefits for the people we represent. In this case, we have the opportunity to enact effective legislation that will prevent crimes against children and save lives.

The Committee on Rules heard compelling testimony from the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER), who stated that he wanted to enact the AMBER Alert legislation into law as soon as possible to assist in finding those children who have been taken. But he continued to state that we have a duty not only to pass legislation to find those who have been abducted, but we have an obligation to ensure that this legislation does everything possible to prevent children from being abducted in the first place. H.R. 1104 will achieve this goal by deterring crimes and providing a necessary line of defense. This bill does not impose excessive fines or punishment on convicted individuals; rather, this bill imposes reasonable, bottom-line standards of intolerance for the violation of our laws. I cannot possibly think of a more appropriate situation where strong punishment is warranted.

The desire to protect our children originates not from the mortal law of man, but rather the rules and state of affairs governed by the laws of nature. As a father and grandfather myself, I fully support any reasonable efforts that prevent harm from befalling our children or grandchildren and that punish those who would commit the crimes.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the House pass this rule and pass the underlying legislation.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 30 seconds.

Mr. Speaker, Members watching this must be scratching their heads and saying what are they talking about. The stand-alone AMBER bill has already passed the Senate 92–0. It would pass this House probably unanimously. They should just have a vote on it. Why do we just not have a vote on it; they will not let us have a vote on it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS).

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Last night in the Committee on Rules I put the question to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER): Is it correct that all of the Members of the House of Representatives want an AMBER Alert bill? The gentleman concurred.

Additionally, I asked the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER): Is it not true that the Senate has passed this measure unanimously on two occasions? The gentleman concurred.

Now what is happening here today is a whole lot of measures have been added to the AMBER bill that are in some respects going to slow this process down. The gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER), well-intentioned though he may be, is mindful that the matters that are brought in the legislation that he offers will muddy up the clean AMBER bill passed by the Senate that we could pass here in the House of Representatives and the United States President would sign.

I am asking Members to vote ''no,'' not to stop consideration of the Sensenbrenner bill; but so we can receive our own vote on a clean AMBER Alert.

□ 1115

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 30 seconds.

Let us be clear what is going on here. I may have misunderstood my colleague from Georgia, a member of the Committee on Rules. I think he said that I did not support the larger bill. That is not the case. I support the larger bill, the Sensenbrenner bill; and I intend to vote for it. I just want a separate vote on the stand-alone AMBER provisions so that we can do that today rather than 6 months ago, 6 months later or a year later.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MATHESON).

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas for his leadership on this issue; and I want to strongly associate myself with and endorse all the remarks he has made in this debate today. I, too, will vote for the underlying bill, the omnibus bill, but I cannot believe that we are in the circumstance we are in right now.

I come from Salt Lake City. The Smarts are my constituents. We had a miracle occur in Utah a couple of weeks ago. It happened based on the principles of AMBER Alert, where information was disseminated to the public, and the public was looking for the perpetrators, and they were found.

How can we let this delay any longer? Every day we delay is another opportunity lost, perhaps; and how do we place the value of even one, just one time when we could find a child after being abducted before that child was harmed?

I think that, as we look at this debate, it is important to note that the Senate passed this bill unanimously. A majority of the House of Representatives in both parties has signed on as cosponsors to the comparable legislation in the House. If it comes up for a vote, I cannot imagine anyone not supporting this. We are getting caught up in another important piece of legislation that, as I said, I would support, but it is going to take time for that legislation to become law. That is the fact. If we separate out a stand-alone AMBER Alert vote in the House, that can become law very quickly. That is the issue at hand today. That is why I urge all my colleagues to vote ''no'' on the previous question. Let us get this bill out on the House floor.

I cannot understand why this has become partisan. This should not be a partisan issue, but the leadership seems to not want to allow a vote on this. It happened in the last session of Congress after the Senate passed it unanimously. It is happening again now. It is time for us to put that aside. This is too important of an issue. We all care about this so much. Again, I urge my colleagues to defeat the previous question.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would like to note that there currently is $12.5 million in the system already for States who wish to implement AMBER Alert systems.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 30 seconds. I thank the gentlewoman from North Carolina for pointing out that, on an administrative basis, there is $12 million that has been set aside. Of course, this or some subsequent administration could withdraw that money, could terminate the program if it does not become permanent statutory law. We know this administration is under great budgetary pressures because of the large deficit that they have run up, and we do not want to risk someone in the administration waking up tomorrow and deciding that they cannot afford to spend this money for the AMBER Alert. So we want to put it in statutory law where they will have to spend it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR).

(Mr. OBERSTAR asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OBERSTAR. A ''no'' vote, Mr. Speaker, on the previous question will allow the House to vote on both the bill reported by the committee and the clean AMBER Alert bill passed by the Senate which can then go immediately to the President for his signature.

I have heard the claim that the amendment on AMBER Alert developed by our Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure shows that there are, quote, serious flaws in the AMBER Alert provision in the Senate bill. That is simply not the case. I support our committee's amendment, but I believe the original provision is workable and could be the basis for prompt implementation of AMBER Alert as it has been initiated by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

The original AMBER Alert provision in the House and Senate bills authorized the Secretary of Transportation to make grants to develop a program in general terms. The amendment our committee adopted made two changes: First, it described the concepts of the program and the purposes for which grants would be made in very specific terms to track the criteria included in the DOT announcement of its AMBER Alert grants issued February 12 of this year. Secondly, the amendment changed the Federal share.

These are good changes, a good provision in the amendment, but I also believe that if the original language is adopted, DOT could go ahead with the program announced on February 12 because the specific criteria for DOT's program fall within the general criteria of the Senate bill. DOT would not have to redo its criteria. I would be supportive of prompt passage of the Senate bill followed by further proceedings on the House bill, to include the technical changes in the AMBER Alert. We can do that at some other time. It is not necessary now. We do not have to gild the lily, if you will.

A ''no'' vote on the previous question will allow consideration of both the committee bill and the Senate-passed bill. Let us get on with the substance of this issue.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would just make the comment, Mr. Speaker, that there is also an additional $2.5 million in the 2004 budget that just passed the House for AMBER Alert.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT).

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I call on the House to immediately turn to what we know as the Frost-Dunn National AMBER Alert Network Act. This legislation would make $25 million available to State and local entities for highway signage, for education, for training programs. It would make AMBER Alert a national program. AMBER Alert works. It should be a national program.

This legislation has 220 cosponsors. We are all influenced by the evidence that this works with more than 52 abducted children recovered through AMBER Alert-like processes, five here in the month of March alone.

As my colleague from Texas said, anyone who is watching this debate must wonder what in the world is going on. We have the opportunity to pass a clean bill for AMBER Alert to become law. We had this opportunity last fall. At the time I got in some political trouble in my home State for saying this bill is designed to prevent AMBER Alert from becoming law, and it is not very constructive to say I told you so, but in fact 6 months have passed and when AMBER Alert could have been law on a national scale last fall, it still is not.

The reason is, the other side here insists on putting other things into the bill. These might be controversial. At least they are complicated and serious issues that deserve to be aired and debated, such things as expanding the death penalty, increasing mandatory sentences, criminalizing traveling with a criminal intent or a perceived intent, two strikes and you're out for certain kinds of legislation, expanding wiretap authority, eliminating the statute of limitations in some circumstances, eliminating pretrial release in some circumstances.

I think any Member of the House, if they would speak objectively, would have to say that some or all of these provisions deserve thorough airing. They are serious matters. They should not just be stuck into another bill, and they certainly should not be put into this bill that is urgent that we pass now.

We all celebrated with the Smart family, Edward and Lois Smart, when their daughter Elizabeth was returned to them. Just a few days ago, the Smart family wrote to Members of Congress and said:

''As you know, we can't express enough how our children can't wait another day for the national AMBER Alert to be signed into law. Please, please, please, please, pass the stand-alone AMBER Alert legislation now.''

I could not agree more with the Smart family, Edward, Lois and Elizabeth. We have the opportunity to do it. We can do it today. The President will sign it in a matter of days, I am certain.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would just like to remind people that on these bills that are so controversial, they have been vetted, because on the lifetime supervision for sex offenders, the vote was 409–3; on the two strikes and you're out, the vote was 382–34; on the Child Sex Crime Wiretapping Act, it was 396–11; on the sex tourism bill, it was 418–8; and the Child Abduction Prevention Act was 390–24. Hardly controversial.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

It was once observed many years ago in the pre-television age that there are two things that you do not want to see happen. One is the making of sausage and the other is the making of legislation. But, of course, now we see the making of legislation on television; and I would suggest that what the other side is doing today is giving sausage-making a bad name.

It is very clear that this legislation could become law in the next couple of days if they would just let it go, just let us have a separate vote on it. But they are not willing to do so.

My colleague from North Carolina cited the votes in the House for various provisions in this bill, other provisions. Of course those are all true, but the point is that they did not pass the Senate. They did not pass the other body. While they may be very popular in the House, that does not mean that the other body is going to take them all in one package with a little bow around them. They would not do it in the last Congress, and there is no real reason to believe they would do it anytime soon in this Congress. So all we are asking is a vote separate, a stand-alone vote just on the national AMBER network provisions which the other side, unfortunately, in this rule does not give us.

Mr. Speaker, if the previous question is defeated, I will offer an amendment to the rule. My amendment will provide that, immediately after the House passes the Child Abduction Prevention Act, it will take up the Senate-passed version of the AMBER Alert legislation. The Senate bill is identical to its House counterpart, H.R. 412, which has over 220 cosponsors.

The Senate passed S. 121 by a unanimous vote of 92–0 on January 21 of this

year. All that stands in the way of a presidential signature on this legislation is a clean vote by the House. That is what my amendment will allow us to do.

I am sure most of us cannot imagine the horror of having a child kidnapped. Research has shown that most kidnapped children are killed within 3 hours of their abduction. In these terrible, terrible instances, it is absolutely crucial that information be disseminated immediately so that these children can be rescued. AMBER programs in 39 States have already been credited with saving 31 lives.

It is hard to put into words the collective joy that this Nation felt 2 weeks ago when Elizabeth Smart was found alive and returned to her loving family. Let us help more families celebrate the joy of the safe return of a kidnapped child and not the sorrow of a tragic ending. Let us pass the Senate AMBER bill now and send it to the White House immediately.

Let me make very clear that a ''no'' vote on the previous question will not stop consideration of the Child Abduction Prevention Act. A ''no'' vote will allow the House to vote on H.R. 1104 and on S. 121 as well. However, a ''yes'' vote on the previous question will prevent the House from passing the clean AMBER bill and getting it to the President's desk as soon as possible. I urge a ''no'' vote on the previous question.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the amendment that I would offer be printed in the RECORD immediately before the vote on the previous question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, again, I have been in this House for 25 years, and I simply do not understand what the other side is doing today. It makes no sense. It is indefensible. Let this legislation come to a vote and let it come to a vote today and be sent to the President.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I also agree AMBER Alert needs to be passed, but I think it is just as important that there be punishment for the abductors of these children. Because any parent is thankful to get their child back, but they do not want that person out on the street so they can do it again, and 70 percent of these people do it again.

The material previously referred to by Mr. FROST is as follows:

At the end of the resolution add the following new section:

SEC.____. Immediately after disposition of the bill H.R. 1104, it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the bill (S. 121) to enhance the operation of the AMBER Alert communications network in order to facilitate the recovery of abducted children, to provide for enhanced notification on highways of alerts and information on such children, and for other purposes. The bill shall be considered as read for amendment. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the Chairman and ranking Minority Member of the Committee on the Judiciary; and (2) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

□ 1130

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for electronic voting, if ordered, on the question of adoption of the resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 218, nays 198, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 86]

YEAS—218

Aderholt
Akin
Bachus
Baker
Ballenger
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bass
Bereuter
Biggert
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Bradley (NH)
Brady (TX)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Burgess
Burns
Burr
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Chocola
Coble
Cole
Collins
Combest
Cox
Crane
Crenshaw
Cubin
Culberson
Cunningham
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeLay
DeMint
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Doolittle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Ehlers
Emerson
English
Everett
Feeney
Ferguson
Flake
Fletcher
Foley
Forbes
Fossella
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gingrey
Goode
Goodlatte
Goss
Granger
Graves
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Gutknecht
Hart
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Hensarling
Herger
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hostettler
Houghton
Hulshof
Hunter
Isakson
Issa
Istook
Janklow
Jenkins
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (MN)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline
Knollenberg
Kolbe
LaHood
Latham
LaTourette
Leach
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas (OK)
Manzullo
McCotter
McCrery
McHugh
McInnis
McKeon
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Murphy
Musgrave
Myrick
Nethercutt
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nunes
Nussle
Osborne
Ose
Otter
Oxley
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Platts
Pombo
Porter
Portman
Pryce (OH)
Quinn
Radanovich
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Renzi
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Saxton
Schrock
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shuster
Simmons
Simpson
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Sweeney
Tancredo
Tauzin
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thomas
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Toomey
Turner (OH)
Upton
Vitter
Walden (OR)
Walsh
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (AK)

NAYS—198

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Alexander
Allen
Andrews
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Ballance
Becerra
Bell
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brown (OH)
Brown, Corrine
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Cardoza
Carson (IN)
Carson (OK)
Case
Clay
Clyburn
Conyers
Cooper
Costello
Cramer
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (TN)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Deutsch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dooley (CA)
Doyle
Edwards
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Ford
Frost
Gonzalez
Gordon
Green (TX)
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hoeffel
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley (OR)
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
John
Johnson, E.B.
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy (RI)
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Kleczka
Kucinich
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Lynch
Majette
Maloney
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Michaud
Millender-McDonald
Miller (NC)
Mollohan
Moran (VA)
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Rodriguez
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sabo
Sanchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sanders
Sandlin
Schakowsky
Schiff
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sherman
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Spratt
Stark
Stenholm
Strickland
Stupak
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor (MS)
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Turner (TX)
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velazquez
Visclosky
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Wexler
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn

NOT VOTING—18

Beauprez
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Buyer
Davis (FL)
Emanuel
Frank (MA)
Gephardt
Hall
Harris
Hyde
McCarthy (MO)

Miller, George	Pitts	Wamp
Moore	Putnam	Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD) (during the vote). Members are advised there are 2 minutes remaining to vote.

□ 1151

Mr. FORD, Mr. BECERRA and Ms. ESHOO changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Mr. PETRI changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, on roll-call No. 86, I was inadvertently detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING AND SUPPORTING GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL RUNAWAY PREVENTION MONTH

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 57) recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of ''National Runaway Prevention Month''.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 57

Whereas the prevalence of runaway and homeless situations among youth is staggering, with studies suggesting that between 1,300,000 and 2,800,000 youth live on the streets of the United States each year;

Whereas running away from home is widespread, with 1 out of every 7 youth in the United States running away from home before the age of 18;

Whereas runaway youth most often are youth who have been expelled from their homes by their families, physically, sexually, and emotionally abused at home, discharged by State custodial systems without adequate transition plans, separated from their parents through death and divorce, too poor to secure their own basic needs, and ineligible or unable to access adequate medical or mental health resources;

Whereas effective programs supporting runaway youth and assisting youth and their families in remaining at home succeed because of partnerships created among families, community-based human service agencies, law enforcement agencies, schools, faith-based organizations, and businesses;

Whereas preventing youth from running away from home and supporting youth in high-risk situations is a family, community, and national priority;

Whereas the future well-being of the Nation is dependent on the opportunities provided for youth and families to acquire the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary for youth to develop into safe, healthy, and productive adults;

Whereas the National Network for Youth and its members advocate on behalf of runaway and homeless youth and provide an array of community-based supports that address their critical needs;

Whereas the National Runaway Switchboard provides crisis intervention and referrals to reconnect runaway youth to their families and to link youth to local resources that provide positive alternatives to running away from home; and

Whereas the National Network for Youth and National Runaway Switchboard are cosponsoring National Runaway Prevention Month, during the month of November, to increase public awareness of the life circumstances of youth in high-risk situations and the need for safe, healthy, and productive alternatives, resources, and supports for youth, families, and communities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives recognizes and supports the goals and ideals of ''National Runaway Prevention Month''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 57.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Tennessee?

There was no objection.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 57, introduced by my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from the City of New York (Mr. ISRAEL), recognizes and supports the goals and ideas of National Runaway Prevention Month.

Mr. Speaker, we all want every child in America to grow up in a safe, loving home and to realize his or her full potential in life. However, the plight of children who run away from their homes continues to plague American families. Sadly, the factors that prove to increase the chances that children will leave their homes seem so preventable. These factors include drug and alcohol abuse by a family member, severe neglect or mistreatment, and serious family unrest. I remember hearing after one of the school shootings a couple of years ago the national head of the YMCA on the CBS national news who said children were being neglected in this country like never before.

Even in this compassionate Nation, the challenges that today's youth face are many. But so too are the responsibilities that all Americans have to be aware of the conditions that encourage children to run away from home, and to address those conditions where they exist.

Hopefully, all Americans will pay more attention to the serious problem of runaway children. We can each act to enrich the lives of children in our communities by volunteering at a local school, or in a child-mentoring program, or in a faith-based organization that works with children or families. And in the most unfortunate cases in which children have left their homes, for whatever reason, it must be a priority of all Americans to work together to reunite parents with their runaway children.

Since nothing is more important than the safety and stability of the lives of our Nation's children, I urge all Members to support the adoption of House Resolution 57.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. ISRAEL) for introducing this worthwhile measure.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1200

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of H. Res. 57, a bill recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of National Runaway Prevention Month, and I commend the gentleman from New York (Mr. ISRAEL) for its introduction.

Each year, more than 1 million teenagers run away in the United States, a rate of more than 1 every minute. Many of these young people leave their homes to escape abuse and neglect or because their parents could not or would not meet their basic needs for food, shelter, and a safe, supportive home environment.

While on the streets, America's children are vulnerable and may be exploited by drug dealers or become victims of crime or violence.

To survive, runaways may resort to shoplifting or prostitution to earn money for food and clothing. Medical conditions may go untreated or become aggravated by neglect, and those who drop out of school threaten their chances for economic independence.

The National Runaway Switchboard, which was founded by a group of Chicago agencies in 1971, gives help and hope to youth and their families by providing nonjudgmental, confidential crisis intervention and local and national referrals through a 24-hour hotline. The NRS, along with the National Network for Youth, are cosponsoring National Runaway Prevention Month during the month of November to increase awareness of the life circumstances of youths in high-risk situations and the need for a safe haven for these youths.

I also want to commend the Chicago public school system, the Chicago Board of Education for the work that it does of providing education for homeless children without their having to go through lots of changes in terms of identification of where they are and where they come from. This resolution supports NRS and NN4Y in their efforts to create National Runaway Prevention Month. I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 57 and the runaway children it will help.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT).

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleague, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ISRAEL) in strong support of a resolution recognizing the goals and ideals of Runaway Youth Prevention Month, which is being sponsored by the National Network For Youth and the National Runaway Switchboard.

Within the last year, a number of highly publicized child abductions focused the attention of Americans on the plight of exploited and abducted children and the pain and agony suffered by the families left behind. Recognizing the serious threat that faces our children every day as they travel to and from school and play with friends in parks and neighborhoods, President Bush, in October of last year, convened a conference on missing, exploited, and runaway children. Again, the main focus was on abducted and exploited children, and rightly so. One child abduction is one too many.

But let us put the problem of child abductions into perspective. Five times as many children run away as are abducted in this country, and one runaway child is also one too many. There are approximately 1.3 million young Americans on the street every day as a result of running away and/or homelessness. One in seven children between the ages of 10 and 18 will run away. Some will return within a few days, while others will remain on the streets and never return. And each year, assault, illness, or suicide will take the lives of 5,000 runaway youth. That is 5,000 too many.

There are many reasons why children run away from home. Some are expelled from their homes by their families or separated from their parents because of death or divorce. As much as violence is involved in the abduction of a child, so too does physical, sexual, and emotional abuse at home often cause a child to run away. Having run away, these youth are now homeless, too poor to secure their own basic needs and often ineligible or unable to access medical or mental health resources.

Many runaway youth also have difficulty obtaining an education because they are homeless. Being a runaway or being without a home should not mean being without an education. Yet that is what homelessness means for far too many of our poor and runaway children and youth today.

Congress recognized the importance of educating homeless and runaway youth when it enacted in 1987 the McKinney Education program. But despite the progress made over the past decade, we know that homeless children continue to miss out on what is often the only source of stability and promise in their lives: school attendance.

That is why in the 107th Congress I introduced the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act, which was included in the No Child Left Behind Act that became law at the beginning of 2002.

By incorporating the innovative provisions contained in the legislation, the No Child Left Behind Act strengthened the McKinney program, ensuring that homeless or runaway children are immediately enrolled in school when they desire an education. That means no red tape, no waiting for paperwork, and no bureaucratic delays. A school liaison helps runaway or homeless youth make certain decisions about their education and, upon enrollment, ensures that they have access to the special assistance and services available to runaway and homeless youth.

This is only one small way in which more is being done to help children who are runaways or who are homeless. There are many others, individuals and organizations, who are doing whatever they can to assist America's runaway youth by providing food, shelter, clothing, and counseling. Others are working with families to prevent a child from running away in the first place, and still others are intervening and advocating on behalf of children and giving them options other than running away.

One such organization is the National Runaway Switchboard, which provides crisis intervention and referrals to reconnect runaway youth with their families and to link young people to local resources that provide positive alternatives to running. I am compelled to call to the attention of my colleagues, just as the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) did, this important resource because it originated in Chicago.

Founded by a group of Chicago agencies, the National Runaway Switchboard was established in 1971 to provide comprehensive crisis intervention services for young people in the Chicago area. It was conceived as a centralized organization with free, 24-hour services, expertise in all youth-related issues, and as an information clearinghouse.

In 1974, it became a national resource and now is the federally designated national communication system for runaway and homeless youth. The Switchboard is still available 24 hours a day and fields more than 100,000 calls each year from the Nation's runaway and homeless youth; and through a partnership with Greyhound, the National Runaway Switchboard reunited approximately 1,000 families each year.

The National Runaway Switchboard, the National Network for Youth, an organization that my colleague, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ISRAEL), will highlight, I am sure, have designated November as National Runaway Prevention Month. The purpose of this month is to call attention to the problem, its causes and impacts, and all of those organizations and services that exist to help both runaways and their families.

I want to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. ISRAEL) for introducing this resolution. It has been an honor and a privilege to work with him in the last Congress, and now in this Congress, to bring this issue to the forefront. It is fitting for Congress to endorse the goals and ideals of National Runaway Prevention Month and to highlight those organizations that work so hard to help the youth of America who have left or who are seriously considering leaving their homes for a dangerous and uncertain life on the street.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the author of this resolution, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ISRAEL).

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time, and I also thank the distinguished gentlewomen from Illinois for her continued bipartisan leadership and compassion and concern on the issue of runaways.

The gentlewoman and I introduced this bill in February, 2003.

The National Network for Youth and the National Runaway Switchboard have designated November as National Runaway Prevention Month because many of the causes of runaways can be successfully addressed before the problem emerges. Unfortunately, many children do not realize that there are resources available to them, and they choose to run away because they think that there are no other options.

During National Runaway Prevention Month, the National Network for Youth and the National Runaway Switchboard publicizes the realities that runaways face on our streets. During this month, parents are reminded to keep communication with their children open. During November, the two organizations will reinforce the message that setting aside regular time for planned family activities is just critical.

These organizations also reach out to youth to educate them about how they can communicate more effectively with their parents. Young people can learn the techniques needed to adequately express their feelings. These organizations have the resources that can show youth that there are alternatives, which include counseling to address the unhappiness and a myriad of social services and youth groups.

The two main goals of National Runaway Prevention Month are to increase awareness of issues facing runaways and to educate the public about their role in preventing youth from running away.

Community programs in my district such as the Sanctuary Program in Huntington provide a safe haven for youth. They teach youth the value of trusted friends, family, adults, clergy, professionals. They teach teens how to listen, how to understand, and how to communicate.

Some people run away because of physical or sexual abuse in their

homes. In these cases, youth should know that there are options. They do not have to run and live on the streets. They can make the abuse stop. They can get counseling, they can continue their education, they can remain fully contributing members of society. There are alternatives. We need to educate our youth as to where those alternatives are.

That is what this bill helps do. The National Network for Youth and the National Runaway Switchboard use the month of November to publicize their efforts and educate people about those alternatives. National Runaway Prevention Month provides a vital service in informing both at-risk youth and their parents that communication is essential. This resolution before us demonstrates that the House of Representatives recognizes the service that these organizations provide.

I was very proud to introduce and cosponsor this resolution with the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT), and I urge the House to join us in passing it today so that we may save families and save lives.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I would just again commend the gentleman from New York (Mr. ISRAEL) and the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) for the introduction of this resolution and the work that they have done on it. It is an important one.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I will simply close by saying that I would also like to commend the gentleman from New York (Mr. ISRAEL) and the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT).

The scope or magnitude of this problem is simply staggering. The gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) mentioned that there are 1.3 million children on the streets, either because of running away or because of homelessness. Probably the most conservative study I have seen on this says there are a minimum of 450,000 children who run away from homes all across this Nation each year.

As I mentioned in my opening statement, I was so amazed when I heard, as I was driving to the airport one afternoon here in Washington, I heard on the CBS National Radio News that the national head of the YMCA said children are being neglected in this country today like never before. Unfortunately, children have more material wealth today than probably ever before, but there are also many, many, many children who are growing up without the love or discipline that they had in past years or, perhaps because of broken homes or parents working long hours, they are not getting the attention that they need and deserve.

I have said before that children today would be far better off with a few less toys and designer fashions and another brother or sister, or certainly more attention from their parents.

So this resolution is a small, but important, step in trying to do something about a very serious national problem; and I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 57.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1215

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR CELEBRATION IN 2004 OF 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF GRAND EXCURSION OF 1854

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 44) to express support for the celebration in 2004 of the 150th anniversary of the Grand Excursion of 1854.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 44

Whereas reaching the shores of the Mississippi River represented a major milestone for the westward expansion of the system of railroad infrastructure that began on the East Coast in the 1830s;

Whereas in 1854 the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad became the first railroad to reach the Mississippi River and that achievement was celebrated with a combined railroad and riverboat trip known as the ''Grand Excursion of 1854'';

Whereas the Grand Excursion of 1854 began in Chicago with a gathering of more than 1,000 dignitaries from professions encompassing the fields of government, education, business, journalism, and the arts, and included most prominently former United States President Millard Fillmore;

Whereas the excursion party of 1854 traveled from Chicago, Illinois, to Rock Island, Illinois, by train and then proceeded by boat from Rock Island to the present-day twin cities of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and St. Paul, Minnesota;

Whereas the Grand Excursion of 1854 is credited both with bringing the upper Mississippi Valley into the national spotlight and with solidifying Chicago's role as a major transportation hub;

Whereas communities located on the 419 mile stretch between Rock Island and Minneapolis are investing more than $5,000,000,000 in recreational, commercial, and environmental improvements to prepare for the celebration of the Grand Excursion in 2004;

Whereas an educational program in Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Minnesota will bring the history of the Mississippi River to life for thousands of students from kindergarten through 12th grade and will focus on the recreational, environmental, and commercial importance of the river;

Whereas the Grand Excursion celebration of 2004 will establish a series of permanent exhibits throughout the upper Mississippi River, recognizing the achievements of the many communities and celebrating the history of the Mississippi River;

Whereas the Grand Excursion, through its local, regional, national, and international marketing programs and initiatives, will communicate to the world the incredible attributes of the upper Mississippi River, and will invite hundreds of thousands of visitors to the region to celebrate;

Whereas the National Park Service, along with other Federal, State, and local agencies and many other interested groups, is preparing activities to celebrate the sesquicentennial of the Grand Excursion in 2004, to educate local residents and visitors about the attributes of the river, and to commemorate the occasion by establishing future traditions that will improve community connections to the river; and

Whereas Grand Excursion, Inc. is organizing and coordinating the celebration in 2004 of the 150th anniversary of the Grand Excursion of 1854: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) expresses its support for the work of all the Federal, State, and local entities, and the work of all interested groups that are preparing sesquicentennial activities to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Grand Excursion of 1854;

(2) expresses its support for the events to be held in observance of the Grand Excursion of 1854 in Chicago, Rock Island, Moline, and Galena, Illinois, in Davenport, Clinton, and Dubuque, Iowa, in Prairie du Chien and La Crosse, Wisconsin, in Wabasha, Winona, Red Wing, Saint Paul, and Minneapolis, Minnesota, and in many other communities during the sesquicentennial observance; and

(3) calls on the President of the United States, the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Defense, the Assistant Secretary of the Army, the Director of the National Park Service, the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, other public officials, and the citizens of the United States to support, promote, and participate in the many sesquicentennial activities being planned to commemorate the Grand Excursion of 1854.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the concurrent resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Tennessee?

There was no objection.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 44, introduced by our distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH), expresses support for the celebration in 2004 of the 150th anniversary of the Grand Excursion of 1854.

Mr. Speaker, during the summer of 1854, the Chicago Tribune sponsored a trip for around 1,000 well-regarded east coast journalists, artists, businessmen and others to visit the great Midwest.

The Tribune wanted to expose this influential group to American culture west of the east coast.

These people traveled through Chicago and on to Rock Island, Illinois, by train, and then boarded a steamboat to head to the Twin City area of Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota. This event, called the Grand Excursion of 1854, is credited with having massively impacted the development of the Upper Mississippi River Valley and greatly promoted westward expansion in the United States as a whole.

Many communities and organizations in the Mississippi River Valley have celebrations planned for the summer of 2004 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of this momentous event. Therefore, I urge all Members to join in this tribute by supporting the adoption of House Concurrent Resolution 44. I thank our colleague, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH), for introducing this important measure.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 44, a concurrent resolution to express support for the celebration in 2004 of the 150th anniversary of the Grand Excursion of 1854.

Mr. Speaker, the Grand Excursion of 1854 represents a major turning point of the settlement and expansion of the Upper Mississippi River. It started out simply as a celebration of America's first railroad link to the Mississippi River from Chicago to Rock Island. Over 1,200 dignitaries, politicians, journalists, and businessmen, including former President Millard Fillmore, boarded a rail car in Chicago for Rock Island, Illinois. This group transferred to a fleet of at least five steamboats for a trip up the Mississippi to St. Paul, Minnesota, then traveled by horseback and wagon to view the falls of St. Anthony in what is now known as Minneapolis.

When the travelers wrote home about their great adventure, word spread about what a splendid place that part of America was. The next year, the upper Mississippi saw twice the number of visitors as the previous year.

The 2004 Grand Excursion is a regional initiative designed to recognize and celebrate the incredible renaissance that has occurred throughout the upper reaches of America's river, the Mississippi. As of December 2, 2002, 48 communities and 22 regional organizations, including Moline, Illinois, have endorsed and will participate in the Grand Excursion.

The 2004 excursion is designed to celebrate the capital improvements, along with the environmental and ecological changes, that have made the upper Mississippi one of the cleanest stretches of river in the country. Steamboats, river boats, and trains will be used to honor the spirit of the 1854 Grand Excursion to draw national and international attention to the lasting legacies of the 1854 excursion.

I urge my colleagues to support House Concurrent Resolution 44.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to our distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH).

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN), for yielding time to me, and for his thoughtfulness in bringing this resolution. I also thank our distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), for his input into the resolution.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when we as a country are galvanized by a singular international event, it is important to deal with normalcy. It is particularly uplifting to discuss history.

The resolution before us speaks to an event a century and a half ago, the Grand Excursion of 1854, which symbolizes the energy of the railroads from the east meeting and crossing our country's greatest river at what we now call the Quad Cities.

The excursion party of 1854 traveled from Chicago, the home of the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), to Rock Island by train, proceeding then by boat from the Quad Cities to the present day Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota.

Among the 1,200 participants in the initial excursion was our 13th President, Millard Fillmore. In the first year after the trip, steamboat traffic from St. Paul doubled and 30,000 new immigrants traveled the Mississippi River. The power of the river as a force for commerce, along with its magic and beauty, drew increasingly greater numbers of people as the years continued.

The second Grand Excursion, the one which will take place in 2004, builds on the history of the Grand Excursion of 1854 to bring together the communities of the Upper Mississippi River in a celebration of national and international proportions. The capstone event of the celebration will be a grand flotilla which will retrace the path of the original trip made 150 years ago.

Featuring the finest river boats from all reaches of the inland waterways, this journey along the upper Mississippi will not only recall a time gone by, but bring the attention of the Nation and the world to the Mississippi River.

From the Quad Cities to the Twin Cities, over 50,000 opportunities exist to board authentic river boats, steam boats, or rail cars for sightseeing trips or excursions up river from one community celebration to the next. It is anticipated that people from around the world will join in community celebrations, activities and programs highlighting local and regional accomplishments along the way.

For the last 10 to 15 years, communities have been working together to reclaim their relationship with the Mississippi and reestablish vibrant riverfront communities. Over 50 communities along the 419-mile route are investing millions of dollars, in fact billions of dollars, in recreational, commercial, and environmental improvements as part of preparation for the celebration, but more importantly, as permanent improvements in their communities.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, let me stress that the early history of my State, that of Iowa, is the history of Native Americans and then European, African, and Asian settlers finding the Mississippi River basin bountiful and beautiful.

As word of the majesty and opportunity of the area spread to new generations of Americans, commerce and industry followed. The trains from the east and the boats from the north and south brought excitement and adventure to a land destined for greatness. It is this greatness that we celebrate, and it is this greatness that its citizens who are so privileged to live along this great waterway pledge to preserve and enhance in this particular set of commitments related to this particular celebration.

I thank again the distinguished chairman and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) for their thoughtfulness.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH) for bringing this tremendous event to our attention. I had the good fortune to drive from Chicago to Rock Island 2 weeks ago, and it is indeed tremendous territory. Looking at the mighty Mississippi is a delight in and of itself.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM).

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 44, which recognizes the contributions of the many Mississippi River communities which are planning events to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Grand Excursion that took place in 1854. In 1854, the Grand Excursion was truly a historic event. It brought nationwide attention to the Upper Mississippi River and led Minnesota to statehood.

This excursion transformed our entire region, bringing prosperity and economic growth. However, over time the development that followed separated the people from the river. Transportation and industry walled communities off from the Mississippi, and pollution took its toll. Now we are working to reclaim our relationship with the mighty Mississippi.

In preparing to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Grand Excursion, communities all along the 419-mile route are redeveloping their river fronts. Citizens and business groups have joined with State and local governments to renew their commitment

to this great international resource. River fronts are being revitalized, and our quality of life is being improved.

St. Paul, for example, has turned the Mississippi River back into our community's gathering place. On Harriet Island, the Target Stage is a place for the world-renowned St. Paul Chamber Orchestra to play on summer nights, while people overlook St. Paul's downtown skyline or walk along the river.

New projects are also planned to help reconnect St. Paul's people to its river's edge. Mr. Speaker, the Grand Excursion, the 150th anniversary celebration, is not just about recognizing these achievements; it is also an opportunity to learn about the Mississippi and what we need to do to protect it for future generations.

The Mississippi is America's river, it is Minnesota's river, and like many towns in south St. Paul where I grew up, it is a childhood river. It is also a working river, a river that continues to work. Thousands of jobs and the livelihoods of many families are connected to it.

People not only from St. Paul, from the United States, and from around the world call the Mississippi River home, but it is also home to our wildlife, from eagles in Minnesota to pelicans in the Delta Bay of Louisiana.

Activities associated with the Grand Excursion's anniversary will bring its historical, cultural, and environmental importance alive for thousands of people. Hundreds of permanent exhibits will be established honoring the river's past and looking towards the river's future.

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to have an opportunity to support this resolution today. As an original cosponsor, I look forward to continuing working with the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH) and others to bring attention to this national treasure, our Mississippi River, and to this exciting national event, the 150th anniversary of the Grand Excursion.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I simply reiterate, Mr. Speaker, that this has been a tremendous event and will be a tremendous event. I strongly support it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I will simply close by saying that my mother spent all of her life from her birth to the end of her college years, in Iowa. I still have relatives in the great State of Iowa. Thus, it has been an honor for me to help bring this resolution to the floor, along with the chief sponsor, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH), and to recognize a very important part of this great Nation.

I urge all Members to support this resolution.

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to offer my strong support of this legislation anticipating next year's 150th anniversary of the Grand Excursion of 1854, offered by my colleague, Mr. LEACH.

The Grand Excursion is regarded as one of the greatest promotional trips ever devised in our Nation's history—one that changed the face of the upper Mississippi River.

In 1854, the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad became the first railroad to reach the Mississippi River. To celebrate, the owners and contractors for the railroad proposed an excursion for a select group of stockholders, friends, and family.

But word spread quickly about the occasion, resulting in a 1,200-person entourage traveling from Rock Island, IL to the Falls of St. Anthony—now known as Minneapolis, MN.

According to the Chicago Tribune, the excursionists were considered ''the most brilliant ever assembled in the West'': statesmen, historians, diplomats, poets, and newspaper editors. As the media wrote home to their newspapers, word spread about the wonders of the Nation's ''dark interior''.

This event turned into an opportunity to show some of our Nation's most influential people the fantastic beauty, numerous resources, and the unlimited opportunities that the Mississippi River and the West could provide.

The year after, steamboat traffic along the upper Mississippi River doubled, flooding the region with new settlers. The Grant Excursion also brought millions of dollars of investment to the area and positioned the upper Mississippi region as a dominant force in the development of the Nation in the 19th century.

The Grand Excursion of 2004 is an opportunity to draw awareness from around the Nation and around the world about the recreational, commercial and environmental opportunities the Mississippi River provides. In addition to the ''Grand Flotilla''—the retracing of the Grand Excursion's journey by trains, paddlewheelers, and steamboats—over 50 communities along the 419-mile route, many in my district, will hold festivals and educational events to commemorate the event's sesquicentennial. And those who are unable to participate first-hand in the celebrations will be able to experience the excitement through a dynamic website and through ''exploration trunks'' that will be provided with curriculum to classrooms throughout the region.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution of America's celebration of the Mississippi River: the Grant Excursion of 2004.

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 44, a resolution expressing support for 150th anniversary celebrations of the Grand Excursion of 1854.

In 1854, the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad became the first American railroad to reach the shores of the Mississippi River. To celebrate the achievement, a combined railroad and riverboat trip was organized. A group of 1,000 dignitaries including journalists, educators, and business representatives gathered in Chicago to start their journey. The Grand Excursion, as it became known, traveled by train for Rock Island, IL. From there, the journey proceeded by riverboat on the Mississippi River to the present-day twin cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, MN.

The Mississippi is widely and appropriately recognized as ''America's River.'' Today's Mississippi is a vital artery for commerce, economic development and tourism in Iowa's communities along the river. The river has shaped much of the Nation's history and will be a vital element for Iowa's future.

Next year, events are planned to mark the 150th anniversary of the Grand Excursion all along its 419-mile route. In my Iowa district, these events include celebrations in the riverside cities of Davenport, Clinton, and Dubuque. These exciting celebrations will share with the world the incredible attributes of the upper Mississippi River. Thousands of visitors will learn more about the river's role in America's history, and will learn more about Eastern Iowa.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the efforts of the communities celebrating this historic trek's anniversary. I look forward to welcoming visitors from around the world to experience our mighty Mississippi. As Captain Russell Blakeley said in 1894, ''the success of [the Grand Excursion] did more than the best laid plans for advertising the country than has ever been made since. . . . Good results came back to us in a thousand ways and for many years.''

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to add my voice to those celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Grand Excursion of 1854. This was an important journey in the upper Mississippi River valley that incorporated rail and steamboat travel and went from Chicago, Illinois to Saint Paul, Minnesota, and to the Falls of Saint Anthony. This trip began as a promotion by the Rock Island Railroad, the first railroad to reach the Mississippi and ended up transporting more than a thousand businessmen, statesmen, journalists, and others, including President Millard Fillmore, into the West. The Grand Excursion brought recognition and interest to the natural beauty and economic potential of the upper Mississippi River valley.

The Grand Excursion helped open up the upper Mississippi River area, which includes Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, creating a number of communities all along the river. My district includes the city of Rock Island, the starting point for the riverboat journey, and many other communities that flourished. The prosperity of much of the Midwest was due to the development of the Mississippi River and the interest that developed in the valley's natural resources and access to the west.

This year, in honor of the 150th anniversary, many of the communities that took part in the original Grand Excursion are educating their residents and tourists about the trip and celebrating the success of the excursion. I support this resolution as it recognizes both the importance of the 1854 trip and of the 2004 commemoration. Communities such as Rock Island and Moline, Illinois are taking part through education programs linked to the original journal, environmental projects linked to the River, and development plans linked to the waterfront. I support these efforts, and hope that the Administration will help celebrate and commemorate this important historic event.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 44.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MICHAEL J. HEALY POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 825) to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7401 West 100th place in Bridgeview, Illinois, as the ''Michael J. Healy Post Office Building''.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 825

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

SECTION 1. MICHAEL J. HEALY POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) REDESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7401 West 100th Place in Bridgeview, Illinois, and known as the Moraine Valley Post Office, shall be known and designated as the ''Michael J. Healy Post Office Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Michael J. Healy Post Office Building.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN).

□ 1230

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Tennessee?

There was no objection.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 825 was introduced by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI), our distinguished colleague and my great friend and one of our most outstanding Members of this body. This bill redesignates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7401 West 100th Place in Bridgeview, Illinois, as the Michael J. Healy Post Office Building. The entire delegation from the State of Illinois has signed on as cosponsors of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the story of Michael Healy is a heartbreaking one. On June 21, 1981, Michael Healy was a 26-year-old postal police officer who worked at a downtown Chicago post office building. During an attempted robbery of the facility that day, Officer Healy was shot and killed by one of three assailants, becoming the first officer of the Postal Inspection Service ever to be murdered in the line of duty.

The Postal Service has had to deal with a variety of tragedies over the years, most recently the anthrax mailings of fall, 2001, and last year's pipe bombings in mailboxes across the Midwest.

This legislation would appropriately rename one of the U.S. Postal Service's Buildings after one of its very own heroes, Officer Michael J. Healy, who died fighting criminals who attacked our Nation's postal system. Therefore, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 825.

I thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI) for introducing this important measure.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, as the ranking member of the Committee on Government Reform's Subcommittee on Civil Service, Census and Agency Organization, I join my colleague in the consideration of three postal naming bills. I would like to thank the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS) for the timely consideration of these measures.

For the benefit of my colleagues, the postal naming measures before us today have met the committee requirements and enjoy the support and cosponsorship of their respective State congressional delegations.

We continue the tradition of naming post offices after individuals of enormous character who have made important contributions to their community, State and country. To that end, I commend the sponsors of these postal naming bills for seeking to recognize their respective designees by naming a United States Post Office in their honor.

H.R. 825, to Redesignate the United States Postal Service located at 7401 West 100th Place in Bridgeview, Illinois, as the Michael J. Healy Post Office Building.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 825, which names a U.S. Post Office located in Bridgeview, Illinois, after Michael J. Healy was introduced by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI), my friend and colleague, on February 13, 2003.

On June 21, 1981, Michael Healy became the first uniformed postal police officer of the Postal Inspection Service to be killed in the line of duty. Sadly, he was slain by two assailants in a foiled robbery attempt while guarding the Chicago Main Post Office located at Harrison Avenue and Canal Street, which is now known as the Cardiss Collins Post Office.

As one of our Nation's oldest Federal law enforcement agencies, founded by Benjamin Franklin, the United States Postal Inspection Service has a long and proud and successful history of fighting criminals who attack our postal system and endanger the public. Since its inception in 1772, the Postal Inspection Service has lost nine employees in the line of duty.

In 2001, the Chicago division of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service honored the 20th anniversary of the passing of their fallen comrade and the Fraternal Order of Police has supported the effort to rename the local post office after Officer Healy.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to the roughly 1,900 postal inspectors who serve as fact finders and investigators, the Inspection Service maintains a security force of approximately 1,400 uniformed postal police officers assigned to critical facilities throughout the country. Postal police officers provide perimeter security, escort high-value shipments and protect and defend postal employees. As the primary law enforcement arm of the U.S. Postal Service, the Postal Inspection Service was very ably represented by Officer Michael Healy.

The gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI) is to be commended for seeking to recognize Officer Healy by designating a post office in his honor.

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Congressman DANNY DAVIS for helping to bring H.R. 825 to the floor this morning.

Today, I am very pleased to pay tribute to a fallen federal law enforcement officer and the service he represented with the highest honor. On June 21st, 1981, Officer Michael J. Healy, of the United States Postal Inspection Service, was slain by two armed assailants in a foiled robbery attempt outside of Chicago's Main Post Office. That day, Mr. Healy sadly became the first Postal Police Officer to be killed in the line of duty.

Fortunately, Michael J. Healy has not been forgotten. In fact, Healy has come to symbolize the personal risk that police officers from a relatively unrecognized federal force undertake everyday. Healy's badge #3972 was retired, and all official depictions of Postal Police Officer badges bear #3972 in honor of Healy. In 2001, The Fraternal Order of Police, National Labor Council #2 and The Postal Inspection Service gathered to remember the 20th anniversary of Healy's passing. At their gathering, the Fraternal Order of Police pledged to continue the memory of their fallen comrade, and contacted my office to discuss an appropriate memorial.

Together, we felt it would be fitting to name a federal building in Healy's honor. We felt it further appropriate that the post office nearest to Hometown, Illinois—the Healy family's ''home town''—would best enshrine Officer Healy's ultimate sacrifice. Simultaneously, we felt this renaming would pay belated tribute to the U.S. Postal Inspection Service.

In October 2001, when letters filled with Anthrax spores were sent to several offices on Capitol Hill, the United States, and especially its Congress, became suddenly reminded of the necessity of a Postal Inspection Service. In fact, our nation's 1,400 Postal Police Officers are first responders in this unprecedented Front Line on the War on Terror—the U.S. mail system.

In 2002 alone, Postal Police Officers and Inspectors responded to 17,000 suspicious mailings, anthrax hoaxes and threats—a 100 fold increase from the previous year. Besides protecting America's post offices and 200,000

postal carriers, the service responds to more than 1,000 postal-related assaults and credit threats, 75,000 complaints of consumer mail fraud, and it arrests 12,000 criminal suspects for mail-related crimes each year.

Today, my colleagues have a special opportunity to honor the entire United States Postal Service, by naming a postal facility after one of their own heroes. With the passage of H.R. 825, The House of Representatives will rename the Moraine Valley, Illinois Post Office the Michael J. Healy Post Office.

Finally, I would like to recognize Joan Healy, Michael's mother, his brother David, sister Mary, and widow Barbara, as well as Lieutenant Michael Ruth and the Fraternal Order of Police, Labor Council #2, who have ably continued Officer Healy's memory.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 825.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FLOYD SPENCE POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 917) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1830 South Lake Drive in Lexington, South Carolina, as the ''Floyd Spence Post Office Building''.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 917

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

SECTION 1. FLOYD SPENCE POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1830 South Lake Drive in Lexington, South Carolina, shall be known and designated as the ''Floyd Spence Post Office Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Floyd Spence Post Office Building.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Tennessee?

There was no objection.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it is a real honor and privilege for me to bring this particular legislation to the floor at this time because Floyd Spence was a close, personal friend of mine and one of the greatest Members this body has ever seen. I had the privilege of traveling several different places with Congressman Spence and working with him on many different pieces of legislation.

H.R. 917, introduced by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON), a great and honorable replacement for Congressman Spence, designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1830 South Lake Drive in Lexington, South Carolina, as the Floyd Spence Post Office Building. The entire House delegation from the State of South Carolina has signed on as cosponsors of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, Congressman Floyd Spence served for 16 terms in this House and was unquestionably one of its most influential and devoted Members. Congressman Spence was first elected to this body in 1970 and was reelected 15 times by the citizens of South Carolina's 2nd District before sadly passing away on August 16, 2001. His diligence for his constituents, the people of South Carolina, indeed all of America, was legendary.

As a Member of this House, Congressman Spence chaired the Committee on Armed Services for 6 years. Chairing the Committee on Armed Services was one of the most appropriate congressional positions Congressman Spence could have held because for much of his adult life he served in the United States Naval Reserves.

After graduating from the University of South Carolina in 1952, where he had a great athletic career, he initially was commissioned as an ensign and later served as the group commander of all naval reserve units in his hometown of Columbia, South Carolina. In 1988, Congressman Spence retired from the naval reserves as a captain.

During his career in the House, he made no mistake about his priority to protect all Americans by being one of the strongest advocates for a strong national defense. Furthermore, many have looked back and credited Congressman Spence for his presence in recognizing the threat that terrorism posed against our country, despite the fact that he passed away less than one month before September 11, 2001.

This House will always miss the contributions of Congressman Floyd Spence, as well as the wonderful person with a great sense of humor and great kindness and compassion that he had for all people.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons I urge all Members to support the adoption of H.R. 917. I thank my colleague from South Carolina for introducing this important measure.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 917, which names a postal facility located at 1830 South Lake Drive in Lexington, South Carolina, after Floyd Spence, was introduced on February 25, 2003, by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON).

Floyd D. Spence, a former Member of Congress, was born in Columbia, South Carolina, in 1928. He was a graduate of Lexington High School and the University of South Carolina. He served in the United States Navy first as an ensign and later as group commander before he retired as a captain from the U.S. Naval Reserve in 1988.

As a Democrat, Floyd Spence was first elected to public office in 1956 as a member of the South Carolina State House of Representatives. He later switched to the Republican party and went on to serve in the State Senate. He was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, representing the 2nd Congressional District of South Carolina, in 1970. He served as chairman of the House Committee on National Security from 1995 to 1999 and as Chairman of the House Committee on Armed Services from 1991 to 2001. In the last Congress, he served on the House Committee on Armed Services and Committee on Veterans Affairs.

Mr. Speaker, Representative Floyd Spence represented his district for 31 years until his untimely death on August 16, 2001. He truly is deserving of this honor, and I urge swift passage of this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all remaining time on this legislation on our side be controlled by the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Tennessee?

There was no objection.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume, which will not be much because we have already put on the record that Floyd Spence was a tremendous Member of Congress and an outstanding public servant; and we are just eager to move forward on this piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON).

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

It is a great honor for me to be the author of this particular bill to name the postal facility of the city of Lexington, which is located in the Red Bank community, which is the central part of Lexington County. It is very appropriate, and I want to thank my colleagues, the balance of the South Carolina delegation, Mr. BROWN, Mr.

DEMINT, Mr. BARRETT, Mr. SPRATT and Mr. CLYBURN, for joining with me as cosponsors of this bill.

It is very appropriate that the Lexington Post Office be named in honor of Congressman Floyd Spence. The reason is that he was the favorite son of Lexington County. He ran for public office in the 20th century and was elected and reelected more times than any other elected official in our county and actually in our region in the midlands of South Carolina.

Additionally, he, by becoming Chairman of the Committee on National Security, which is the Committee on Armed Services, he achieved the highest position in national government of any person ever from the midlands of South Carolina. We are very grateful for his service; and it is just so appropriate, again, to give him this recognition.

Congressman Spence was born April 9, 1928, in Columbia, our capital city, and he passed away on August 16, 2001. He was the son of James Wilson Spence and Addie Jane Lucas Spence of Lexington County. He was married to the late Lula Hancock Drake of Drake, South Carolina, in Marlboro County in 1952; and they had four sons, who are all outstanding in our community, David, Zack, Benjamin and Caldwell.

When the Congressman was elected in 1970, Lu was so special. She truly raised the four boys. In fact, their home was known as Lexington, District of Columbia. She, in effect, really with the four sons had virtually on the shores of Lake Marion a recreation center where she was the surrogate mother for dozens of young people in our community; and she was quite beloved until she passed away in 1978.

Then Congressman Spence married 10 years later Deborah Ellen Williams of Lexington. Debbie Spence indeed is another very dear lady; and she has been given such due credit as being the person who helped Congressman Spence in his recuperation from a very historic operation, being a double lung transplant.

□ 1245

Mr. Spence is believed to be the fifth person in the United States to have this experimental operation, and it is due to her loving care that he recuperated and continued his service in Congress.

Congressman Spence began his leadership career very early. He was president of the student body at Lexington High School. He then went to play All-State Football. He was on the South Carolina Shrine Bowl team, and he went to the University of South Carolina where he was president of the student body. He was recognized by ODK Fraternity as one of the great leaders of the school. He received the Algernon Sidney Sullivan Award as the outstanding male graduate. He was on the football and basketball teams and was captain of the track team. He was also a member of Kappa Sigma Kappa fraternity. He then went on to the University of South Carolina Law School where he achieved the highest position available at the law school, and that was to be editor of the law review.

His military service includes service in the U.S. Navy during the Korean Conflict. Then he returned to South Carolina and became the commanding officer of all Naval reserve units in South Carolina. He retired in 1988 as a captain in the U.S. Navy, but still devoted to the Reserves.

He was a former church councilmember and Sunday school teacher at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Lexington, he was the first president of the Lexington Historical Society, and he was chairman of the Lexington County Mental Health Association.

In his political career, he was first elected in 1956 as a very young person, as a Democrat to the House of Representatives in South Carolina. Then in 1962 he switched to the Republican Party beginning a very historic realignment and political revolution in South Carolina. He was the first elected official to switch parties. This was very historic and brave on his part in that in the 20th century prior to his switching parties, there had only been one Republican in the House of Representatives in the entire 20th century, and that was in 1961, Charles Boineau was elected to the House of Representatives from Richland County in a special election. And so by his switching parties, he immediately doubled the number of elected Republicans in public office.

That has led to the realignment which was completed this year where now the Republican Party in South Carolina has a majority in the State House, the State Senate and Governor for the first time since 1877, and many of us credit the late Congressman Floyd Spence and his integrity in switching to the Republican Party.

In the General Assembly, he ultimately was elected to the State Senate in 1966 and served for 4 years. He was a leader in establishing the technical college system in South Carolina, which has been so instrumental in our efforts to recruit industry to South Carolina and provide good jobs for the people of South Carolina.

Additionally, he was one of the lead authors of the bill which established the Lexington Medical Center, which is one of the largest hospitals in all of South Carolina. In Congress, he was elected in 1970. He was very proud of his service on the Committee on Veterans Affairs. He worked very hard as the ranking member of the House Committee on Official Standards, which is the ethics committee. I remember so well his feeling so strongly about serving on that particular committee which gets no real public attention.

Then of course we were so proud he was selected and elected as the chairman of the Committee on National Security, which is now the Committee on Armed Services, where he led the effort to warn against terrorism. He pointed out that steps needed to be taken. He was a leader on that effort, and he was also a leader in promoting a ballistic missile defense system, working very closely with President Reagan.

In terms of his community service, we are pleased he was active with the Boy Scouts. At the age of 17, he was a scout master. He was awarded by Governor Jim Edwards and Governor Campbell of South Carolina the highest honor of a citizen of South Carolina, being the Order of Palmetto.

He received a Doctor of Law degree from the Citadel in Charleston and also a Doctor of Public Service degree from the University of South Carolina.

When I think of Congressman Floyd Spence, I think of the political courage he had and also the personal courage. In 1988, he had a double-lung transplant. He had been suffering from a disease which had affected his lungs to the point he was near imminent death; but thanks to a wonderful doctor, Dr. Seshadri Laju, of Jackson, Mississippi, Congressman Spence was the beneficiary of a double-lung transplant. He survived from this and then in fact in the year 2000 had a kidney transplant. In South Carolina, we are very proud of Congressman Floyd Spence as the miracle Congressman, and it is with great pleasure that I urge adoption of the resolution.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) for introducing this legislation. I want to say to the gentleman that I am certain that Floyd Spence would be very proud of the job he is now doing for the people of his district, which is the district Floyd Spence represented before.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, Floyd Spence was a true Southern gentleman, a good friend, a dedicated Congressman, and a champion of a strong national defense. I had the pleasure of serving with him on the Armed Services Committee during his chairmanship, and I found that he always worked for the betterment of our men and women in uniform and of our national security. I miss him very much.

About 2 years ago, an overflow crowd gathered in the House Armed Services Committee hearing room for the unveiling of Floyd's portrait as chairman of committee. Often we do not have the chance to let friends know how we feel about them before they are gone, so I am very grateful that we had that evening together to enjoy Floyd's company and let him know how much he meant to us.

Floyd Spence began serving his country as an active duty member of the U.S. Naval Reserve during the Korean conflict. That service continued until the end of his life. Our former chairman understood that our Nation needs a strong national defense, and he worked tirelessly with Members on both sides of the aisle to strengthen our Armed Forces, and to take care of our men and women in uniform and their families. No one spoke out more forcefully on the need to maintain readiness. On rare occasion, we disagreed. But never disagreeably. Our relationship was one of mutual

respect based on values which we both learned in small towns named Lexington—one in South Carolina and one in Missouri.

During the years Floyd Spence served on the House Armed Services Committee, he blessed us with his leadership; honored us with his friendship; and inspired us with his courage. Floyd Spence was courteous, thoughtful, respectful of others. It was a pleasure for me to serve in Congress with this decent, fair, and honorable man. We are all the richer for his years of dedicated service to the Armed Services Committee, the Congress, the people of South Carolina, and the Nation. It is so fitting that we act to name the post office in Floyd Spence's hometown in his honor.

Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker. I rise today in support of H.R. 917, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1830 South Lake Drive in Lexington, South Carolina, as the ''Floyd Spence Post Office Building.''

Floyd Spence began his political career as a Democrat in the South Carolina House of Representatives in 1956, but he is remembered for having the foresight and the courage to switch parties. In 1962, he became the first member of the General Assembly to switch to the Republican Party, which helped pioneer the development of the two-party system in South Carolina. In 1966, he was elected as a Republican to the South Carolina Senate where he served as the Senate Minority Leader.

In 1971, Congressman Spence was elected to the Ninety-second Congress, and represented South Carolina's Second Congressional district for thirty years. During his tenure, he served in a numerous positions of leadership: For thirteen years, he was the Ranking Member of the Ethics Committee. In the 104th Congress, he was elected to represent the Tidewater Region on the Republican Policy Committee. He also served as Chairman of the Committee on National Security and after serving as Ranking Member, became Chairman of the Armed Services Committee following the 1995 Republican takeover of the House.

One of the longest-serving Republicans in the House of Representatives, Floyd Spence maintained one of the highest voting attendance records, while consistently supporting a strong national defense and fiscal integrity. Spence once said, ''I make no bones about the fact my Number One priority is defending this country.''

He drew his passion for the military from his own experiences. After graduating from the University of South Carolina in 1952, Spence was commissioned as an ensign in the U.S. Navy and served aboard the USS *Carter Hall* (LSD–3) and the LSM–397. He was the Group Commander of all Naval Reserve Units in Columbia, South Carolina, and was the Commanding Officer of a Naval Reserve Surface Division. After more than 40 years in the United States Naval Reserve, the Congressman retired as a Captain in 1988. Spence was a member of the American Legion, Sons of Confederate Veterans, and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Congressman Spence was a longtime Pentagon booster from a state that, like my home state of Florida, benefited greatly from his advocacy. He supported the Reagan administration military buildup and opposed the size of post-Cold Ware defense cuts made during the Clinton administration.

Congressman Spence was known for his amiable ways. Although opponents often criticized the lack of his own legislation, Spence was a proud voice against big Washington government and he resisted introducing federal legislation.

Mr. Speaker, Floyd Spence was recognized around the world as an authority on defense issues and Communism. His tireless efforts on behalf of our national defense are a testimony to his enduring will to serve and to triumph in the face of adversity. Here is Washington and at home, he was recognized as a man of fiscal integrity and true legislative restraint. As President Bush stated upon his death in 2001, Floyd Spence will be remembered as a true friend of the men and women in our armed services and as a servant of his fellow South Carolinians. He was a leader of great courage and determination.

Mr. Speaker, although I did not have the opportunity to serve with Congressman Spence, I learned a great deal from his example. It is with great admiration that I today support the dedication of the Floyd Spence Post Office Building to a true American patriot.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 917.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JAMES R. MERRY POST OFFICE

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 981) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 141 Erie Street in Linesville, Pennsylvania, as the ''James R. Merry Post Office.''

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 981

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

SECTION 1. JAMES R. MERRY POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 141 Erie Street in Linesville, Pennsylvania, shall be known and designated as the ''James R. Merry Post Office''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the James R. Merry Post Office.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Connecticut?

There was no objection.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 981 was introduced by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ENGLISH). It designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 141 Erie Street in Linesville, Pennsylvania, as the James R. Merry Post Office. The entire House delegation from the State of Pennsylvania has signed on as cosponsors to this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, former State representative Jim Merry was a devoted public servant who worked in the State legislature for the people of Pennsylvania for 16 years. He was known to be well liked by Representatives on both sides of the aisle, and he capitalized on his good relations with colleagues to pass many meaningful pieces of legislation for his district.

Beyond his political career, Jim Merry was remarkably involved in his hometown of Linesville, where he owned for 25 years a successful automotive shop, the Linesville Western Auto Store. In addition, he served as a borough councilman and was active in the local chapters of the American Legion, Rotary Club, and other service organizations.

Sadly, Representative Merry passed away on February 1, 2001. Since James R. Merry was a lifelong resident of the town of Linesville, it would be extremely appropriate if this House would act to rename this post office building in his hometown after one of Linesville's most venerated citizens.

I urge Members to support adoption of H.R. 981. I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ENGLISH) for introducing this important measure.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 981, which designates a postal facility located at 141 Erie Street in Linesville, Pennsylvania, after James R. Merry was introduced by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ENGLISH) on February 27, 2003.

Mr. Merry was a former Pennsylvania State representative who represented his constituents in the legislature for 16 years, from 1980 to 1996. A graduate of Linesville School, Mr. Merry went on to operate a successful business in town and remained very active in local affairs, serving as a borough councilman and later as president of the local chamber of commerce. As a man dedicated to his community and its residents, it is truly an honor to name a postal facility after the late James R. Merry, who passed away on February 1, 2001. I join Members in support of this measure and urge its swift passage.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ENGLISH), the sponsor of this bill.

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to be here, and I particularly want to thank the chairman and thank the committee for having moved this resolution forward so quickly.

It is a real honor to be able to participate in an action which would recognize the value of the long public service that Jim Merry provided as a community leader and as a member of the State legislature, serving in his last 2 years as chairman of the local government committee and also my colleague at the same time that I was serving in Congress.

This was a great experience for me because during my career as a staffer in the State legislature, I had an opportunity to work with Jim Merry in that capacity, and I saw him from a number of different angles. Jim Merry was the kind of legislator that I think Mr. Jefferson had in mind when he considered that our legislatures would be populated with individuals who were citizen politicians. Jim Merry came by his interest naturally. His father had been a State representative in Crawford County during the 1950s and early 1960s, and Jim had been a borough councilman, had been head of the chamber of commerce, and was enormously active in his community.

When the seat came into play in 1980, Jim ran and in something of an upset won the seat and quickly made it his own. It was a seat that straddled the Erie and Crawford County lines, and a lot of diverse communities; but he reached out everywhere he went. He was a fine legislator, an active community member. He was a great gentleman. The thing that I think is his greatest legacy is, although he was a man of his party, he was a very active Republican. At no time did I ever see him become rancorous about his politics. He worked well with people on both sides of the aisle. He was always committed to finding a way of getting things done and putting that over party politics. Particularly important, he always treated every individual with a great deal of deference.

As someone who learned a lot from Jim Merry, it is a real privilege to be able to play a role in honoring him by renaming the post office in the community that he long represented, Linesville, Pennsylvania, where his family still is, where he was a lifelong resident, after him in recognition of that great community contribution.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Members, and ask for a ''yea'' vote.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I have no other requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 981.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1300

SECURING BLESSINGS OF PROVIDENCE FOR PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES AND OUR ARMED FORCES

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 153) recognizing the public need for fasting and prayer in order to secure the blessings and protection of Providence for the people of the United States and our Armed Forces during the conflict in Iraq and under the threat of terrorism at home.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 153

Whereas the United States is currently engaged in a war on terrorism in response to the attacks of September 11, 2001;

Whereas the Armed Forces of the United States are currently engaged in a campaign to disarm the regime of Saddam Hussein and liberate the people of Iraq;

Whereas, on June 1, 1774, the Virginia House of Burgesses called for a day of fasting and prayer as an expression of solidarity with the people of Boston who were under siege by the enemy;

Whereas, on March 16, 1776, the Continental Congress, recognizing that the ''Liberties of America are imminently endangered'' and the need ''to acknowledge the overruling Providence of God'', called for a day of ''Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer'';

Whereas, on June 28, 1787, during the debate of the Constitutional Convention, Benjamin Franklin, convinced of God's intimate involvement in human affairs, implored the Congress to seek the assistance of Heaven in all its dealings;

Whereas, on March 30, 1863, in the midst of the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln, at the bequest of the Senate, and himself recognizing the need of the Nation to humble itself before God in repentance for its national sins, proclaimed a day of fasting, prayer and humiliation;

Whereas all of the various faiths of the people of the United States have recognized, in our religious traditions, the need for fasting and humble supplication before Providence;

Whereas humility, fasting, and prayer in times of danger have long been rooted in our essential national convictions and have been a means of producing unity and solidarity among all the diverse people of this Nation as well as procuring the enduring grace and benevolence of God;

Whereas, through prayer, fasting, and self-reflection, we may better recognize our own faults and shortcomings and submit to the wisdom and love of God in order that we may have guidance and strength in those daily actions and decisions we must take; and

Whereas dangers and threats to our Nation persist and, in this time of peril, it is appropriate that the people of the United States, leaders and citizens alike, seek guidance, strength, and resolve through prayer and fasting: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the President should issue a proclamation—

(1) designating a day for humility, prayer, and fasting for all people of the United States; and

(2) calling on all people of the United States—

(A) to observe the day as a time of prayer and fasting;

(B) to seek guidance from God to achieve a greater understanding of our own failings and to learn how we can do better in our everyday activities; and

(C) to gain resolve in meeting the challenges that confront our Nation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Connecticut?

There was no objection.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

House Resolution 153, introduced by the distinguished gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN), recognizes the public need for fasting and prayer in order to secure the blessings and protection of Providence for the people of the United States and their Armed Forces abroad due to the armed conflict in Iraq and the threat of terrorism here at home.

Mr. Speaker, our great Nation is at battle overseas with the vicious regime of Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein. The mission Operation Iraqi Freedom aims to dislodge Hussein and his top advisers from power, eliminate weapons of mass destruction from the Iraqi military's arsenal, and free the Iraqi people from Hussein's awful dictatorship. This conflict can lead to a wonderful improvement in the lives of all Iraqi people. The risks of this conflict, however, are terribly significant to all American citizens.

In Iraq, the threats to our remarkable servicemen and women are many. The Iraqi soldiers' resistance may include the deployment of chemical and biological weapons, not to mention the lethality of Iraq's military's conventional weapons. Here at home, the Federal Government has launched Operation Liberty Shield to increase domestic security due to the danger of terrorist attacks within our borders.

This combination of threats to Americans across the globe make passage of this resolution essential and meaningful. Since the birth of our Nation, Americans of all backgrounds, faiths and creeds have especially recognized the value earned from prayer, reflection, sacrifice and humility during times of national crisis.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons, I urge all Members to support the adoption of House Resolution 153. I thank my colleague from Missouri for introducing this extremely relevant and valuable measure.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the resolution before us calls on the American people to fast

and pray for the United States and the Armed Forces fighting the war in Iraq. Anytime there is any conversation or notion or discussion of a religious nature, there are bound to be different people who have different thoughts and ideas about it. Different people worship different forms of supremacy. As mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, friends and neighbors, and most of all as a peace-loving people, we seek and hope for a quick resolution to the conflict in Iraq.

All those who believe in a supreme being, whether it be God, Jehovah, Allah, Buddha or whether people call their belief Prince of Peace or Rose of Sharon or Lily of the Valley, to me it does not really matter. What matters is that people believe in the supremacy of a being. They believe in the coming together. They believe in a force that is more powerful than anything that we have been able to actually discern or see. It is something that is one of the mysteries, in many ways, of life but a part of the hope that people have, part of the faith.

And so I rise in support of this resolution. I urge that we pray for the men and women who are giving of themselves each and every day, who even may or may not return. I would urge passage, then, of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH).

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I have the greatest respect for the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) and understand the spirit in which they come forward to support this resolution.

Considering the dynamics of this war, I would just like to urge a note of caution here, Mr. Speaker; and the note of caution is that this resolution may be seen by some as an attempt to inject religion into this war at a time when some of America's enemies abroad are asserting that this is indeed a war about religion.

I know that the intentions of the sponsors are to ask for the blessings of Providence upon our troops. I think that all of us support the troops. Some of us do not support the mission.

Pope John Paul II, greeting a group of Polish pilgrims in Vatican City on March 5, 2003, said, ''I ask all of you for this prayer and fasting. May these be concrete gestures of the involvement on the part of those who believe in the mission to remind the world that it is never too late for peace.''

I think that it would be very constructive as this House proceeds in deliberating resolutions of this type if an appeal was made not only for the success of those who work for this country under the flag of this country in fields far from home, as soldiers in combat, I think it would be constructive if this House also in this resolution or in another resolution would agree that it is never too late for peace.

I also think that aggressive war is not consistent with prayerful aspirations. The golden rule, which represents an even higher calling than this resolution, do unto others as you would have them do unto you and love your neighbor as you would love yourself, I think is instructive in guiding us to be quite cautious about passing a resolution that would easily be interpreted as sanctioning aggressive war.

So I reluctantly come here to offer this note of caution, knowing full well that Members who have proposed this are very good people, they are good Americans, they are patriotic Americans, and we all care about our troops.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would like to read this resolution, and I think it is pretty clear what it says:

Recognizing the public need for fasting and prayer in order to secure the blessings and protection of Providence for the people of the United States and our Armed Forces during the conflict in Iraq and under the threat of terrorism at home.

Whereas the United States is currently engaged in a war on terrorism in response to the attacks of September 11, 2001;

Whereas the Armed Forces of the United States are currently engaged in a campaign to disarm the regime of Saddam Hussein and liberate the people of Iraq;

Whereas, on June 1, 1774, the Virginia House of Burgesses called for a day of fasting and prayer as an expression of solidarity with the people of Boston who were under siege by the enemy;

Whereas, on March 16, 1776, the Continental Congress, recognizing that the ''Liberties of America are imminently endangered'' and the need ''to acknowledge the overruling Providence of God'', called for a day of ''Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer'';

Whereas, on June 28, 1787, during the debate of the Constitutional Convention, Benjamin Franklin, convinced of God's intimate involvement in human affairs, implored the Congress to seek the assistance of Heaven in all its dealings;

Whereas, on March 30, 1863, in the midst of the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln, at the behest of the Senate, and himself recognizing the need of the Nation to humble itself before God in repentance for its national sins, proclaimed a day of fasting, prayer and humiliation;

Whereas all of the various faiths of the people of the United States have recognized, in our religious traditions, the need for fasting and humble supplication before Providence;

Whereas humility, fasting, and prayer in times of danger have long been rooted in our essential national convictions and have been a means of producing unity and solidarity among all the diverse people of this Nation as well as procuring the enduring grace and benevolence of God;

Whereas, through prayer, fasting, and self-reflection, we may better recognize our own faults and shortcomings and submit to the wisdom and love of God in order that we may have guidance and strength in those daily actions and decisions we must take; and

Whereas dangers and threats to our Nation persist and, in this time of peril, it is appropriate that the people of the United States, leaders and citizens alike, seek guidance, strength, and resolve through prayer and fasting: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the President should issue a proclamation—

(1) designating a day for humility, prayer, and fasting for all people of the United States; and

(2) calling on all people of the United States—

(A) to observe the day as a time of prayer and fasting;

(B) to seek guidance from God to achieve a greater understanding of our own failings and to learn how we can do better in our everyday activities; and

(C) to gain resolve in meeting the challenges that confront our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I think the resolution speaks for itself. It is a resolution that I think all of us can support with humility and grace and a love for our great Nation.

I would just remind the Members of this Chamber that the medallion that is directly facing the Speaker is the medallion of Moses. We have been guided by his laws for many years.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STRICKLAND).

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I came to the Chamber today to speak on this resolution. I intend to vote for it and support it, but there were some comments that I think are relevant regarding this resolution.

I am a little troubled that we would presume to tell the American people what they should do to secure the blessings and protections of Providence. It just troubles me that it begins by saying we recognize the public need for fasting and prayer in order to secure the blessings and protections of Providence. I really think that is a theological conclusion, a theological belief. It just causes me some difficulty.

I think that each of us in our own way have an understanding of how to pray and why we should pray, but it also bothers me that we would pass this resolution without considering it as serious as it is. I would hope, and I am going to make three suggestions related to those of us who in a few moments may be voting on this resolution, that we do three things.

□ 1315

That we commit ourselves during this day of fasting to go without food,

that we not ask the American people or suggest the American people should do something that each of us as individuals do not do ourselves. I would also suggest that on that day we should forego any political fundraising at which food may be served or consumed; and, thirdly, I would suggest that those of us who would vote for this resolution would ask our leadership to close the Members dining room during that day. I think if we vote for this resolution, we should take it seriously. We should follow its dictates, and we should do what we are asking each of the American citizens to do. I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I do not have any other speakers; so I would say, in closing, I would state that I am a strong believer in the first amendment. I believe in prayer, fasting. I believe that we should pray not only for our troops but that we pray to end this conflict as quickly as it could possibly be ended and as peacefully as it could be ended. I pray that the loss of life would be diminished as much as possible and that people who are fighting from the United States as well as those from other countries and other nations would have the power of an Almighty supreme force invoked so that all of us can escape this effort with as much hope, peace, and possibility as we can. I urge support for this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would like to thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) for his very thoughtful words and comments, and just to remind Members again that the most operative words in this resolution are what we resolve, that we designate a day for humility, prayer, and fasting for all people of the United States and call on all people of the United States to observe the day as a time of prayer and fasting, to seek guidance from God to achieve a greater understanding of our own failings to learn how we can do better in our everyday activities, and to gain resolve in meeting the challenges that confront our Nation.

I believe that resolve is so in line with the spirit of what our Founding Fathers did in years before.

Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN), who was the presenter of this resolution. I thank him for that.

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much for his remarks and for a moment to talk about something that is so much a pattern of America's history.

If we go back to the early days of our system of republics, we go back to the time in 1774 when there was a day of fasting and prayer that was called by the Virginia House of Burgesses. That was where Patrick Henry, of course, made his famous speech.

But I think perhaps historically one of the more amazing incidents occurred the next year, 1775, where the Governor of Connecticut called his State to a time of fasting and prayer for the people of Boston and the people of Massachusetts. He coincidentally called that time of fasting and prayer for the month of April on the 18th day. As it turned out, that was the exact day that the Redcoats left Boston in search of John Hancock and the weapons that they thought were being stored in Concord, Massachusetts, and the War of Independence began.

That continues along. In fact, we had FDR, even going back to World War II time, talking about the fact that this is a war, really defending the idea that everybody should have equal rights because God gives them those equal rights. That was FDR making that comment in World War II. So we have a long history of a Nation that, when we get into an armed conflict, to turn to God and to ask His support and to humble ourselves before Him.

That actually, though, if we think about it logically, is very consistent with the very purpose and cause of what America has always been about. If we really think about what is it that is the glue that defines America, what holds us together as a people, it is that belief that there is a God who grants to all of us certain basic and unalienable rights, the right to life, the light to liberty, the right to pursue the dream that God puts into everybody's heart. So we do not believe that that is just an American right, but that is something that is for all people everywhere, and it is that belief that has propelled our soldiers onto the battlefield and made us to stand strong in the face against many different types of tyrants, just as we are even at this day.

So it is with these thoughts and these sentiments that we once again turn back to our traditions and to our history and ask and implore the Almighty God to watch over us, to remind us of our faults and places where we need to change our ways but also to strengthen us and to encourage us and help us to prevail because we do know, in fact, it is true that all people everywhere should have life and liberty and be allowed to pursue the dreams of their own hearts.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I have no other speakers, and I want to thank, before returning the balance of my time, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN) again for introducing this important resolution and also the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) for his thoughtful comments and support.

I urge all Members to support the adoption of this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LINDER). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 153.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 2:15 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 22 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 2:15 p.m.

□ 1416

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. TERRY) at 2 o'clock and 16 minutes p.m.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1732

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BASS) at 5 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on the remaining motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record vote on the postponed question will be taken tomorrow.

CONCERNING TREATMENT OF MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES HELD AS PRISONER OF WAR BY IRAQI AUTHORITIES

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 118) concerning the treatment of members of the Armed Forces held as prisoner of war by Iraqi authorities, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 118

Whereas the Armed Forces of the United States and military forces of United States coalition partners are currently engaged in hostilities in Iraq in prosecuting Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas an unknown number of members of the Armed Forces of the United States have been taken prisoner by Iraqi authorities and it is possible that, before the end of hostilities, additional members of the Armed Forces of the United States and members of other coalition forces may be taken prisoner by Iraqi authorities;

Whereas members of the military forces of Iraq have been taken prisoner by coalition armed forces;

Whereas all such prisoners who are captured while complying with the laws of war are entitled to prisoner of war status until their final release and repatriation;

Whereas in the Convention Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, signed at Geneva on August 12, 1949 (referred to as the ''Third Geneva Convention''), the international community has prescribed rules concerning the treatment of prisoners of war;

Whereas more than 190 nations, including the United States and Iraq, are parties to the Third Geneva Convention;

Whereas Article 13 of the Third Geneva Convention requires the humane treatment of prisoners of war and that prisoners of war be protected against acts of violence or intimidation and against insults and public curiosity;

Whereas Article 17 of the Third Geneva Convention explicitly prohibits the infliction of physical or mental torture and other forms of coercion on prisoners of war to secure from them information of any kind whatever and provides that prisoners of war who refuse to answer may not be threatened, insulted, or exposed to unpleasant or disadvantageous treatment of any kind;

Whereas Article 23 of the Third Geneva Convention provides that a prisoner of war may not at any time be sent to, or detained in areas where the prisoner may be exposed to the fire of the combat zone, nor may a prisoner's presence be used to render certain points or areas immune from military operations;

Whereas the Third Geneva Convention requires that a government holding prisoners of war grant representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) free access to all prisoners of war;

Whereas the Government of the United States has informed the Iraqi authorities that it intends to treat captured members of the Iraqi armed forces fully in accordance with the Third Geneva Convention and is in discussions with ICRC officials to facilitate access at the earliest possible time to Iraqi enemy prisoners of war held by United States Armed Forces; and

Whereas Iraqi television has broadcast what appear to be pictures of captured American military personnel; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) commends the bravery and professionalism of the members of the Armed Forces of the United States and the military forces of United States coalition partners; and

(2) extends heartfelt sympathies to the families and loved ones of those who are killed, wounded, missing in action, or taken prisoner by Iraqi authorities.

SEC. 2. The Congress—

(1) demands that Iraqi authorities comply fully and immediately with its obligations and responsibilities of the Convention Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War;

(2) condemns the failure of Iraqi authorities to treat prisoners of war in strict conformity with that Convention;

(3) demands that Iraqi authorities permit the International Committee of the Red Cross to visit any and all American and coalition prisoners of war at the earliest possible time, in accordance with the requirements of that Convention;

(4) joins the President in warning all Iraqi authorities that any individual who mistreats any prisoner of war in violation of that Convention shall be considered a war criminal and prosecuted as such to the full extent of United States and international law; and

(5) supports the President in committing the full effort and reach of the United States Government to the swift and safe repatriation of all prisoners of war at the earliest possible moment consistent with that Convention.

SEC. 3. The Congress supports the President in seeking the fullest possible accounting, at the earliest possible time upon the cessation of hostilities, of all members of the Armed Forces who are in a missing status as a result of operations during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the concurrent resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this Member rises today to speak on behalf of those brave men and women of our Armed Forces who have been taken prisoner of war by the Iraqi regime, and for those who are missing in action.

All Members were appalled by the reports and images of the barbaric treatment of our soldiers by the Iraqi regime captors. This resolution will send a clear message of resolve that this Congress will stand by and insist on the rights of its military sons and daughters in their time of peril. We will spare no effort to bring them home alive and in good health, and to hold to account anybody who would dare mistreat them.

All of us join families, comrades in arms and friends in prayer for their safe return, the safe return of all members of our armed services. I note with pride that the American military is already carrying out its obligations under the Geneva Conventions. We have invited the Red Cross or Red Crescent to visit our prisoners, and we demand the same access for the Red Cross to coalition prisoners held by Iraq.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my good friends, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES), for introducing this most important resolution.

Mr. Speaker, today marks the seventh day of Operation Iraqi Freedom, a valiant campaign by the United States, the United Kingdom, and our partners to rid the world of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction and the regime that wields them.

We have achieved much in this war so far. Iraq's southern oil fields have been saved, its western deserts have been secured, and its gulf ports have been opened. Our Air Forces have meticulously degraded Iraq's defenses while minimizing civilian casualties, and our Third Infantry Division is poised at Saddam Hussein's doorstep.

We owe these successes to America's soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines who have performed bravely and brilliantly in this fight. The courage and skill they have displayed on the battlefield comes as no shock. Their training and leadership has prepared them well, but it does continue to inspire awe.

I know I speak for all Americans, Mr. Speaker, in expressing my deepest admiration and strongest support for all of our military men and women fighting in Iraq. We admire especially the service of those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in this war to date, and those who may do so in the days ahead. Our deepest condolences go to the families who have lost their loved ones. The brave men and women who have laid down their lives in Iraq are true American heroes whose debt our thankful Nation can never repay.

America's Armed Forces, Mr. Speaker, represent the best our democracy has to offer. Their conduct reflects the values we cherish. We respect international law and uphold the highest human virtues in this fight.

The enemy we face does not share these values. The Iraqi regime of Saddam Hussein has waged this war in total violation of all norms of civilized behavior. Its armed forces use innocents as human shields, execute deserters on sight, hide in hospitals, fire from behind white flags, and deny their own people access to humanitarian assistance. They deliberately position their tanks and artillery next to mosques, schools, and hospitals, putting innocent Iraqi civilians at great risk.

In a futile attempt to build support for his doomed regime, Saddam Hussein has waged a relentless and reckless disinformation campaign. To this end, he has utilized American prisoners of war as propaganda props, abusing, humiliating, and intimidating them, in clear violation of the Geneva Convention.

The resolution before us delivers a stern warning to the Iraqi regime to end such atrocities and to comply with

the terms of the Third Geneva Convention relating to the treatment of prisoners of war. It places the full weight and power of the American people behind the enforcement of this code of conduct.

We should not delude ourselves, Mr. Speaker. Saddam Hussein has utter contempt for the Geneva Convention and all international agreements. He feels no obligation to abide by the norms of civilized behavior, as he showed in his reprehensible conduct towards coalition soldiers in the first Gulf War.

Our vote today is not likely to deter him, although we hope that it does. It will set the standard for the swift and certain justice we shall deliver to those who have perpetrated war crimes after Saddam's rotten regime collapses. It will show the entire world that the United States, the United Kingdom, and all of our partners are committed to the lawful, humane conduct of this war, despite the evil and cowardly tactics the enemy employs.

I urge my colleagues to lend their support to this resolution and to the American prisoners of war currently in captivity.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), the majority leader.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) for bringing this to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I would hope that there would not have been a day that we had to bring a resolution like this to the floor. I rise today in strong support of this resolution. Frankly, I am just so outraged at the inhumane treatment of American POWs by Saddam Hussein's brutal regime. I am really fighting to hold down a deep anger at these purveyors and practitioners of torture and terror who have been wickedly exhibiting their captives over the last few days.

There is no doubt that war is brutal, and it is a terrible situation; but there are rules of engagement, and there should be some basic human decency. The actions of this regime, including abusing our POWs and using civilians as human shields, serves to remind the world what a vicious, ruthless dictator we are dealing with.

One thing is certain: this is an immoral, immoral regime. These oppressors have made it clear that they have no regard for human life. But they should bear this in mind: our POWs are not faceless victims. They will return home, and those responsible will have to answer to a higher power, and they will answer to one on this Earth, as well.

We have a Member of this House who was once a prisoner of war, my friend, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SAM JOHNSON). On February 13, 1973, the gentleman from Texas boarded a plane at Hanoi's airport and returned home after spending 7 years as a prisoner of war at the hands of the North Vietnamese. He endured unspeakable torture, lived in primitive conditions, and suffered from malnutrition.

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. SAM JOHNSON) serves as an inspiration to every Member of this House and to the people of this country. These captured members of our Armed Forces will soon serve as an inspiration to all Americans. In the meantime, we pray for our unselfish heroes, and we eagerly await their return home. Today's effort will help Americans keep our POWs in our hearts and remember them in our prayers. Nothing is more fitting at this time than honoring those who are sacrificing their liberty in the defense of our freedom.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to my good friend, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES), the original author of this legislation and a distinguished member of our Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me on this very important issue.

Let me first begin by thanking my colleague, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON), for allowing me to work with him to draft this resolution in support of our POWs.

Also, I would like to thank the gentleman from California (Chairman Hunter) sitting here; the ranking member, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON); the gentleman from Illinois (Chairman HYDE); and the ranking member, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), for their work to bring this resolution to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I stand today before the House not only as a Member of Congress but as a former member of the United States Armed Forces, and also as a proud citizen of this great country of ours.

As we all know too well, our country is currently facing very difficult times. We have all heard the unfortunate news concerning the captured members of the 507th Maintenance Company by Iraqi military. Fort Bliss, home of the 507th Maintenance Company, is located in my district. This disturbing news truly hit home for me and for all my constituents in El Paso, Texas. Over the past few months, nearly 4,000 of Fort Bliss's troops have been deployed to the Middle East. On February 17, 2003, the 507th Maintenance Company was also deployed.

Mr. Speaker, I can personally vividly remember that windy day back in 1967 when I was getting ready to deploy overseas. I remember then how proud I was wearing the uniform of our military, and how proud I was to be a soldier representing this great country. I also remember the concern that I had for my family.

□ 1745

I was leaving behind my mom and my dad, my nine brothers and sisters and my then girlfriend Carolina, who today has been my wife for 34 years. I was being sent away to a country unknown to me, away from my family and my friends; and I can assure my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, war is the most difficult of experiences one can experience.

Thirty-six years ago, I served my country proudly. I was fortunate enough to be one of those that returned. I will not even begin today to compare my experiences with those that are facing our courageous men and women being held captive in Iraq. I do strongly commend these troops for their unwavering bravery and pledge my support that they are returned safely.

Mr. Speaker, among those troops are the 507th Maintenance Company. Being held captive is a constituent of mine from El Paso. She is an honorable patriot, and now she is an inspiration not only to the people of El Paso but to all of us all across this country. We stand behind her and her brothers and her sisters in arms.

I would also like to recognize the courage of our other captive troops, including the Apache pilots from Fort Hood, Texas. My deepest and most heartfelt thoughts and prayers are with their families, as well as with all families affected by this tragedy.

I know the people of Fort Bliss and the city of El Paso will continue to keep our brothers and sisters in their prayers. I have the utmost confidence in our armed services so that they will very soon reunite the captive soldiers with their loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, I decided this afternoon that in my remarks I would not mention any names of any of the troops that are currently held prisoner out of respect for their privacy and the privacy of their families, as well as deferring to the request from the Department of Defense. It was recently this afternoon brought to my attention that two more of our soldiers have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

I am proud to be able to stand before this House and express my support for our troops. As a member of the House Committee on Armed Services, I have had the privilege and the honor of visiting our troops on many occasions, not only at Fort Bliss but around this country and around the Middle East. I am very proud and honored to be able to represent such brave and professional soldiers.

Mr. Speaker, I am in strong support of this resolution before us today. I want to assure the American people and the families and the friends of our captive troops that the Congress of the United States stands behind our brave men and women, and we will do everything in our power to see that our prisoners are treated with dignity and humanity and that they are recovered as quickly and as safely as possible.

I strongly encourage all my colleagues to vote for this resolution.

I also in the strongest terms wish to condemn the Iraqi government and the media that has sought to degrade and humiliate our soldiers in violation of the Geneva Convention, as some of my colleagues have already previously mentioned.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to conclude by commending all the members of our armed services that are serving us so valiantly in Operation Iraqi Freedom, as well as the troops that are supporting Operation Enduring Freedom for their patriotism, their bravery and their professionalism will never be forgotten.

I also wish to express my appreciation to the British and Australian troops and other members of the coalition who are fighting alongside Americans in combat and to all the personnel from other allied countries who are providing support to our troops. I support our government's effort to prosecute this war swiftly and successfully with a minimum of military and civilian casualties. Our soldiers deserve our fullest support, and they can count on all of us for that, no matter how long it takes.

Mr. Speaker, may God bless our troops and God bless America. I thank my good friend for yielding me the time.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) the majority whip.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I want to express my gratitude to the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) and the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) as well as the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON) for bringing this resolution on the floor and doing it so quickly after the latest round of atrocities that we see from Saddam Hussein and his regime.

Once again, he showed us just how evil his regime is by the treatment of American POWs in this war. What has happened to Iraqis for decades now we have seen happen to Americans, torture, murder, setting examples so that a tyrant can continue to subjugate his people.

This regime has clearly violated the Geneva Convention. They have apparently murdered imprisoned American soldiers. They have exploited POWs and their families by broadcasting images of these captives on TV and in a broadcast where they also display the bodies of those who died at their hands.

Saddam Hussein's actions in this war demonstrate, once again, just how depraved he is. He has ordered the murder of his own people. He has attacked his neighbors. He has used weapons of mass destruction. Every day that passes in this war unearths a new atrocity from this tyrant.

Iraqi citizens were fired on today as they attempted to throw off their oppressors. News reports were that antiaircraft weapons were turned on people in the streets to take one more step in a series of steps by Saddam Hussein to take freedom away from his people.

Our young people continue to fight courageously for the liberation of Iraq. My thoughts and prayers, the thoughts and prayers of so many in our country go out to everyone involved, those who have given their lives and the families of those who have given their lives in this effort already, the families of those who are prisoners, the families of those who are injured. They should take pride in the commitment that these brave men and women who serve us so well have made, and made, as we have so often done, not selfishly on our part but selflessly reaching out to try to secure freedom for others.

I applaud our troops. I join in this resolution that condemns the behavior of this regime as it violates the standards of civilized society once again.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON), the distinguished ranking member of the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

I first wish to compliment the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) for this resolution and bringing it to the floor. So I rise in support of this resolution, which demands that the Iraqi authorities abide by the principles and obligations of the Geneva Convention relative to the treatment of prisoners of war.

Our Nation is at war with Iraq. Service members on both sides of this conflict have been taken prisoners of war. Yet while the United States has held up its obligations under the Geneva Convention, recent news reports from the Middle East suggest that the Iraqi government and its leaders are not following the requirements of international law.

Mr. Speaker, I recently saw the Al Jazeera tape that has been played regarding the American prisoners of war and those who were killed. Words cannot express my disgust.

The United States has allowed representatives from the International Committee of the Red Cross free access to Iraqi prisoners, as required under the Geneva Convention. The Iraqi government so far as not provided any access to American prisoners of war by the Red Cross.

The Geneva Convention also requires that prisoners of war not be exposed to fire in combat zone, not be used as human shields and not be held up to public ridicule. The United States has fully complied with all these obligations. It is unknown if the Iraqi government has used its American and British prisoners as human shields or exposed them to fire in the combat zone, but as those of my colleagues have seen the videotape that ran on Al Jazeera TV knows, the Iraqis have permitted American casualties to be filmed and have held up our prisoners to public interrogation and ridicule. This is simply unforgivable.

American allies have lost several of their sons and daughters in uniform in this conflict. Our Nation mourns their loss, and the thoughts and prayers of all Americans are with their families and loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, we must demand needed compliance with the Geneva Convention by the Iraqi authorities. Representatives from the International Committee of the Red Cross need to be provided immediate and unfettered access to our prisoners of war. And let there be no misunderstanding, Mr. Speaker. We will give no quarter to those who would blatantly violate the laws of war. They will be held accountable.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER), the Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON) for his great work in bringing this to the floor and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES) and the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) for accommodating and working this resolution and, of course, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON), my partner on the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. Speaker, Iraqi officers today must consider one thing, the United States will win this conflict. Iraq may have the ability to delay that victory for a short period of time, but they cannot stop it.

Secondly, after we win this war, and we will win it, all Iraqi officers will be held accountable for their actions with respect to POWs and the Geneva Conventions. So if prisoners of war are abused in any way, if bodies are displayed, if POWs are displayed or humiliated, or if you abuse women POWs in any way, as they have been abused in the past by Iraqi service personnel, you will be held accountable. That means that those Iraqi officers will be identified, the people who are in charge of that particular operation, and if you go to the far corners of the globe, you will be found by Americans. Just as we have found dozens of terrorists in very remote niches of the world, we will find you; and at that point you will be brought to justice.

So the message for Iraqi military officers right now is a very clear one. If you want to protect your own future after this war is over, you had better protect POWs today.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ).

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Kingston resolution. I want to recognize the brave men and women of our Armed Forces who are valiantly serving our country in the war in Iraq.

Over the weekend, seven of our soldiers were taken prisoner by the Iraqi government. One of the POWs is within my district and lives in Elgin; and I want to take this opportunity to indicate to my colleagues that I wanted to express my support to his family, to his mother and the rest of his family.

I know that his mother, my constituent, has indicated and had asked me to send a message to her son. The family has indicated that the whole community is supporting and praying for his safe return. She is asking him to be strong and to not lose faith in the Lord. The family has faith that you will return home safely.

I hope and I expect that the POWs and our troops that are being held in Iraq will be treated with the dignity and respect that they deserve under international law. Iraq and the United States are both parties to the Geneva Convention, and they are required to treat POWs both in a humane way and to protect them against any violence, any intimidation and to avoid insults and public ridicule. The actions of the Iraqi government that we have seen so far of displaying our captured soldiers on television is unacceptable.

I support our troops who are in Iraq, and I want them to know that the country is fully behind them, and we pray for their safe return. In these times of conflict is when I want the families of the soldiers to know that they have our prayers and assurance that we will do everything we can.

□ 1800

My sympathies go out to the families of our soldiers who have lost their lives, have been wounded, are prisoners of war, or are missing in action. I hope that this war ends soon and successfully and all our soldiers will return home safely.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair must remind Members that remarks in debate should be addressed to the Chair and not to others in the second person.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES), a senior member of the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), and certainly the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON) for offering this resolution.

I represent Camp Lejeune Marine Base, Cherry Point Marine Air Station, New River Air Facility, and Seymour Johnson Air Force Base; and I stand with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle. I am offended on behalf of our men and women in uniform by the way that the POWs have been treated. It is unacceptable. I want to take my limited time by making a point on a part of this resolution that joins the President in warning all Iraqi authorities that any individual who mistreats any prisoner of war in violation of the convention shall be considered a war criminal and shall be prosecuted as such to the full extent of United States and international law.

Mr. Speaker, in 1995 the first bill that I had the opportunity to introduce was called the War Crimes Act of 1996. I worked with a former POW of the Vietnam War, Mike Cronin, a Navy pilot shot down, and he spent 6½ years at the Hanoi Hilton. I know the agony that our POWs are going through in the hands of the Iraqis, and I want the Iraqis to know that we are not going to allow mistreatments in violation of the Geneva Convention.

I want to mention the bill that Mike Cronin helped me and other Members of the House and Senate pass. The War Crimes Act of 1996 and the Expanded War Crimes of 1997 carried out the obligation the United States incurred after it signed the 1949 Geneva Convention for the protection of victims of war. This legislation allows for prosecution of war criminals in the absence of a specific international tribunal or military judicial proceedings with penalties which could include fines, life imprisonment or death in circumstances where the act resulted in the death of the victim.

Mr. Speaker, I mention that because I want people to know that this country is not going to allow our men and women in uniform to be mistreated.

I close by asking God to please bless our men and women in uniform, please bless the families, and please, God, bless America.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that each side be given an additional 10 minutes so that Members who choose to speak on this important resolution may have the opportunity to do so.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON), the original sponsor of this resolution, for his vision and his willingness to ensure that we stand united on this question of our POWs, as well as the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES), whose district is most pointedly impacted. I also thank the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), who has been a champion on the issue of human rights, along with the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), who has been on the forefront of the issue of human rights; and these are questions of human rights.

I come to the floor today to show truly to the world that the Congress stands united in support of our troops and demand that they be treated humanely and with great cause of concern. I am reading from the provisions of the Geneva Convention, article 12; and it says prisoners of war are in the hands of the enemy power, but not of the individual enemy unit that captured them. Irrespective of the individual responsibilities that may exist, the detaining power is responsible for the treatment given to them. Article 13 says prisoners of war must at all times be humanely treated.

I stand before this House not calling the names of those who are missing or the names of POWs except to say that a large number of them have come from the State of Texas and the 507th Maintenance Company in Fort Bliss, Texas. To all of the families, some of them who have lost loved ones now as the war is raging, and those who are missing and those who are POWs, we stand united to demand that the Geneva Convention be adhered to. This resolution is a loud sound that gives a clarion call to the Iraqi Government and to the Iraqi military that we will not tolerate the inhumane treatment of our brave young men and women. And it also states that the United States, as we capture the Iraqi military, also adhere to the Geneva Convention; and we have been told by our military leadership that that is the case.

Mr. Speaker, as I stand here united, let it be clear there is no divide between us in our support of the United States troops. They are valiant young men and women. Their families are standing by. Our prayers are with them; but most of all our resolve for them to come home safely, that they be treated humanely and that the international law of the Geneva Convention be adhered to. We stand united, undivided, and we will prevail.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY).

(Mr. GINGREY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the resolution offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON). It is incumbent on the Congress to send a warning to Saddam Hussein and his regime of their obligation to treat prisoners of war humanely and abide by the rules of the Geneva Convention.

Mr. Speaker, the State of Georgia received sad news yesterday that one of our brave sons, Army Chief Warrant Officer Ronald Young, Jr., of Lithia Springs was captured and taken prisoner by enemy forces in Iraq. His capture and detainment by Iraqi forces troubles me greatly, and I know the entire House joins me in sending my strongest prayers and thoughts to his parents, Kaye and Ronald, Sr., as well as his wife, Stephanie, and their infant son. We pray for his safety and his quick return home.

Mr. Speaker, our goal is the swift and safe repatriation of all prisoners of war at the earliest possible moment, but I want the warning to Saddam Hussein and his regime to be clear: Any individual who mistreats a prisoner of war in violation of the Geneva Convention will be considered a war criminal and prosecuted to the full extent of United States and international law.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support this resolution today and to remember the young family in your hearts and prayers.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE).

(Mr. COLE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, this is the first occasion I have had to speak in the well of the House, and I do not expect to ever have an opportunity to speak on a more important issue on a more important occasion.

I keep in my office a picture of my uncle who was liberated from an axis prison camp in August 1945 after spending over 3 years in enemy captivity. He is surrounded by another group of brave Americans, and I keep that picture to remind me of the sacrifices people paid so that we have an opportunity to come here and debate and argue and discuss the great issues of the day.

I often asked my uncle when I was growing up if he ever thought that he would be left behind or forgotten. He told me never, that he knew no American would ever leave another American in captivity. I knew some day my fellows would come for me.

Mr. Speaker, I want to assure those brave men and women in captivity tonight that their country has not forgotten them. We will come for them. We will make sure that they come home safe, sound and free.

I also want to join the Members in this House in warning their captors that if they are not treated with respect and with the dignity that they not only deserve but that we extend to our enemies in this particular conflict, there will be a terrific price to pay in terms of being war criminals.

Finally, I want to say how proud I am to be in this body at this moment, where we have differences occasionally on policy, even this policy; but we have absolutely no difference when it comes to our regard for the men and women in uniform that serve and protect us, and absolutely no difference in our determination to reach out to them to protect them and to see that they are dealt with fairly when they are in captivity and they come home safely.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) to pay special tribute to women soldiers.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I associate myself with the remarks of the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE) regarding Members' differing views on the policies of this war, but that we are united behind the idea and the efforts of our troops.

I do want to acknowledge that one of the POWs from Texas is a woman who happens to be a single parent. I want to say on behalf of the women of the United States military, to thank this Congress for its support of women in the military, recognizing their talents and contributions, and not one of them has refused to serve their Nation.

In particular, I think it is important to lift up the Geneva Convention so that none of our troops, whether or not one happens to be a woman, and may be violated, that none are subjected to inhumane treatment and that we stand united on this. There is no difference on how we will fight for our troops and how our troops' bravery will show themselves well on behalf of the American people. God bless them and God bless the United States of America.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY.)

(Mr. MURPHY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I am here to voice strong support for the resolution offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON). By passing this resolution, we in Congress will call upon the Iraqi regime to abide by the obligations of the Geneva Convention by treating prisoners of war with dignity and humanity. We are also making it very clear that any individual who mistreats a prisoner of war in violation of the Geneva Convention will be considered a war criminal themselves and prosecuted to the full extent of United States and international law.

The Geneva Convention requires the humane treatment of prisoners of war and that prisoners of war be protected against acts of violence, intimidation, insults, and public curiosity. Furthermore, the Geneva Convention prohibits the infliction of physical or mental torture and other forms of coercion on prisoners of war to secure from them information of any kind whatsoever, and provides that prisoners of war who refuse to answer may not be threatened, insulted, or exposed to unpleasant or disadvantageous treatment of any kind.

U.S. service personnel have confirmed several prisoners of war, and we have to make sure we protect them. I would like to mention as an aside that I ask the American media, television, radio, newspapers, to also avoid any exploitation of family and friends of captives. Information that may be released for the sake of trying to present a good story may be played before our prisoners to try to break their will or manipulate them. I ask Americans if they see such exposures and exploitations, they will speak out.

The thoughts and prayers of all Americans are with the families and loved ones of those soldiers who are captured or missing in action. We owe a debt of gratitude to all servicemen and women who are sacrificing to defend our freedom.

Let me leave this final message to the Iraqi military and their leadership. Soon, very soon, you will be surrounded. Soon, very soon, you will be defeated. Soon, very soon, you will be captives, and the fate you will face will be decided by how you treat our POWs.

□ 1815

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE).

(Mr. PEARCE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I do rise in support of the resolution concerning our POWs and appreciate the sponsors of that bill and the bipartisan support that is coming today.

Mr. Speaker, the hometown of one of the POWs is in my district. Last Monday I had the opportunity to visit with his wife and discuss the situation as she understood it. I was pleased to note that she seemed comfortable and confident that the military had communicated well with her and was very aware of the potentials that she brought to the table by making public statements and was very careful to not draw too much attention to her husband.

Mr. Speaker, I remember a generation ago, 30 years ago, in a different war, in the Vietnam War where an entire segment of the population spoke out in favor of the opposition. One actress even went to Hanoi with prisoners of war there. I would remind the public that there is still pain and an entire Vietnam generation. I speak for that generation urging those who are opposed to the war to please stay here and not take the side of the opponents in this very difficult situation.

I ask the prayers of our country for the young men and young women who are serving in that theater but especially for those who are POWs. And for Specialist Joseph Hudson from Alamogordo, New Mexico, I send my special prayers to you and request the prayers of the country for your family and for you.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 118. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this concurrent resolution and I thank Mr. KINGSTON for introducing this important resolution.

First, I would like to commend all of the U.S. troops participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom. All of you are in our thoughts and prayers and especially those who have been captured by the Iraqi regime.

One of the soldiers captured by Iraqi forces is Army Specialist Joseph N. Hudson of the 507th Maintenance Company stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas. Specialist Hudson is a resident of Alamogordo, New Mexico. Hudson is 23 years old. A 1998 graduate of Alamogordo High School, Hudson is described by his principal as a ''good kid.'' ''He took care of business. He went through the system and took

care of what he needed to,'' the Principal said. Hudson has a wife and daughter—and a very concerned family.

Specialist Hudson, along with the other soldiers currently held by the Iraqi regime, represent the best of our country. These are courageous, young soldiers who were captured during an ambush while fighting to bring freedom to a people who have not known it for a very long time.

It is important that we speak on this issue on a bipartisan basis. This House must condemn the actions taken by the Iraqi regime and hold them accountable for their actions.

We must let Saddam Hussein and his regime know that we expect them to treat our soldiers in accordance with the Geneva Convention or else they will be dealt with accordingly.

It is time.

I pray for the prompt and safe return home of Specialist Hudson and the other American soldiers held captive by the Iraqi regime.

I ask all of my colleagues to support this concurrent resolution.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE).

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 118, sponsored by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON), urging the Iraqi government and military to treat our troops humanely and our POWs also in accordance with the Geneva Conventions.

Our prisoners of war should be protected by the standards the Geneva Conventions outline, which prohibit persons engaged in warfare from humiliating, televising or harming prisoners of war.

Mr. Speaker, we probably all remember the news stories about our POWs from the conflict in Afghanistan at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba. The POWs there were made to kneel; and people around the world erupted in protest, claiming that we were being unfair to them.

This is nothing compared to what our prisoners of war in Iraq are having to endure. The Iraqi soldiers have not followed the traditional rules of warfare. They have dressed their troops in civilian clothes and hidden them in crowded public places and placed troops in hospitals and schools and fired upon our troops who cannot fire back, and they have instructed their troops to ambush Americans while attempting to surrender.

Mr. Speaker, just today I had the unfortunate experience of calling a family in my district whose son was killed in the line of duty in Iraq. Lance Corporal Brian Rory Buesing, who was only 20 years old, was ambushed by Iraqi troops who were pretending to surrender. These kinds of unfair, inhumane, indecent actions are happening, unfortunately, all the time in this conflict. I urge the Iraqi government to treat our prisoners of war with the respect we treat theirs. We urge other nations in the world to be as outraged at their practices as I am and I am sure all my colleagues are, and I urge them to also support this resolution.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER), chairman of the Committee on Rules.

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding time. I want to begin by congratulating the authors of this resolution, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON), the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES) and, of course, my good friend, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), and my dear friend and neighbor, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), who has spoken so eloquently on this issue of the war. I want to especially congratulate him because of his life experiences which he brings to this entire question and challenge.

During the 1980s, Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity to serve on the POW/MIA Task Force. I first was privileged to join this great body in 1981. I came, in fact, with my friend from California (Mr. LANTOS).

Shortly after arriving I met with a woman. Mrs. Masterson was her name. Her daughter looked at me and said, ''Congressman, please tell me that my father is dead.'' It was one of the most incredible things said to me because this young woman lived daily with the uncertainty as to whether her father had survived or not. He was missing in action, and still is, in Vietnam.

That is why this resolution is so important and the message which has come forth as I have listened to the eloquent words of our new colleague, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE), who talked about his uncle, as I have listened to so many people talk about this, this challenge we face will, I believe, lead every American to redouble our efforts to ensure that we bring about justice. This is a war of good versus evil. We are on the side of good, and the courageous men and women who have sacrificed and stepped up to the plate are in fact on the side of good. That is why our effort to underscore the importance of the safe return of those prisoners of war and any missing in action is of the highest priority for all of us. I congratulate my friends and look forward to their safe return.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Before yielding back my time, I would like to make one observation. We have paid tributes to our military who have been captured. We have expressed our determination that they be treated with dignity and within the confines of the Geneva Convention, and we have expressed our commitment that those who do not will be punished however long it takes us to find them and to bring them to justice.

There is only one item that has not yet been mentioned in this debate. The Arab television network Al Jazeera has become part and parcel of Saddam Hussein's propaganda machine. I call on the government of Qatar and others who are capable of doing so of rectifying the outrageous policies of this television network which is being used to humiliate and intimidate our military. It is unacceptable that an international television network be used as part of Saddam Hussein's propaganda machine, and we expect action to be taken on that issue.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank all of our colleagues for their insightful and heartfelt comments. I am pleased to yield the balance of my time to the distinguished gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON), the author of the resolution, a member of the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time. I want to thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES), the cosponsor of this, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER) for all the work that their committees did in bringing this to the floor today.

I am wearing, Mr. Speaker, a patch of the Third Infantry Division. This particular emblem, and we all get many lapel buttons in Congress, but it means probably more to me than any that I have ever received. It was given to me by retired Lieutenant Colonel Robin Webber, whose husband is General-promotable Joe Webber. He is over in the theater right now from the Third Infantry Division.

In communities like Fort Stewart, Georgia, which I have the honor of representing where the Third Infantry is headquartered, and Fort Bliss, Texas, and other military communities around the country, we see these young soldiers and some of the older soldiers and all the soldiers and the support personnel as friends and neighbors. When we have an international conflict, we look at it both on a personal level and, of course, on an international level.

I was there at the dockside when the Mendonza ship was loading up the equipment from Fort Stewart, 500,000 square feet worth of tanks and personnel movers and helicopters.

I was there at the DAG at Hunter Air Base when we were shaking hands with the soldiers and standing by the USO as they put the deodorant and the Bibles and sometimes the pocketbooks and other items in bags for them, shaking hands with these soldiers as they went off to mission.

I was at the luncheon meeting with the military wives' organization when Ms. Webber gave this patch to me. They were talking about their own personal struggles and how this conflict affects their lives. Yet to a person and to an experience, everybody who was

involved in this great human chain of activity was very proud of the work of the Third Infantry Division; and indeed now, as they sit on the banks of the Euphrates River, our hearts and thoughts remain with them more than ever.

The men and women who make up the Third Infantry Division, of course, come from all over the country. They come from Mission, Texas; Alamogordo, New Mexico; Park City, Kansas; Pennsauken, New Jersey; Lithia Springs, Georgia; Orlando, Florida; and all over. In that way they are so much members of the American fabric that we all are with them, even the people who did not see the horrible film which Members of Congress saw today, which Members of Congress saw some of our bravest and finest young men dead in apparent execution. We saw other soldiers, men and one woman, who were detained as prisoners of war.

It is with this outrage that we all come together on a bipartisan basis and support H. Con. Res. 118. We believe it is very important to send a signal not just to the soldiers and the members of the Iraqi military but the international community that we believe in the Geneva Convention and we expect any nation that we are at war with to abide by the Geneva Convention.

The four Geneva Conventions, Mr. Speaker, were agreed upon in August, 1949, and they were signed by 164 different nations, including Iraq. The International Committee of the Red Cross oversees the implementation of the conventions. The conventions include the following:

Article 13 states that prisoners of war must at all times be treated humanely, they must be protected against acts of violence or intimidation and against insults and public curiosity.

Article 14 states that prisoners of war are entitled in all circumstances to respect for their persons and their honor.

Article 17 states, in part, every prisoner of war, when questioned on the subject, is bound to give only his surname, first name and rank, date of birth, and army, regimental or personnel serial number or equivalent information. No physical or mental torture, nor any other form of coercion, may be inflicted on prisoners of war to secure from them information of any kind whatsoever.

Article 19 states that POWs shall be evacuated as soon as possible after their capture to camps situated in an area far enough from the combat zone for them to be out of danger.

And article 23 says no POW may be sent to, or detailed in, areas where he may be exposed to the fire of the combat zone.

These articles, Mr. Speaker, seem to be totally ignored. We have soldiers over there now that are captured, seven that we know of, that we have confirmed. Yet we have 4,000 Iraqi soldiers, and we are abiding by the Geneva Convention. How easy it would be to manage for the care of seven prisoners compared to 4,000. Yet the United States, just like Iraq in 1949, signed these conventions; and we intend to stick by them.

By passing this resolution today, which we will, I hope, on a bipartisan and unanimous basis, we are sending a strong signal, three of them, Mr. Speaker, one to the troops, to say that you are foremost on our minds, so are your families and so are the other soldiers who are fighting to regain your freedom. Number two, we are sending a signal to the government and the military of Iraq that if you do ignore the Geneva Convention, then we intend to give you a criminal trial as a war criminal when this conflict is over with or as soon as possible.

□ 1830

And, number three, we are sending a signal to the international community because we know there are many who have opposed this action. We know there are many nations who do not like the United States of America, and yet since there are 164 nations that have signed the Geneva Conventions, we hope that all 162 others, excluding the United States and Iraq, would join us and say this is an outrage, we insist that Iraq abide by the Geneva Conventions. And this is an opportunity for France, for Russia, for China, for Germany, or any other critics that we have in this action to come together, as have Members of Congress, to say this is not right, we want these conventions followed.

So with that, Mr. Speaker, I yield the floor and close with the remarks of so many other colleagues. God bless these prisoners, God bless our troops, and God bless America.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, we have brave men and women in harms way in Iraq. They are risking their lives for the cause of freedom and security for our Nation. We have lost soldiers in this war, and now we know that Iraq has taken prisoners.

Two of those brave soldiers that have been taken prisoner are from Fort Hood, in my district—Apache pilots from the 1st Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment. These men and their families are in my prayers. I know they have a very difficult road in front of them.

We stand here on the floor of this House to speak for these two pilots, and for all the men and women who may be prisoners of war during this conflict. Iraq, as a signatory of the Geneva Convention, has an obligation to treat American prisoners humanely.

We have already received indications that Iraq is not adhering strictly to the Convention. This is outrageous and must change immediately.

If I could speak to the prisoners and their families for a moment . . . the whole country is behind you right now. We're thinking of you and praying you will be reunited soon. Your sacrifices for your country will not be forgotten.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a proud American to commend the brave men and women of our armed services who are carrying out the mission to provide hope and freedom to the Iraqi people held captive by Saddam Hussein and his regime.

I also join my colleagues in praying for the continued safety of the Prisoners of War from the United States: five members of the 507th Maintenance Company, taken from their convoy during the confusion of war, and the two pilots of an Apache helicopter shot down while on a mission. Sadly, the fates of several others are still unknown.

I am disgusted by the Iraqi regime's blatant disregard of the Geneva Conventions implemented after World War II to protect soldiers on either side of any conflict. The regime of Saddam Hussein, which rules over a signatory nation of the treaty, is responsible for the safety of our soldiers. If they ignore this serious responsibility, they will bear the consequences when they are prosecuted as Prisoners of War after this conflict. The United States will not allow Iraq's failure to abide by international law go unpunished.

Finally, I wish to add my voice to those commending all our men and women in uniform, praising them for their efforts and praying for their swift and safe return to us.

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, two days ago, horrifying video broadcast by the Arab satellite station Al Jazeera filtered back to us here showing tortured and murdered American troops.

I want Saddam to know that here in America we are angry, and we want justice.

The brutal treatment of our unarmed troops has produced in America a wave of defiance; Absolute disgust of Saddam; Magnified the determination of our American military; and Hardened our commitment to remove this barbaric regime.

This treatment provides a sharp reminder of the past cruelty American prisoners of war suffered during the Second World War, Korea and Vietnam.

As a nation, we endured these hardships then—we will endure them now. However, we will endure this pain only until we have Saddam and the generals who ordered these killings—then we will seek the justice our murdered servicemen deserve.

Deliberately killing our men will not weaken our resolve or change our goal to free Iraq. The regime of Saddam Hussein will be removed—the outcome of the conflict is determined and settled. We will win, we will bring our troops back home and we will punish the Iraqi murderers.

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the resolution demanding Iraq abide by the Geneva Conventions in the treatment of prisoners of war. While war is hideous and deadly, civilized nations of the world over 50 years ago came together to make the situation of POWS less awkward and more humane.

Iraq is a signatory to the conventions. The Geneva convention Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War requires the humane treatment of prisoners of war, and that POWS be protected against acts of violence or intimidation, insults, and public curiosity. The convention also explicitly prohibits the infliction of physical or mental torture; provides that POWs may not be exposed to fire in a war zone; and requires that a government holding such prisoners grant representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross free access to all POWs.

Congress demands that Iraqi authorities abide by the principles and the obligations of the Geneva Convention Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, and we condemn

the failure of Iraqi authorities to treat prisoners of war in strict conformity with the conventions. Congress also demands that Iraqi authorities permit the International Committee of the Red Cross to visit all U.S. prisoners of war and any other prisoner of war at the earliest possible time, in accordance with the requirements of the conventions.

The U.S. government has informed the Iraqi authorities that we will treat all captured Iraqi prisoners in accordance with the Geneva Convention. We are a peace-loving nation roused to war, but we are not inhumane; we will treat the prisoners of Iraq with respect and decency. We demand no less from the other signatories of the convention.

This resolution warns all Iraqi authorities that anyone mistreating any POW is in violation of the conventions and will be a war criminal this country will chase down and prosecute to the full extent of U.S. and international law.

I join my colleagues in commending the bravery and professionalism of the members of the U.S. armed forces and its coalition partners. My heart is heavy for the families and loved one of those who are killed, wounded, missing in action, or taken prisoner by Iraqi authorities.

Know that we do not leave our men and women on the battlefield, we will fight to find them and bring them all home.

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on April 16, 1966, during my second tour of Vietnam I was shot down. I spent nearly 7 years as a prisoner of war—more than half of that time in solitary confinement.

During my 25th mission I weighed about 200 pounds. During my captivity in Vietnam, I got down to 120 pounds. My captors beat me, tortured me, starved me, and interrogated me.

When I ejected out of the plane, I broke my back and right arm. It was these injuries my captors would use to push me to the brink. One time they put me in front of a firing squad and said, 'we're going to kill you.' They readied their AK–47s. Now I started praying harder than I ever prayed in my life. In a few seconds, the guns went click, click, click, click, click. I laughed at them—big mistake. It is only because of the grace of God I survived.

When I heard about American P.O.W.s in Iraq, my heart skipped a beat. And when I saw pictures of them—I was furious!! That is a flagrant violation of the Geneva Convention. That's just wrong.

It is my hope that this Congress and the international community will send a strong signal to the Iraqis that if they do not uphold the Geneva Conventions and treat our troops humanely . . . the Iraqis will be sought . . . they will be caught . . . and they will be punished as war criminals.

I just hope that those Iraqis see the writing on the walls that they're working for a falling regime and that if they don't adhere to these international laws they will be punished.

Now my heart goes out to the family and friends of our troops and especially our P.O.W.s. You're in our thoughts and prayers. And to our soldiers—all I can tell you is that what you're doing is the greatest job in the world and America will be there for you!

To the P.O.W.s—we will find you and we will come and get you! And when we do—trust me—it will be the most incredible day of your life. God bless you and God bless America.

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of both the important resolutions we are considering today. These resolutions are two ways that we in Congress can express our appreciation for our troops in Iraq, share our condolences with the families of those who have been lost and increase support around the country for our men and women in uniform who are serving their country with bravery and much success.

H. Res. 153 calls for observance of a day of prayer and fasting in our country. People in our country and our leaders have a long history of turning in God in times of need, especially war situations. We need to again take time, regardless of our religious traditions, to ask for guidance and strength for our military leaders and the future of our Nation. We have been threatened by terrorism, and we are acting now to prevent future threats. We pray for the knowledge to make the right decisions and the ability to help advance peace and safety around the world.

I also strongly support the Concurrent Resolution regarding the treatment of our prisoners of war. We know how poorly Saddam Hussein has treated his own citizens over the years, so there is reason to be concerned for the safety of our POW's. I join the Congress in sending a clear message to the Iraqis who are holding our prisoners: treat them with respect and dignity, in the same manner we are treating your prisoners. Any one who violates the law and mistreats our POWs will be prosecuted to the fullest extent.

As we witness our U.S. and coalition troops serving with bravery and resolve in their mission to disarm Iraq, I have great confidence in their ability to get the job done. They are focused on the mission at hand. They have the advantage of precision weapons, and we have seen their ability to select and hit targets. Their commanders have planned and executed an aggressive strategy in the air and on the ground.

Here at home, we need a showing of support for our troops and their families. Many in Kentucky have loved ones serving our Nation in Iraq, especially with the deployments from Fort Knox and Fort Campbell. As our men and women in uniform fight in order to improve security in the world, their anxious and proud family members keep faith and await their safe return. This military effort to provide for future security has not come without loss of life. We pray for those who have been lost, for their families and for our troops' safety.

We will be successful in disarming Saddam Hussein of his weapons of mass destruction, no matter how long it takes. We will eliminate the threat he poses to our country and to our allies. The Iraqi people are more than ready for liberation from Saddam.

A liberated Iraq with a leader who no longer threatens peace and security is a goal all nations can agree on. The United States is providing the military means to that goal, and our country and the Congress have the highest support and appreciation for our troops.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BASS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 118, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed until tomorrow.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on House Resolution 153 also will resume tomorrow.

INTERIM COMMITTEE EXPENSES FOR 108TH CONGRESS THROUGH APRIL 11, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution (H. Res. 163) providing amounts from the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives for continuing expenses of standing and select committees of the House from April 1, 2003, through April 11, 2003, and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Chairman NEY) to explain.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Connecticut for yielding.

The Committee on House Administration in conjunction with the Speaker's office, our ranking member, and all the members of the Committee on House Administration continue to work towards a final resolution that will ultimately provide House committees with a permanent funding resolution for the 108th Congress. House rules contain an interim funding provision that provides a temporary funding mechanism to fund committees until a permanent committee funding resolution is passed. The deadline set by the House rules is March 31. However, negotiations on the 2004 budget resolution delayed work on the committee budget resolution which will make it impossible to pass this resolution by the March 31 deadline set forth in the House rules. As a result, we are seeking unanimous consent to pass a temporary funding resolution which would temporarily fund committees after the March 31 deadline and until a permanent funding resolution is passed.

I also want to thank the tremendous communication, cooperation of the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON), our ranking member, and the members of the committee who diligently worked together to achieve a funding document that will be able to allow the committees of the House to do their job, respond to the citizens of the United States, and carry on the very important work of the House committees.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to

object, again let me applaud the chairman and the staff and the committee for their outstanding work in echoing the comments of our Chair, and if the Chair would engage me in a short dialogue, this extension has no impact on the well thought-out plan of the two-thirds/one-third distribution in the committee that all the Chairs and ranking members had agreed to over the course; is that correct?

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield further, to answer the ranking member's question, it has absolutely zero impact. Our ranking member has made it crystal clear, and we understand that there will be the two-thirds/one-third. We appreciate that. We appreciate our Chairs cooperating fully on that and the ranking member. So there will be zero impact on the two-thirds/one-third ratio.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, continuing that dialogue, it is our understanding as well that as we proceed down this course that the Special Select Committee on Homeland Security has been treated outside of this process as well; is that correct?

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield further, the gentleman is correct. We have a very unique situation in this funding resolution; and I have been here 8 years, and for one of the first times we have a major committee, which is important, and has been created, and now we have to do the funding for it. So this year our ranking member and me and the members of the committee had even a bigger task to set up the funding, the process for that committee for the gentleman from California (Chairman COX) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER), ranking member, and to make sure that important committee can function and that it really is considered absolutely outside the box.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Ohio for clarifying that. The distinguished chairman again has done an outstanding job in putting this together.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 163

Resolved, That there shall be available from the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives such amounts as may be necessary for continuing expenses of standing and select committees of the House for the period beginning on April 1, 2003, and ending on April 11, 2003, on the same terms and conditions as amounts were available to such committees for the period beginning at noon on January 3, 2003, and ending at midnight on March 31, 2003, pursuant to clause 7 of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, or, in the case of the Select Committee on Homeland Security, pursuant to House Resolution 77 (agreed to February 13, 2003).

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 163.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

KEEPING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SAFE ACT OF 2003

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the order of the House of March 25, 2003, I call up the bill (H.R. 14) to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to make improvements to and reauthorize programs under that Act, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Tuesday, March 25, 2003, the bill is considered read for amendment.

The text of H.R. 14 is as follows:

H.R. 14

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 ''Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003''.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT ACT

Sec. 101. Findings.

Subtitle A—General Program

Sec. 111. National Clearinghouse for Information Relating to Child Abuse.
Sec. 112. Research and assistance activities and demonstrations.
Sec. 113. Grants to States and public or private agencies and organizations.
Sec. 114. Grants to States for child abuse and neglect prevention and treatment programs.
Sec. 115. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 116. Reports.

Subtitle B—Community-Based Grants for the Prevention of Child Abuse

Sec. 121. Purpose and authority.
Sec. 122. Eligibility.
Sec. 123. Amount of grant.
Sec. 124. Existing grants.
Sec. 125. Application.
Sec. 126. Local program requirements.
Sec. 127. Performance measures.
Sec. 128. National network for community-based family resource programs.
Sec. 129. Definitions.
Sec. 130. Authorization of appropriations.

Subtitle C—Conforming Amendments

Sec. 141. Conforming amendments.

TITLE II—ADOPTION OPPORTUNITIES

Sec. 201. Congressional findings and declaration of purpose.
Sec. 202. Information and services.
Sec. 203. Study of adoption placements.
Sec. 204. Studies on successful adoptions.
Sec. 205. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE III—ABANDONED INFANTS ASSISTANCE

Sec. 301. Findings.
Sec. 302. Establishment of local programs.
Sec. 303. Evaluations, study, and reports by Secretary.
Sec. 304. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 305. Definitions.

TITLE IV—FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES ACT

Sec. 401. State demonstration grants.
Sec. 402. Secretarial responsibilities.
Sec. 403. Evaluation.
Sec. 404. Information and technical assistance centers.
Sec. 405. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 406. Grants for State domestic violence coalitions.
Sec. 407. Evaluation and monitoring.
Sec. 408. Family member abuse information and documentation project.
Sec. 409. Model State leadership grants.
Sec. 410. National domestic violence hotline grant.
Sec. 411. Youth education and domestic violence.
Sec. 412. Demonstration grants for community initiatives.
Sec. 413. Transitional housing assistance.
Sec. 414. Technical and conforming amendments.

TITLE I—CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT ACT

SEC. 101. FINDINGS.

Section 2 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''close to 1,000,000'' and inserting ''approximately 900,000'';

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (11) as paragraphs (4) through (13), respectively;

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2)(A) more children suffer neglect than any other form of maltreatment; and

''(B) investigations have determined that approximately 63 percent of children who were victims of maltreatment in 2000 suffered neglect, 19 percent suffered physical abuse, 10 percent suffered sexual abuse, and 8 percent suffered emotional maltreatment;

''(3)(A) child abuse can result in the death of a child;

''(B) in 2000, an estimated 1,200 children were counted by child protection services to have died as a result of abuse or neglect; and

''(C) children younger than 1 year old comprised 44 percent of child abuse fatalities and 85 percent of child abuse fatalities were younger than 6 years of age;'';

(4) by striking paragraph (4) (as so redesignated), and inserting the following:

''(4)(A) many of these children and their families fail to receive adequate protection and treatment;

''(B) slightly less than half of these children (45 percent in 2000) and their families fail to receive adequate protection or treatment; and

''(C) in fact, approximately 80 percent of all children removed from their homes and placed in foster care in 2000, as a result of an investigation or assessment conducted by the child protective services agency, received no services;'';

(5) in paragraph (5) (as so redesignated)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''organizations'' and inserting ''community-based organizations'';

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking ''ensures'' and all that follows through ''knowledge,'' and inserting ''recognizes the need for

properly trained staff with the qualifications needed''; and

(C) in subparagraph (E), by inserting before the semicolon the following: '', which may impact child rearing patterns, while at the same time, not allowing those differences to enable abuse'';

(6) in paragraph (7) (as so redesignated), by striking ''this national child and family emergency'' and inserting ''child abuse and neglect''; and

(7) in paragraph (9) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by striking ''intensive'' and inserting ''needed''; and

(B) by striking ''if removal has taken place'' and inserting ''where appropriate''.

Subtitle A—General Program

SEC. 111. NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE FOR INFORMATION RELATING TO CHILD ABUSE.

(a) FUNCTIONS.—Section 103(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5104(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''all programs,'' and all that follows through ''neglect; and'' and inserting ''all effective programs, including private and community-based programs, that show promise of success with respect to the prevention, assessment, identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect and hold the potential for broad scale implementation and replication;'';

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon;

(3) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3);

(4) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) maintain information about the best practices used for achieving improvements in child protective systems;''; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) provide technical assistance upon request that may include an evaluation or identification of—

''(A) various methods and procedures for the investigation, assessment, and prosecution of child physical and sexual abuse cases;

''(B) ways to mitigate psychological trauma to the child victim; and

''(C) effective programs carried out by the States under this Act; and

''(5) collect and disseminate information relating to various training resources available at the State and local level to—

''(A) individuals who are engaged, or who intend to engage, in the prevention, identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect; and

''(B) appropriate State and local officials to assist in training law enforcement, legal, judicial, medical, mental health, education, and child welfare personnel.''.

(b) COORDINATION WITH AVAILABLE RESOURCES.—Section 103(c)(1) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5104(c)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (E), by striking ''105(a); and'' and inserting ''104(a);'';

(2) by redesignating subparagraph (F) as subparagraph (G); and

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (E) the following:

''(F) collect and disseminate information that describes best practices being used throughout the Nation for making appropriate referrals related to, and addressing, the physical, developmental, and mental health needs of abused and neglected children; and''.

SEC. 112. RESEARCH AND ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS.

(a) RESEARCH.—Section 104(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5105(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), in the first sentence, by inserting '', including longitudinal research,'' after ''interdisciplinary program of research''; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting before the semicolon the following: '', including the effects of abuse and neglect on a child's development and the identification of successful early intervention services or other services that are needed'';

(C) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) by striking ''judicial procedures'' and inserting ''judicial systems, including multidisciplinary, coordinated decisionmaking procedures''; and

(ii) by striking ''and'' at the end; and

(D) in subparagraph (D)—

(i) in clause (viii), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(ii) by redesignating clause (ix) as clause (x); and

(iii) by inserting after clause (viii), the following:

''(ix) the incidence and prevalence of child maltreatment by a wide array of demographic characteristics such as age, sex, race, family structure, household relationship (including the living arrangement of the resident parent and family size), school enrollment and education attainment, disability, grandparents as caregivers, labor force status, work status in previous year, and income in previous year; and'';

(E) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (I); and

(F) by inserting after subparagraph (C), the following:

''(D) the evaluation and dissemination of best practices consistent with the goals of achieving improvements in the child protective services systems of the States in accordance with paragraphs (1) through (12) of section 106(a);

''(E) effective approaches to interagency collaboration between the child protection system and the juvenile justice system that improve the delivery of services and treatment, including methods for continuity of treatment plan and services as children transition between systems;

''(F) an evaluation of the redundancies and gaps in the services in the field of child abuse and neglect prevention in order to make better use of resources;

''(G) the nature, scope, and practice of voluntary relinquishment for foster care or State guardianship of low income children who need health services, including mental health services;

''(H) the information on the national incidence of child abuse and neglect specified in clauses (i) through (xi) of subparagraph (H); and'';

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

''(B) Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, and every 2 years thereafter, the Secretary shall provide an opportunity for public comment concerning the priorities proposed under subparagraph (A) and maintain an official record of such public comment.'';

(3) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (4);

(4) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) RESEARCH.—The Secretary shall conduct research on the national incidence of child abuse and neglect, including the information on the national incidence on child abuse and neglect specified in subparagraphs (i) through (ix) of paragraph (1)(I).

''(3) REPORT.—Not later than 4 years after the date of the enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions of the Senate a report that contains the results of the research conducted under paragraph (2).''.

(b) PROVISION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Section 104(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5105(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking ''nonprofit private agencies and'' and inserting ''private agencies and community-based''; and

(B) by inserting '', including replicating successful program models,'' after ''programs and activities''; and

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) effective approaches being utilized to link child protective service agencies with health care, mental health care, and developmental services to improve forensic diagnosis and health evaluations, and barriers and shortages to such linkages.''.

(c) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS.—Section 104 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5105) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS.—The Secretary may award grants to, and enter into contracts with, States or public or private agencies or organizations (or combinations of such agencies or organizations) for time-limited, demonstration projects for the following:

''(1) PROMOTION OF SAFE, FAMILY-FRIENDLY PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENTS FOR VISITATION AND EXCHANGE.—The Secretary may award grants under this subsection to entities to assist such entities in establishing and operating safe, family-friendly physical environments—

''(A) for court-ordered, supervised visitation between children and abusing parents; and

''(B) to safely facilitate the exchange of children for visits with noncustodial parents in cases of domestic violence.

''(2) EDUCATION IDENTIFICATION, PREVENTION, AND TREATMENT.—The Secretary may award grants under this subsection to entities for projects that provide educational identification, prevention, and treatment services in cooperation with preschool and elementary and secondary schools.

''(3) RISK AND SAFETY ASSESSMENT TOOLS.—The Secretary may award grants under this subsection to entities for projects that provide for the development of research-based risk and safety assessment tools relating to child abuse and neglect.

''(4) TRAINING.—The Secretary may award grants under this subsection to entities for projects that involve research-based innovative training for mandated child abuse and neglect reporters.''.

SEC. 113. GRANTS TO STATES AND PUBLIC OR PRIVATE AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS.—Section 105(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106(a)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking ''DEMONSTRATION'' and inserting ''GRANTS FOR'';

(2) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(A) by inserting ''States,'' after ''contracts with,'';

(B) by striking ''nonprofit''; and

(C) by striking ''time limited, demonstration'';

(3) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''law, education, social work, and other relevant fields'' and inserting ''law enforcement, judiciary, social work and child protection, education, and other relevant fields, or individuals such as court appointed special advocates (CASAs) and guardian ad litem,'';

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''nonprofit'' and all that follows through ''; and'' and inserting ''children, youth and family service organizations in order to prevent child abuse and neglect;'';

(C) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon;

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) for training to support the enhancement of linkages between child protective service agencies and health care agencies, including physical and mental health services, to improve forensic diagnosis and health evaluations and for innovative partnerships between child protective service agencies and health care agencies that offer creative approaches to using existing Federal, State, local, and private funding to meet the health evaluation needs of children who have been subjects of substantiated cases of child abuse or neglect;

''(E) for the training of personnel in best practices to promote collaboration with the families from the initial time of contact during the investigation through treatment;

''(F) for the training of personnel regarding the legal duties of such personnel and their responsibilities to protect the legal rights of children and families;

''(G) for improving the training of supervisory and nonsupervisory child welfare workers;

''(H) for enabling State child welfare agencies to coordinate the provision of services with State and local health care agencies, alcohol and drug abuse prevention and treatment agencies, mental health agencies, and other public and private welfare agencies to promote child safety, permanence, and family stability;

''(I) for cross training for child protective service workers in research-based methods for recognizing situations of substance abuse, domestic violence, and neglect; and

''(J) for developing, implementing, or operating information and education programs or training programs designed to improve the provision of services to disabled infants with life-threatening conditions for—

''(i) professionals and paraprofessional personnel concerned with the welfare of disabled infants with life-threatening conditions, including personnel employed in child protective services programs and health care facilities; and

''(ii) the parents of such infants.'';

(4) by redesignating paragraph (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively;

(5) by inserting after paragraph (1), the following:

''(2) TRIAGE PROCEDURES.—The Secretary may award grants under this subsection to public and private agencies that demonstrate innovation in responding to reports of child abuse and neglect, including programs of collaborative partnerships between the State child protective services agency, community social service agencies and family support programs, law enforcement agencies, developmental disability agencies, substance abuse treatment entities, health care entities, domestic violence prevention entities, mental health service entities, schools, churches and synagogues, and other community agencies, to allow for the establishment of a triage system that—

''(A) accepts, screens, and assesses reports received to determine which such reports require an intensive intervention and which require voluntary referral to another agency, program, or project;

''(B) provides, either directly or through referral, a variety of community-linked services to assist families in preventing child abuse and neglect; and

''(C) provides further investigation and intensive intervention where the child's safety is in jeopardy.'';

(6) in paragraph (3) (as so redesignated), by striking ''(such as Parents Anonymous)'';

(7) in paragraph (4) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by striking the paragraph heading;

(B) by striking subparagraphs (A) and (C); and

(C) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking ''(B) KINSHIP CARE.—'' and inserting the following:

''(4) KINSHIP CARE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—''; and

(ii) by striking ''nonprofit''; and

(8) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) LINKAGES BETWEEN CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICE AGENCIES AND PUBLIC HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AGENCIES.—The Secretary may award grants to entities that provide linkages between State or local child protective service agencies and public health, mental health, and developmental disabilities agencies, for the purpose of establishing linkages that are designed to help assure that a greater number of substantiated victims of child maltreatment have their physical health, mental health, and developmental needs appropriately diagnosed and treated.''.

(b) DISCRETIONARY GRANTS.—Section 105(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (1);

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively;

(3) by inserting after paragraph (2) (as so redesignated), the following:

''(3) Programs based within children's hospitals or other pediatric and adolescent care facilities, that provide model approaches for improving medical diagnosis of child abuse and neglect and for health evaluations of children for whom a report of maltreatment has been substantiated.''; and

(4) in paragraph (4)(D), by striking ''nonprofit''.

(c) EVALUATION.—Section 105(c) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106(c)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking ''demonstration'';

(2) in the second sentence, by inserting ''or contract'' after ''or as a separate grant''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following: ''In the case of an evaluation performed by the recipient of a grant, the Secretary shall make available technical assistance for the evaluation, where needed, including the use of a rigorous application of scientific evaluation techniques.''.

(d) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT TO HEADING.—The section heading for section 105 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 105. GRANTS TO STATES AND PUBLIC OR PRIVATE AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS.''.

SEC. 114. GRANTS TO STATES FOR CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION AND TREATMENT PROGRAMS.

(a) DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION GRANTS.—Section 106(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by inserting '', including ongoing case monitoring,'' after ''case management''; and

(B) by inserting ''and treatment'' after ''and delivery of services'';

(2) in paragraph (4), by striking ''improving'' and all that follows through ''referral systems'' and inserting ''developing, improving, and implementing risk and safety assessment tools and protocols'';

(3) by striking paragraph (7);

(4) by redesignating paragraphs (5), (6), (8), and (9) as paragraphs (6), (8), (9), and (12), respectively;

(5) by inserting after paragraph (4), the following:

''(5) developing and updating systems of technology that support the program and track reports of child abuse and neglect from intake through final disposition and allow interstate and intrastate information exchange;'';

(6) in paragraph (6) (as so redesignated), by striking ''opportunities'' and all that follows through ''system'' and inserting ''including training regarding research-based practices to promote collaboration with the families and the legal duties of such individuals'';

(7) by inserting after paragraph (6) (as so redesignated) the following:

''(7) improving the skills, qualifications, and availability of individuals providing services to children and families, and the supervisors of such individuals, through the child protection system, including improvements in the recruitment and retention of caseworkers;'';

(8) by striking paragraph (9) (as so redesignated), and inserting the following:

''(9) developing and facilitating research-based training protocols for individuals mandated to report child abuse or neglect;

''(10) developing, implementing, or operating programs to assist in obtaining or coordinating necessary services for families of disabled infants with life-threatening conditions, including—

''(A) existing social and health services;

''(B) financial assistance; and

''(C) services necessary to facilitate adoptive placement of any such infants who have been relinquished for adoption;

''(11) developing and delivering information to improve public education relating to the role and responsibilities of the child protection system and the nature and basis for reporting suspected incidents of child abuse and neglect;'';

(9) in paragraph (12) (as so redesignated), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(10) by adding at the end the following:

''(13) supporting and enhancing interagency collaboration between the child protection system and the juvenile justice system for improved delivery of services and treatment, including methods for continuity of treatment plan and services as children transition between systems; or

''(14) supporting and enhancing collaboration among public health agencies, the child protection system, and private community-based programs to provide child abuse and neglect prevention and treatment services (including linkages with education systems) and to address the health needs, including mental health needs, of children identified as abused or neglected, including supporting prompt, comprehensive health and developmental evaluations for children who are the subject of substantiated child maltreatment reports.''.

(b) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 106(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(b)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)(B)—

(i) by striking ''provide notice to the Secretary of any substantive changes'' and inserting the following: '' provide notice to the Secretary—

''(i) of any substantive changes; and'';

(ii) by striking the period and inserting ''; and''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(ii) any significant changes to how funds provided under this section are used to support the activities which may differ from the

activities as described in the current State application.'';

(B) in paragraph (2)(A)—

(i) by redesignating clauses (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), (vi), (vii), (viii), (ix), (x), (xi), (xii), and (xiii) as clauses (iii), (v), (vi), (vii), (ix), (x), (xi), (xii), (xiii), (xiv), (xv) and (xvi), respectively;

(ii) by inserting after clause (i), the following:

''(ii) policies and procedures to address the needs of infants born and identified with fetal alcohol effects, fetal alcohol syndrome, neonatal intoxication or withdrawal syndrome, or neonatal physical or neurological harm resulting from prenatal drug exposure, including—

''(I) the requirement that health care providers involved in the delivery or care of such infants notify the child protective services system of the occurrence of such condition in such infants, except that such notification shall not be construed to create a definition under Federal law of what constitutes child abuse and such notification shall not be construed to require prosecution for any illegal action; and

''(II) the development of a safe plan of care for the infant under which consideration may be given to providing the mother with health services (including mental health services), social services, parenting services, and substance abuse prevention and treatment counseling and to providing the infant with referral to the statewide early intervention program funded under part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for an evaluation for the need for services provided under part C of such Act;'';

(iii) in clause (iii) (as so redesignated), by inserting ''risk and'' before ''safety'';

(iv) by inserting after clause (iii) (as so redesignated), the following:

''(iv) triage procedures for the appropriate referral of a child not at risk of imminent harm to a community organization or voluntary preventive service;'';

(v) in clause (vii)(II) (as so redesignated), by striking '', having a need for such information in order to carry out its responsibilities under law to protect children from abuse and neglect'' and inserting '', as described in clause (viii)'';

(vi) by inserting after clause (vii) (as so redesignated), the following:

''(viii) provisions to require a State to disclose confidential information to any Federal, State, or local government entity, or any agent of such entity, that has a need for such information in order to carry out its responsibilities under law to protect children from abuse and neglect;'';

(vii) in clause (xii) (as so redesignated)—

(I) by inserting ''who has received training appropriate to the role, and'' after ''guardian ad litem,''; and

(II) by inserting ''who has received training appropriate to that role'' after ''advocate'';

(viii) in clause (xiv) (as so redesignated), by striking ''to be effective not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section'';

(ix) in clause (xv) (as so redesignated)—

(I) by striking ''to be effective not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section''; and

(II) by striking ''and'' at the end;

(x) in clause (xvi) (as so redesignated), by striking ''clause (xii)'' each place that such appears and inserting ''clause (xv)''; and

(xi) by adding at the end the following:

''(xvii) provisions and procedures to require that a representative of the child protective services agency shall, at the initial time of contact with the individual subject to a child abuse and neglect investigation, advise the individual of the complaints or allegations made against the individual, in a manner that is consistent with laws protecting the rights of the informant;

''(xviii) provisions addressing the training of representatives of the child protective services system regarding the legal duties of the representatives, which may consist of various methods of informing such representatives of such duties, in order to protect the legal rights and safety of children and families from the initial time of contact during investigation through treatment;

''(xix) provisions and procedures for improving the training, retention, and supervision of caseworkers;

''(xx) provisions and procedures for referral of a child under the age of 3 who is involved in a substantiated case of child abuse or neglect to the statewide early intervention program funded under part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for an evaluation for the need of services provided under part C of such Act; and

''(xxi) not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, provisions and procedures for requiring criminal background record checks for prospective foster and adoptive parents and other adult relatives and non-relatives residing in the household;''; and

(C) in paragraph (2), by adding at the end the following flush sentence:

''Nothing in subparagraph (A) shall be construed to limit the State's flexibility to determine State policies relating to public access to court proceedings to determine child abuse and neglect.''.

(2) LIMITATION.—Section 106(b)(3) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(b)(3)) is amended by striking ''With regard to clauses (v) and (vi) of paragraph (2)(A)'' and inserting ''With regard to clauses (vi) and (vii) of paragraph (2)(A)''.

(c) CITIZEN REVIEW PANELS.—Section 106(c) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i)—

(I) by striking ''and procedures'' and inserting '', procedures, and practices''; and

(II) by striking ''the agencies'' and inserting ''State and local child protection system agencies''; and

(ii) in clause (iii)(I), by striking ''State'' and inserting ''State and local''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) PUBLIC OUTREACH.—Each panel shall provide for public outreach and comment in order to assess the impact of current procedures and practices upon children and families in the community and in order to meet its obligations under subparagraph (A).''; and

(2) in paragraph (6)—

(A) by striking ''public'' and inserting ''State and the public''; and

(B) by inserting before the period the following: ''and recommendations to improve the child protection services system at the State and local levels. Not later than 6 months after the date on which a report is submitted by the panel to the State, the appropriate State agency shall submit a written response to the State and local child protection systems that describes whether or how the State will incorporate the recommendations of such panel (where appropriate) to make measurable progress in improving the State and local child protective system''.

(d) ANNUAL STATE DATA REPORTS.—Section 106(d) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(13) The annual report containing the summary of the activities of the citizen review panels of the State required by subsection (c)(6).

''(14) The number of children under the care of the State child protection system who are transferred into the custody of the State juvenile justice system.''.

(e) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall prepare and submit to Congress a report that describes the extent to which States are implementing the policies and procedures required under section 106(b)(2)(B)(ii) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act.

SEC. 115. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORIZATION.—Section 112(a)(1) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106h(a)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) GENERAL AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title $120,000,000 for fiscal year 2004 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2005 through 2008.''.

(b) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—Section 112(a)(2)(B) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106h(a)(2)(B)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''Secretary make'' and inserting ''Secretary shall make''; and

(2) by striking ''section 106'' and inserting ''section 104''.

SEC. 116. REPORTS.

Section 110 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106f) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) STUDY AND REPORT RELATING TO CITIZEN REVIEW PANELS.—

''(1) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a study by random sample of the effectiveness of the citizen review panels established under section 106(c).

''(2) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a report that contains the results of the study conducted under paragraph (1).''.

Subtitle B—Community-Based Grants for the Prevention of Child Abuse

SEC. 121. PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY.

(a) PURPOSE.—Section 201(a)(1) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116(a)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) to support community-based efforts to develop, operate, expand, enhance, and, where appropriate to network, initiatives aimed at the prevention of child abuse and neglect, and to support networks of coordinated resources and activities to better strengthen and support families to reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect; and''.

(b) AUTHORITY.—Section 201(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) by striking ''Statewide'' and all that follows through the dash, and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate) that are accessible, effective, culturally appropriate, and build upon existing strengths that—'';

(B) in subparagraph (F), by striking ''and'' at the end; and

(C) by striking subparagraph (G) and inserting the following:

''(G) demonstrate a commitment to meaningful parent leadership, including among

parents of children with disabilities, parents with disabilities, racial and ethnic minorities, and members of other underrepresented or underserved groups; and

''(H) provide referrals to early health and developmental services;''; and

(2) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by inserting ''through leveraging of funds'' after ''maximizing funding'';

(B) by striking ''a Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused''; and

(C) by striking ''family resource and support program'' and inserting ''programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)''.

(c) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT TO TITLE HEADING.—Title II of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116) is amended by striking the heading for such title and inserting the following:

''TITLE II—COMMUNITY–BASED GRANTS FOR THE PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT''.

SEC. 122. ELIGIBILITY.

Section 202 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116a) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking ''a Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused''; and

(ii) by striking ''family resource and support programs'' and all that follows through the semicolon and inserting ''programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate);''

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting ''that exists to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect'' after ''written authority of the State)'';

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''a network of community-based family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)'';

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking ''to the network''; and

(ii) by inserting '', and parents with disabilities'' before the semicolon;

(C) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''to the network''; and

(3) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)'';

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)'';

(C) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''and training and technical assistance, to the Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''training, technical assistance, and evaluation assistance, to community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)''; and

(D) in subparagraph (D), by inserting '', parents with disabilities,'' after ''children with disabilities''.

SEC. 123. AMOUNT OF GRANT.

Section 203(b)(1)(B) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116b(b)(1)(B)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''as the amount leveraged by the State from private, State, or other non-Federal sources and directed through the'' and inserting ''as the amount of private, State or other non-Federal funds leveraged and directed through the currently designated''; and

(2) by striking ''the lead agency'' and inserting ''the current lead agency''.

SEC. 124. EXISTING GRANTS.

Section 204 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5115c) is repealed.

SEC. 125. APPLICATION.

Section 205 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116d) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)'';

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking ''network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)''; and

(B) by striking '', including those funded by programs consolidated under this Act,'';

(3) by striking paragraph (3), and inserting the following:

''(3) a description of the inventory of current unmet needs and current community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect, and other family resource services operating in the State;'';

(4) in paragraph (4), by striking ''State's network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(5) in paragraph (5), by striking ''Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''start up, maintenance, expansion, and redesign of community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(6) in paragraph (7), by striking ''individual community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(7) in paragraph (8), by striking ''community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(8) in paragraph (9), by striking ''community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(9) in paragraph (10), by inserting ''(where appropriate)'' after ''members'';

(10) in paragraph (11), by striking ''prevention-focused, family resource and support program'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect''; and

(11) by redesignating paragraph (13) as paragraph (12).

SEC. 126. LOCAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.

Section 206(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116e(a)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''family resource and support services'' and inserting ''family support services for the prevention of child abuse and neglect'';

(ii) in clause (iii), by striking ''and'' at the end; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(v) respite care;

''(vi) home visiting; and

''(vii) family support services''; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting ''voluntary home visiting and'' after ''including''; and

(3) by striking paragraph (6) and inserting the following:

''(6) participate with other community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect in the development, operation and expansion of networks where appropriate.''.

SEC. 127. PERFORMANCE MEASURES.

Section 207 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116f) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''a Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(2) by striking paragraph (3), and inserting the following:

''(3) shall demonstrate that they will have addressed unmet needs identified by the inventory and description of current services required under section 205(3);'';

(3) in paragraph (4),

(A) by inserting ''and parents with disabilities,'' after ''children with disabilities,''; and

(B) by striking ''evaluation of'' the first place it appears and all that follows through ''under this title'' and inserting ''evaluation of community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect, and in the design, operation and evaluation of the networks of such community-based and prevention-focused programs'';

(4) in paragraph (5), by striking '', prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(5) in paragraph (6), by striking ''Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect''; and

(6) in paragraph (8), by striking ''community based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect''.

SEC. 128. NATIONAL NETWORK FOR COMMUNITY-BASED FAMILY RESOURCE PROGRAMS.

Section 208(3) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116g(3)) is amended by striking ''Statewide networks of

community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect''.

SEC. 129. DEFINITIONS.

(a) CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES.—Section 209(1) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116h(1)) is amended by striking ''given such term in section 602(a)(2)'' and inserting ''given the term 'child with a disability' in section 602(3) or 'infant or toddler with a disability' in section 632(5)''.

(b) COMMUNITY-BASED AND PREVENTION-FOCUSED PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT.—Section 209 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116h) is amended by striking paragraphs (3) and (4) and inserting the following:

''(3) COMMUNITY-BASED AND PREVENTION-FOCUSED PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT.—The term 'community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect' includes organizations such as family resource programs, family support programs, voluntary home visiting programs, respite care programs, parenting education, mutual support programs, and other community programs that provide activities that are designed to prevent or respond to child abuse and neglect.''.

SEC. 130. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 210 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116i) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 210. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

''There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title $80,000,000 for fiscal year 2004 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2005 through 2008.''.

Subtitle C—Conforming Amendments

SEC. 141. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

The table of contents of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, as contained in section 1(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 note), is amended as follows:

(1) By striking the item relating to section 105 and inserting the following:

''Sec. 105. Grants to States and public or private agencies and organizations.''.

(2) By striking the item relating to title II and inserting the following:

''TITLE II—COMMUNITY-BASED GRANTS FOR THE PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT''.

(3) By striking the item relating to section 204.

TITLE II—ADOPTION OPPORTUNITIES

SEC. 201. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS AND DECLARATION OF PURPOSE.

Section 201 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5111) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking paragraphs (1) through (4) and inserting the following:

''(1) the number of children in substitute care has increased by nearly 24 percent since 1994, as our Nation's foster care population included more than 565,000 as of September of 2001;

''(2) children entering foster care have complex problems that require intensive services, with many such children having special needs because they are born to mothers who did not receive prenatal care, are born with life threatening conditions or disabilities, are born addicted to alcohol or other drugs, or have been exposed to infection with the etiologic agent for the human immunodeficiency virus;

''(3) each year, thousands of children are in need of placement in permanent, adoptive homes;'';

(B) by striking paragraph (6);

(C) by striking paragraph (7)(A) and inserting the following:

''(7)(A) currently, there are 131,000 children waiting for adoption;''; and

(D) by redesignating paragraphs (5), (7), (8), (9), and (10) as paragraphs (4), (5), (6), (7), and (8) respectively; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting '', including geographic barriers,'' after ''barriers''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''a national'' and inserting ''an Internet-based national''.

SEC. 202. INFORMATION AND SERVICES.

Section 203 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5113) is amended—

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

''SEC. 203. INFORMATION AND SERVICES.'';

(2) by striking ''SEC. 203. (a) The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary'';

(3) in subsection (b)—

(A) by inserting ''REQUIRED ACTIVITIES.—'' after ''(b)'';

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking ''nonprofit'' each place that such appears;

(C) in paragraph (2), by striking ''nonprofit'';

(D) in paragraph (3), by striking ''nonprofit'';

(E) in paragraph (4), by striking ''nonprofit'';

(F) in paragraph (6), by striking ''study the nature, scope, and effects of'' and insert ''support'';

(G) in paragraph (7), by striking ''nonprofit'';

(H) in paragraph (9)—

(i) by striking ''nonprofit''; and

(ii) by striking ''and'' at the end;

(I) in paragraph (10)—

(i) by striking ''nonprofit''; each place that such appears; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(J) by adding at the end the following:

''(11) provide (directly or by grant to or contract with States, local government entities, or public or private licensed child welfare or adoption agencies) for the implementation of programs that are intended to increase the number of older children (who are in foster care and with the goal of adoption) placed in adoptive families, with a special emphasis on child-specific recruitment strategies, including—

''(A) outreach, public education, or media campaigns to inform the public of the needs and numbers of older youth available for adoption;

''(B) training of personnel in the special needs of older youth and the successful strategies of child-focused, child-specific recruitment efforts; and

''(C) recruitment of prospective families for such children.'';

(4) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking ''(c)(1) The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(c) SERVICES FOR FAMILIES ADOPTING SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary'';

(B) by striking ''(2) Services'' and inserting the following:

''(2) SERVICES.—Services''; and

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by realigning the margins of subparagraphs (A) through (G) accordingly;

(ii) in subparagraph (F), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(iii) in subparagraph (G), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

''(H) day treatment; and

''(I) respite care.''; and

(D) by striking ''nonprofit''; each place that such appears;

(5) in subsection (d)—

(A) by striking ''(d)(1) The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(d) IMPROVING PLACEMENT RATE OF CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary'';

(B) by striking ''(2)(A) Each State'' and inserting the following:

''(2) APPLICATIONS; TECHNICAL AND OTHER ASSISTANCE.—

''(A) APPLICATIONS.—Each State'';

(C) by striking ''(B) The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(B) TECHNICAL AND OTHER ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary'';

(D) in paragraph (2)(B)—

(i) by realigning the margins of clauses (i) and (ii) accordingly; and

(ii) by striking ''nonprofit'';

(E) by striking ''(3)(A) Payments'' and inserting the following:

''(3) PAYMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Payments''; and

(F) by striking ''(B) Any payment'' and inserting the following:

''(B) REVERSION OF UNUSED FUNDS.—Any payment''; and

(6) by adding at the end the following:

''(e) ELIMINATION OF BARRIERS TO ADOPTIONS ACROSS JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award grants to, or enter into contracts with, States, local government entities, public or private child welfare or adoption agencies, adoption exchanges, or adoption family groups to carry out initiatives to improve efforts to eliminate barriers to placing children for adoption across jurisdictional boundaries.

''(2) SERVICES TO SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Services provided under grants made under this subsection shall supplement, not supplant, services provided using any other funds made available for the same general purposes including—

''(A) developing a uniform homestudy standard and protocol for acceptance of homestudies between States and jurisdictions;

''(B) developing models of financing cross-jurisdictional placements;

''(C) expanding the capacity of all adoption exchanges to serve increasing numbers of children;

''(D) developing training materials and training social workers on preparing and moving children across State lines; and

''(E) developing and supporting initiative models for networking among agencies, adoption exchanges, and parent support groups across jurisdictional boundaries.''.

SEC. 203. STUDY OF ADOPTION PLACEMENTS.

Section 204 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5114) is amended—

(1) by striking ''The'' and inserting ''(a) IN GENERAL.—The'';

(2) by striking ''of this Act'' and inserting ''of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003'';

(3) by striking ''to determine the nature'' and inserting ''to determine—

''(1) the nature'';

(4) by striking ''which are not licensed'' and all that follows through ''entity'';'' and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) how interstate placements are being financed across State lines;

''(3) recommendations on best practice models for both interstate and intrastate adoptions; and

''(4) how State policies in defining special needs children differentiate or group similar categories of children.''.

SEC. 204. STUDIES ON SUCCESSFUL ADOPTIONS.

Section 204 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5114) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(b) DYNAMICS OF SUCCESSFUL ADOPTION.—The Secretary shall conduct research (directly or by grant to, or contract with, public or private nonprofit research agencies or organizations) about adoption outcomes and the factors affecting those outcomes. The Secretary shall submit a report containing the results of such research to the appropriate committees of the Congress not later than the date that is 36 months after the date of the enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003.

''(c) INTERJURISDICTIONAL ADOPTION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, the Secretary, in consultation with the Comptroller General, shall submit to the appropriate committees of the Congress a report that contains recommendations for an action plan to facilitate the interjurisdictional adoption of foster children.''.

SEC. 205. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 205(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5115(a)) is amended to read as follows:

''There are authorized to be appropriated $40,000,000 for fiscal year 2004 and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2005 through 2008 to carry out programs and activities authorized under this subtitle.''.

TITLE III—ABANDONED INFANTS ASSISTANCE

SEC. 301. FINDINGS.

Section 2 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (1);

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by inserting ''studies indicate that a number of factors contribute to'' before ''the inability of'';

(B) by inserting ''some'' after ''inability of'';

(C) by striking ''who abuse drugs''; and

(D) by striking ''care for such infants'' and inserting ''care for their infants'';

(3) by amending paragraph (5) to read as follows:

''(5) appropriate training is needed for personnel working with infants and young children with life-threatening conditions and other special needs, including those who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (commonly known as 'HIV'), those who have acquired immune deficiency syndrome (commonly know as 'AIDS'), and those who have been exposed to dangerous drugs;'';

(4) by striking paragraphs (6) and (7);

(5) in paragraph (8), by inserting ''by parents abusing drugs,'' after ''deficiency syndrome,'';

(6) in paragraph (9), by striking ''comprehensive services'' and all that follows through the semicolon at the end and inserting ''comprehensive support services for such infants and young children and their families and services to prevent the abandonment of such infants and young children, including foster care services, case management services, family support services, respite and crisis intervention services, counseling services, and group residential home services; and'';

(7) by striking paragraph (11);

(8) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), (4), (5), (8), (9), and (10) as paragraphs (1) through (7), respectively; and

(9) by adding at the end the following:

''(8) Private, Federal, State, and local resources should be coordinated to establish and maintain such services and to ensure the optimal use of all such resources.''.

SEC. 302. ESTABLISHMENT OF LOCAL PROGRAMS.

Section 101 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended—

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

''SEC. 101. ESTABLISHMENT OF LOCAL PROGRAMS.''; and

(2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) PRIORITY IN PROVISION OF SERVICES.—The Secretary may not make a grant under subsection (a) unless the applicant for the grant agrees to give priority to abandoned infants and young children who—

''(1) are infected with, or have been perinatally exposed to, the human immunodeficiency virus, or have a life-threatening illness or other special medical need; or

''(2) have been perinatally exposed to a dangerous drug.''.

SEC. 303. EVALUATIONS, STUDY, AND REPORTS BY SECRETARY.

Section 102 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 102. EVALUATIONS, STUDY, AND REPORTS BY SECRETARY.

''(a) EVALUATIONS OF LOCAL PROGRAMS.—The Secretary shall, directly or through contracts with public and nonprofit private entities, provide for evaluations of projects carried out under section 101 and for the dissemination of information developed as a result of such projects.

''(b) STUDY AND REPORT ON NUMBER OF ABANDONED INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a study for the purpose of determining—

''(A) an estimate of the annual number of infants and young children relinquished, abandoned, or found deceased in the United States and the number of such infants and young children who are infants and young children described in section 223(b);

''(B) an estimate of the annual number of infants and young children who are victims of homicide;

''(C) characteristics and demographics of parents who have abandoned an infant within 1 year of the infant's birth; and

''(D) an estimate of the annual costs incurred by the Federal Government and by State and local governments in providing housing and care for abandoned infants and young children.

''(2) DEADLINE.—Not later than 36 months after the date of the enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, the Secretary shall complete the study required under paragraph (1) and submit to the Congress a report describing the findings made as a result of the study.

''(c) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall evaluate and report on effective methods of intervening before the abandonment of an infant or young child so as to prevent such abandonments, and effective methods for responding to the needs of abandoned infants and young children.''.

SEC. 304. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 104 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) AUTHORIZATION.—For the purpose of carrying out this Act, there are authorized to be appropriated $45,000,000 for fiscal year 2004 and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2005 through 2008.

''(2) LIMITATION.—Not more than 5 percent of the amounts appropriated under paragraph (1) for any fiscal year may be obligated for carrying out section 224(a).'';

(2) by striking subsection (b);

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''AUTHORIZATION.—'' after ''(1)''; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by inserting ''LIMITATION.—'' after ''(2)''; and

(ii) by striking ''fiscal year 1991.'' and inserting ''fiscal year 2003.''; and

(4) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (b) and (c), respectively.

SEC. 305. DEFINITIONS

Section 103 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 103. DEFINITIONS.

''For purposes of this Act:

''(1) The terms 'abandoned' and 'abandonment', with respect to infants and young children, mean that the infants and young children are medically cleared for discharge from acute-care hospital settings, but remain hospitalized because of a lack of appropriate out-of-hospital placement alternatives.

''(2) The term 'acquired immune deficiency syndrome' includes infection with the etiologic agent for such syndrome, any condition indicating that an individual is infected with such etiologic agent, and any condition arising from such etiologic agent.

''(3) The term 'dangerous drug' means a controlled substance, as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act.

''(4) The term 'natural family' shall be broadly interpreted to include natural parents, grandparents, family members, guardians, children residing in the household, and individuals residing in the household on a continuing basis who are in a care-giving situation with respect to infants and young children covered under this subtitle.

''(5) The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Health and Human Services.''.

TITLE IV—FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES ACT

SEC. 401. STATE DEMONSTRATION GRANTS.

(a) UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS.—Section 303(a)(2)(C) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10402(a)(2)(C)) is amended by striking ''underserved populations,'' and all that follows and inserting the following: ''underserved populations, as defined in section 2003 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg–2);''.

(b) REPORT.—Section 303(a) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10402(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) Upon completion of the activities funded by a grant under this title, the State grantee shall submit to the Secretary a report that contains a description of the activities carried out under paragraph (2)(B)(i).''.

SEC. 402. SECRETARIAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

Section 305(a) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10404(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''an employee'' and inserting ''1 or more employees'';

(2) by striking ''of this title.'' and inserting ''of this title, including carrying out evaluation and monitoring under this title.''; and

(3) by striking ''The individual'' and inserting ''Any individual''.

SEC. 403. EVALUATION.

Section 306 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10405) is

amended in the first sentence by striking ''Not later than two years after the date on which funds are obligated under section 303(a) for the first time after the date of the enactment of this title, and every two years thereafter,'' and inserting ''Every 2 years,''.

SEC. 404. INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTERS.

Section 308 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10407) is amended by striking subsection (g).

SEC. 405. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORIZATION.—Section 310(a) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10409(a)) is amended to read as follows:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title $175,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2004 through 2008.''.

(b) GRANTS FOR STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS.—Section 311(g) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10410(g)) is amended to read as follows:

''(g) FUNDING.—Of the amount appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations under section 310(a) for a fiscal year, not less than 10 percent of such amount shall be made available to award grants under this section.''.

SEC. 406. GRANTS FOR STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS.

Section 311 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10410) is amended by striking subsection (h).

SEC. 407. EVALUATION AND MONITORING.

Section 312 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10412) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) Of the amount appropriated under section 310(a) for each fiscal year, not more than 2 percent shall be used by the Secretary for evaluation, monitoring, and other administrative costs under this title.''.

SEC. 408. FAMILY MEMBER ABUSE INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION PROJECT.

Section 313 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10413) is repealed.

SEC. 409. MODEL STATE LEADERSHIP GRANTS.

Section 315 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10415) is repealed.

SEC. 410. NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE GRANT.

(a) DURATION.—Section 316(b) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10416(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''A grant'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), a grant''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) EXTENSION.—The Secretary may extend the duration of a grant under this section beyond the period described in paragraph (1) if, prior to such extension—

''(A) the entity prepares and submits to the Secretary a report that evaluates the effectiveness of the use of amounts received under the grant for the period described in paragraph (1) and contains any other information as the Secretary may prescribe; and

''(B) the report and other appropriate criteria indicate that the entity is successfully operating the hotline in accordance with subsection (a).''.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 316(f) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10416(f)) is amended in paragraph (1) by striking ''fiscal years 2001 through 2005'' and inserting ''fiscal years 2004 through 2008''.

SEC. 411. YOUTH EDUCATION AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

Section 317 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10417) is repealed.

SEC. 412. DEMONSTRATION GRANTS FOR COMMUNITY INITIATIVES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 318(h) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10418(h)) is amended to read as follows:

''(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $6,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2004 through 2008.''.

(b) REGULATIONS.—Section 318 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10418) is amended by striking subsection (i).

SEC. 413. TRANSITIONAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE.

Section 319(f) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10419(f)) is amended by striking ''fiscal year 2001'' and inserting ''each of the fiscal years 2004 through 2008''.

SEC. 414. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10401 et seq.) is amended as follows:

(1) In section 302(1) by striking ''demonstrate the effectiveness of assisting'' and inserting ''assist''.

(2) In section 303(a)—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''State domestic violence coalitions knowledgeable individuals and interested organizations'' and inserting ''State domestic violence coalitions, knowledgeable individuals, and interested organizations''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (F), by adding ''and'' at the end; and

(B) by aligning the margins of paragraph (4) with the margins of paragraph (3).

(3) In section 305(b)(2)(A) by striking ''provide for research, and into'' and inserting ''provide for research into''.

(4) In section 311(a)—

(A) in paragraph (2)(K), by striking ''other criminal justice professionals,;'' and inserting ''other criminal justice professionals;'' and

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''family law judges,,'' and inserting ''family law judges,'';

(ii) in subparagraph (D), by inserting '', criminal court judges,'' after ''family law judges''; and

(iii) in subparagraph (H), by striking ''supervised visitations that do not endanger victims and their children'' and inserting ''supervised visitations or denial of visitation to protect against danger to victims or their children''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The amendment printed in the bill, modified by the amendments reported by the Clerk in conjunction with that previous order, is adopted.

The text of H.R. 14, as modified pursuant to the order of the House of March 25, 2003, is as follows:

H.R. 14

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 ''Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003''.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT ACT

Sec. 101. Findings.

Subtitle A—General Program

Sec. 111. National Clearinghouse for Information Relating to Child Abuse.
Sec. 112. Research and assistance activities and demonstrations.
Sec. 113. Grants to States and public or private agencies and organizations.
Sec. 114. Grants to States for child abuse and neglect prevention and treatment programs.
Sec. 115. Grants to States for programs relating to the investigation and prosecution of child abuse and neglect cases.
Sec. 116. Miscellaneous requirements relating to assistance.
Sec. 117. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 118. Reports.

Subtitle B—Community-Based Grants for the Prevention of Child Abuse

Sec. 121. Purpose and authority.
Sec. 122. Eligibility.
Sec. 123. Amount of grant.
Sec. 124. Existing grants.
Sec. 125. Application.
Sec. 126. Local program requirements.
Sec. 127. Performance measures.
Sec. 128. National network for community-based family resource programs.
Sec. 129. Definitions.
Sec. 130. Authorization of appropriations.

Subtitle C—Conforming Amendments

Sec. 141. Conforming amendments.

TITLE II—ADOPTION OPPORTUNITIES

Sec. 201. Congressional findings and declaration of purpose.
Sec. 202. Information and services.
Sec. 203. Study of adoption placements.
Sec. 204. Studies on successful adoptions.
Sec. 205. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE III—ABANDONED INFANTS ASSISTANCE

Sec. 301. Findings.
Sec. 302. Establishment of local programs.
Sec. 303. Evaluations, study, and reports by Secretary.
Sec. 304. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 305. Definitions.

TITLE IV—FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES ACT

Sec. 401. State demonstration grants.
Sec. 402. Secretarial responsibilities.
Sec. 403. Evaluation.
Sec. 404. Information and technical assistance centers.
Sec. 405. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 406. Grants for State domestic violence coalitions.
Sec. 407. Evaluation and monitoring.
Sec. 408. Family member abuse information and documentation project.
Sec. 409. Model State leadership grants.
Sec. 410. National domestic violence hotline grant.
Sec. 411. Youth education and domestic violence.
Sec. 412. Demonstration grants for community initiatives.
Sec. 413. Transitional housing assistance.
Sec. 414. Technical and conforming amendments.

TITLE I—CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT ACT

SEC. 101. FINDINGS.

Section 2 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''close to 1,000,000'' and inserting ''approximately 900,000'';

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (11) as paragraphs (4) through (13), respectively;

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2)(A) more children suffer neglect than any other form of maltreatment; and

''(B) investigations have determined that approximately 63 percent of children who were victims of maltreatment in 2000 suffered neglect, 19

percent suffered physical abuse, 10 percent suffered sexual abuse, and 8 percent suffered emotional maltreatment;

''(3)(A) child abuse can result in the death of a child;

''(B) in 2000, an estimated 1,200 children were counted by child protection services to have died as a result of abuse or neglect; and

''(C) children younger than 1 year old comprised 44 percent of child abuse fatalities and 85 percent of child abuse fatalities were younger than 6 years of age;'';

(4) by striking paragraph (4) (as so redesignated), and inserting the following:

''(4)(A) many of these children and their families fail to receive adequate protection and treatment;

''(B) slightly less than half of these children (45 percent in 2000) and their families fail to receive adequate protection or treatment; and

''(C) in fact, approximately 80 percent of all children removed from their homes and placed in foster care in 2000, as a result of an investigation or assessment conducted by the child protective services agency, received no services;'';

(5) in paragraph (5) (as so redesignated)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''organizations'' and inserting ''community-based organizations'';

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking ''ensures'' and all that follows through ''knowledge,'' and inserting ''recognizes the need for properly trained staff with the qualifications needed''; and

(C) in subparagraph (E), by inserting before the semicolon the following: '', which may impact child rearing patterns, while at the same time, not allowing those differences to enable abuse'';

(6) in paragraph (7) (as so redesignated), by striking ''this national child and family emergency'' and inserting ''child abuse and neglect''; and

(7) in paragraph (9) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by striking ''intensive'' and inserting ''needed''; and

(B) by striking ''if removal has taken place'' and inserting ''where appropriate''.

Subtitle A—General Program

SEC. 111. NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE FOR INFORMATION RELATING TO CHILD ABUSE.

(a) FUNCTIONS.—Section 103(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5104(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''all programs,'' and all that follows through ''neglect; and'' and inserting ''all effective programs, including private and community-based programs, that show promise of success with respect to the prevention, assessment, identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect and hold the potential for broad scale implementation and replication;'';

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon;

(3) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3);

(4) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) maintain information about the best practices used for achieving improvements in child protective systems;''; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) provide technical assistance upon request that may include an evaluation or identification of—

''(A) various methods and procedures for the investigation, assessment, and prosecution of child physical and sexual abuse cases;

''(B) ways to mitigate psychological trauma to the child victim; and

''(C) effective programs carried out by the States under this Act; and

''(5) collect and disseminate information relating to various training resources available at the State and local level to—

''(A) individuals who are engaged, or who intend to engage, in the prevention, identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect; and

''(B) appropriate State and local officials to assist in training law enforcement, legal, judicial, medical, mental health, education, and child welfare personnel.''.

(b) COORDINATION WITH AVAILABLE RESOURCES.—Section 103(c)(1) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5104(c)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (E), by striking ''105(a); and'' and inserting ''104(a);'';

(2) by redesignating subparagraph (F) as subparagraph (G); and

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (E) the following:

''(F) collect and disseminate information that describes best practices being used throughout the Nation for making appropriate referrals related to, and addressing, the physical, developmental, and mental health needs of abused and neglected children; and''.

SEC. 112. RESEARCH AND ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS.

(a) RESEARCH.—Section 104(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5105(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), in the first sentence, by inserting '', including longitudinal research,'' after ''interdisciplinary program of research''; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting before the semicolon the following: '', including the effects of abuse and neglect on a child's development and the identification of successful early intervention services or other services that are needed'';

(C) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) by striking ''judicial procedures'' and inserting ''judicial systems, including multidisciplinary, coordinated decisionmaking procedures''; and

(ii) by striking ''and'' at the end; and

(D) in subparagraph (D)—

(i) in clause (viii), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(ii) by redesignating clause (ix) as clause (x); and

(iii) by inserting after clause (viii), the following:

''(ix) the incidence and prevalence of child maltreatment by a wide array of demographic characteristics such as age, sex, race, family structure, household relationship (including the living arrangement of the resident parent and family size), school enrollment and education attainment, disability, grandparents as caregivers, labor force status, work status in previous year, and income in previous year; and'';

(E) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (I); and

(F) by inserting after subparagraph (C), the following:

''(D) the evaluation and dissemination of best practices consistent with the goals of achieving improvements in the child protective services systems of the States in accordance with paragraphs (1) through (12) of section 106(a);

''(E) effective approaches to interagency collaboration between the child protection system and the juvenile justice system that improve the delivery of services and treatment, including methods for continuity of treatment plan and services as children transition between systems;

''(F) an evaluation of the redundancies and gaps in the services in the field of child abuse and neglect prevention in order to make better use of resources;

''(G) the nature, scope, and practice of voluntary relinquishment for foster care or State guardianship of low income children who need health services, including mental health services;

''(H) the information on the national incidence of child abuse and neglect specified in clauses (i) through (x) of subparagraph (I); and'';

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

''(B) Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, and every 2 years thereafter, the Secretary shall provide an opportunity for public comment concerning the priorities proposed under subparagraph (A) and maintain an official record of such public comment.'';

(3) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (4);

(4) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) RESEARCH.—The Secretary shall conduct research on the national incidence of child abuse and neglect, including the information on the national incidence on child abuse and neglect specified in clauses (i) through (x) of paragraph (1)(I).

''(3) REPORT.—Not later than 4 years after the date of the enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions of the Senate a report that contains the results of the research conducted under paragraph (2).''.

(b) PROVISION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Section 104(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5105(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking ''nonprofit private agencies and'' and inserting ''private agencies and community-based''; and

(B) by inserting '', including replicating successful program models,'' after ''programs and activities''; and

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) effective approaches being utilized to link child protective service agencies with health care, mental health care, and developmental services to improve forensic diagnosis and health evaluations, and barriers and shortages to such linkages.''.

(c) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS.—Section 104 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5105) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS.—The Secretary may award grants to, and enter into contracts with, States or public or private agencies or organizations (or combinations of such agencies or organizations) for time-limited, demonstration projects for the following:

''(1) PROMOTION OF SAFE, FAMILY-FRIENDLY PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENTS FOR VISITATION AND EXCHANGE.—The Secretary may award grants under this subsection to entities to assist such entities in establishing and operating safe, family-friendly physical environments—

''(A) for court-ordered, supervised visitation between children and abusing parents; and

''(B) to safely facilitate the exchange of children for visits with noncustodial parents in cases of domestic violence.

''(2) EDUCATION IDENTIFICATION, PREVENTION, AND TREATMENT.—The Secretary may award grants under this subsection to entities for projects that provide educational identification, prevention, and treatment services in cooperation with preschool and elementary and secondary schools.

''(3) RISK AND SAFETY ASSESSMENT TOOLS.—The Secretary may award grants under this subsection to entities for projects that provide for the development of research-based risk and safety assessment tools relating to child abuse and neglect.

''(4) TRAINING.—The Secretary may award grants under this subsection to entities for

projects that involve research-based innovative training for mandated child abuse and neglect reporters.''.

SEC. 113. GRANTS TO STATES AND PUBLIC OR PRIVATE AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS.—Section 105(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106(a)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking ''DEMONSTRATION'' and inserting ''GRANTS FOR'';

(2) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(A) by inserting ''States,'' after ''contracts with,'';

(B) by striking ''nonprofit''; and

(C) by striking ''time limited, demonstration'';

(3) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''law, education, social work, and other relevant fields'' and inserting ''law enforcement, judiciary, social work and child protection, education, and other relevant fields, or individuals such as court appointed special advocates (CASAs) and guardian ad litem,'';

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''nonprofit'' and all that follows through ''; and'' and inserting ''children, youth and family service organizations in order to prevent child abuse and neglect;'';

(C) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon;

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) for training to support the enhancement of linkages between child protective service agencies and health care agencies, including physical and mental health services, to improve forensic diagnosis and health evaluations and for innovative partnerships between child protective service agencies and health care agencies that offer creative approaches to using existing Federal, State, local, and private funding to meet the health evaluation needs of children who have been subjects of substantiated cases of child abuse or neglect;

''(E) for the training of personnel in best practices to promote collaboration with the families from the initial time of contact during the investigation through treatment;

''(F) for the training of personnel regarding the legal duties of such personnel and their responsibilities to protect the legal rights of children and families;

''(G) for improving the training of supervisory and nonsupervisory child welfare workers;

''(H) for enabling State child welfare agencies to coordinate the provision of services with State and local health care agencies, alcohol and drug abuse prevention and treatment agencies, mental health agencies, and other public and private welfare agencies to promote child safety, permanence, and family stability;

''(I) for cross training for child protective service workers in research-based methods for recognizing situations of substance abuse, domestic violence, and neglect; and

''(J) for developing, implementing, or operating information and education programs or training programs designed to improve the provision of services to disabled infants with life-threatening conditions for—

''(i) professionals and paraprofessional personnel concerned with the welfare of disabled infants with life-threatening conditions, including personnel employed in child protective services programs and health care facilities; and

''(ii) the parents of such infants.'';

(4) by redesignating paragraph (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively;

(5) by inserting after paragraph (1), the following:

''(2) TRIAGE PROCEDURES.—The Secretary may award grants under this subsection to public and private agencies that demonstrate innovation in responding to reports of child abuse and neglect, including programs of collaborative partnerships between the State child protective services agency, community social service agencies and family support programs, law enforcement agencies, developmental disability agencies, substance abuse treatment entities, health care entities, domestic violence prevention entities, mental health service entities, schools, churches and synagogues, and other community agencies, to allow for the establishment of a triage system that—

''(A) accepts, screens, and assesses reports received to determine which such reports require an intensive intervention and which require voluntary referral to another agency, program, or project;

''(B) provides, either directly or through referral, a variety of community-linked services to assist families in preventing child abuse and neglect; and

''(C) provides further investigation and intensive intervention where the child's safety is in jeopardy.'';

(6) in paragraph (3) (as so redesignated), by striking ''(such as Parents Anonymous)'';

(7) in paragraph (4) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by striking the paragraph designation and heading;

(B) by striking subparagraphs (A) and (C); and

(C) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking ''(B) KINSHIP CARE.—'' and inserting the following:

''(4) KINSHIP CARE.—''; and

(ii) by striking ''nonprofit''; and

(8) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) LINKAGES BETWEEN CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICE AGENCIES AND PUBLIC HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AGENCIES.—The Secretary may award grants to entities that provide linkages between State or local child protective service agencies and public health, mental health, and developmental disabilities agencies, for the purpose of establishing linkages that are designed to help assure that a greater number of substantiated victims of child maltreatment have their physical health, mental health, and developmental needs appropriately diagnosed and treated.''.

(b) DISCRETIONARY GRANTS.—Section 105(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (1);

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively;

(3) by inserting after paragraph (2) (as so redesignated), the following:

''(3) Programs based within children's hospitals or other pediatric and adolescent care facilities, that provide model approaches for improving medical diagnosis of child abuse and neglect and for health evaluations of children for whom a report of maltreatment has been substantiated.''; and

(4) in paragraph (4)(D), by striking ''nonprofit''.

(c) EVALUATION.—Section 105(c) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106(c)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking ''demonstration'';

(2) in the second sentence, by inserting ''or contract'' after ''or as a separate grant''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following: ''In the case of an evaluation performed by the recipient of a grant, the Secretary shall make available technical assistance for the evaluation, where needed, including the use of a rigorous application of scientific evaluation techniques.''.

(d) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT TO HEADING.—The section heading for section 105 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 105. GRANTS TO STATES AND PUBLIC OR PRIVATE AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS.''.

SEC. 114. GRANTS TO STATES FOR CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION AND TREATMENT PROGRAMS.

(a) DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION GRANTS.—Section 106(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by inserting '', including ongoing case monitoring,'' after ''case management''; and

(B) by inserting ''and treatment'' after ''and delivery of services'';

(2) in paragraph (4), by striking ''improving'' and all that follows through ''referral systems'' and inserting ''developing, improving, and implementing risk and safety assessment tools and protocols'';

(3) by striking paragraph (7);

(4) by redesignating paragraphs (5), (6), (8), and (9) as paragraphs (6), (8), (9), and (12), respectively;

(5) by inserting after paragraph (4), the following:

''(5) developing and updating systems of technology that support the program and track reports of child abuse and neglect from intake through final disposition and allow interstate and intrastate information exchange;'';

(6) in paragraph (6) (as so redesignated), by striking ''opportunities'' and all that follows through ''system'' and inserting ''including training regarding research-based practices to promote collaboration with the families and the legal duties of such individuals'';

(7) by inserting after paragraph (6) (as so redesignated) the following:

''(7) improving the skills, qualifications, and availability of individuals providing services to children and families, and the supervisors of such individuals, through the child protection system, including improvements in the recruitment and retention of caseworkers;'';

(8) by striking paragraph (9) (as so redesignated), and inserting the following:

''(9) developing and facilitating research-based training protocols for individuals mandated to report child abuse or neglect;

''(10) developing, implementing, or operating programs to assist in obtaining or coordinating necessary services for families of disabled infants with life-threatening conditions, including—

''(A) existing social and health services;

''(B) financial assistance; and

''(C) services necessary to facilitate adoptive placement of any such infants who have been relinquished for adoption;

''(11) developing and delivering information to improve public education relating to the role and responsibilities of the child protection system and the nature and basis for reporting suspected incidents of child abuse and neglect;'';

(9) in paragraph (12) (as so redesignated), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(10) by adding at the end the following:

''(13) supporting and enhancing interagency collaboration between the child protection system and the juvenile justice system for improved delivery of services and treatment, including methods for continuity of treatment plan and services as children transition between systems; or

''(14) supporting and enhancing collaboration among public health agencies, the child protection system, and private community-based programs to provide child abuse and neglect prevention and treatment services (including linkages with education systems) and to address the health needs, including mental health needs, of children identified as abused or neglected, including supporting prompt, comprehensive health and developmental evaluations for children who are the subject of substantiated child maltreatment reports.''.

(b) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 106(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(b)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)(B)—

(i) by striking ''provide notice to the Secretary of any substantive changes'' and inserting the following: ''provide notice to the Secretary—

''(i) of any substantive changes'';

(ii) by striking the period and inserting ''; and''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(ii) any significant changes to how funds provided under this section are used to support the activities which may differ from the activities as described in the current State application.'';

(B) in paragraph (2)(A)—

(i) by redesignating clauses (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), (vi), (vii), (viii), (ix), (x), (xi), (xii), and (xiii) as clauses (iii), (v), (vi), (vii), (ix), (x), (xi), (xii), (xiii), (xiv), (xv) and (xvi), respectively;

(ii) by inserting after clause (i), the following:

''(ii) policies and procedures to address the needs of infants born and identified with fetal alcohol effects, fetal alcohol syndrome, neonatal intoxication or withdrawal syndrome, or neonatal physical or neurological harm resulting from prenatal drug exposure, including—

''(I) the requirement that health care providers involved in the delivery or care of such infants notify the child protective services system of the occurrence of such condition in such infants, except that such notification shall not be construed to create a definition under Federal law of what constitutes child abuse and such notification shall not be construed to require prosecution for any illegal action; and

''(II) the development of a safe plan of care for the infant under which consideration may be given to providing the mother with health services (including mental health services), social services, parenting services, and substance abuse prevention and treatment counseling and to providing the infant with referral to the statewide early intervention program funded under part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for an evaluation for the need for services provided under part C of such Act;'';

(iii) in clause (iii) (as so redesignated), by inserting ''risk and'' before ''safety'';

(iv) by inserting after clause (iii) (as so redesignated), the following:

''(iv) triage procedures for the appropriate referral of a child not at risk of imminent harm to a community organization or voluntary preventive service;'';

(v) in clause (vii)(II) (as so redesignated), by striking '', having a need for such information in order to carry out its responsibilities under law to protect children from abuse and neglect'' and inserting '', as described in clause (viii)'';

(vi) by inserting after clause (vii) (as so redesignated), the following:

''(viii) provisions to require a State to disclose confidential information to any Federal, State, or local government entity, or any agent of such entity, that has a need for such information in order to carry out its responsibilities under law to protect children from abuse and neglect;'';

(vii) in clause (xii) (as so redesignated)—

(I) by inserting ''who has received training appropriate to the role, and'' after ''guardian ad litem,''; and

(II) by inserting ''who has received training appropriate to that role'' after ''advocate'';

(viii) in clause (xiv) (as so redesignated), by striking ''to be effective not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this section'';

(ix) in clause (xv) (as so redesignated)—

(I) by striking ''to be effective not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this section''; and

(II) by striking ''and'' at the end;

(x) in clause (xvi) (as so redesignated), by striking ''clause (xii)'' each place that such appears and inserting ''clause (xv)''; and

(xi) by adding at the end the following:

''(xvii) provisions and procedures to require that a representative of the child protective services agency shall, at the initial time of contact with the individual subject to a child abuse and neglect investigation, advise the individual of the complaints or allegations made against the individual, in a manner that is consistent with laws protecting the rights of the informant;

''(xviii) provisions addressing the training of representatives of the child protective services system regarding the legal duties of the representatives, which may consist of various methods of informing such representatives of such duties, in order to protect the legal rights and safety of children and families from the initial time of contact during investigation through treatment;

''(xix) provisions and procedures for improving the training, retention, and supervision of caseworkers;

''(xx) provisions and procedures for referral of a child under the age of 3 who is involved in a substantiated case of child abuse or neglect to the statewide early intervention program funded under part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for an evaluation for the need of services provided under part C of such Act; and

''(xxi) not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, provisions and procedures for requiring criminal background record checks for prospective foster and adoptive parents and other adult relatives and non-relatives residing in the household;''; and

(C) in paragraph (2), by adding at the end the following flush sentence:

''Nothing in subparagraph (A) shall be construed to limit the State's flexibility to determine State policies relating to public access to court proceedings to determine child abuse and neglect except that such policies shall, at a minimum, ensure the safety and well-being of the child, parents, and family.''.

(2) LIMITATION.—Section 106(b)(3) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(b)(3)) is amended by striking ''With regard to clauses (v) and (vi) of paragraph (2)(A)'' and inserting ''With regard to clauses (vi) and (vii) of paragraph (2)(A)''.

(c) CITIZEN REVIEW PANELS.—Section 106(c) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i)—

(I) by striking ''and procedures'' and inserting '', procedures, and practices''; and

(II) by striking ''the agencies'' and inserting ''State and local child protection system agencies''; and

(ii) in clause (iii)(I), by striking ''State'' and inserting ''State and local''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) PUBLIC OUTREACH.—Each panel shall provide for public outreach and comment in order to assess the impact of current procedures and practices upon children and families in the community and in order to meet its obligations under subparagraph (A).''; and

(2) in paragraph (6)—

(A) by striking ''public'' and inserting ''State and the public''; and

(B) by inserting before the period the following: ''and recommendations to improve the child protection services system at the State and local levels. Not later than 6 months after the date on which a report is submitted by the panel to the State, the appropriate State agency shall submit a written response to the State and local child protection systems that describes whether or how the State will incorporate the recommendations of such panel (where appropriate) to make measurable progress in improving the State and local child protective system''.

(d) ANNUAL STATE DATA REPORTS.—Section 106(d) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(13) The annual report containing the summary of the activities of the citizen review panels of the State required by subsection (c)(6).

''(14) The number of children under the care of the State child protection system who are transferred into the custody of the State juvenile justice system.''.

(e) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall prepare and submit to Congress a report that describes the extent to which States are implementing the policies and procedures required under section 106(b)(2)(B)(ii) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act.

SEC. 115. GRANTS TO STATES FOR PROGRAMS RELATING TO THE INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT CASES.

Section 107(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106c(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) the handling of cases involving children with disabilities or serious health-related problems who are victims of abuse or neglect.''.

SEC. 116. MISCELLANEOUS REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO ASSISTANCE.

Section 108 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106d) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(d) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary should encourage all States and public and private agencies or organizations that receive assistance under this title to ensure that children and families with limited English proficiency who participate in programs under this title are provided materials and services under such programs in an appropriate language other than English.''.

SEC. 117. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORIZATION.—Section 112(a)(1) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106h(a)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) GENERAL AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title $120,000,000 for fiscal year 2004 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2005 through 2008.''.

(b) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—Section 112(a)(2)(B) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106h(a)(2)(B)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''Secretary make'' and inserting ''Secretary shall make''; and

(2) by striking ''section 106'' and inserting ''section 104''.

SEC. 118. REPORTS.

Section 110 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106f) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) STUDY AND REPORT RELATING TO CITIZEN REVIEW PANELS.—

''(1) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a study by random sample of the effectiveness of the citizen review panels established under section 106(c).

''(2) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a report that contains the results of the study conducted under paragraph (1).''.

Subtitle B—Community-Based Grants for the Prevention of Child Abuse

SEC. 121. PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY.

(a) PURPOSE.—Section 201(a)(1) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116(a)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) to support community-based efforts to develop, operate, expand, enhance, and, where appropriate to network, initiatives aimed at the prevention of child abuse and neglect, and to support networks of coordinated resources and activities to better strengthen and support families to reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect; and''.

(b) AUTHORITY.—Section 201(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) by striking ''Statewide'' and all that follows through the dash, and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate) that are accessible, effective, culturally appropriate, and build upon existing strengths that—'';

(B) in subparagraph (F), by striking ''and'' at the end; and

(C) by striking subparagraph (G) and inserting the following:

''(G) demonstrate a commitment to meaningful parent leadership, including among parents of children with disabilities, parents with disabilities, racial and ethnic minorities, and members of other underrepresented or underserved groups; and

''(H) provide referrals to early health and developmental services;''; and

(2) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by inserting ''through leveraging of funds'' after ''maximizing funding'';

(B) by striking ''a Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused''; and

(C) by striking ''family resource and support program'' and inserting ''programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)''.

(c) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT TO TITLE HEADING.—Title II of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116) is amended by striking the heading for such title and inserting the following:

''TITLE II—COMMUNITY–BASED GRANTS FOR THE PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT''.

SEC. 122. ELIGIBILITY.

Section 202 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116a) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking ''a Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused''; and

(ii) by striking ''family resource and support programs'' and all that follows through the semicolon and inserting ''programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate);''

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting ''that exists to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect'' after ''written authority of the State)'';

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''a network of community-based family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)'';

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking ''to the network''; and

(ii) by inserting '', and parents with disabilities'' before the semicolon;

(C) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''to the network''; and

(3) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)'';

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)'';

(C) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''and training and technical assistance, to the Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''training, technical assistance, and evaluation assistance, to community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)''; and

(D) in subparagraph (D), by inserting '', parents with disabilities,'' after ''children with disabilities''.

SEC. 123. AMOUNT OF GRANT.

Section 203(b)(1)(B) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116b(b)(1)(B)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''as the amount leveraged by the State from private, State, or other non-Federal sources and directed through the'' and inserting ''as the amount of private, State or other non-Federal funds leveraged and directed through the currently designated''; and

(2) by striking ''the lead agency'' and inserting ''the current lead agency''.

SEC. 124. EXISTING GRANTS.

Section 204 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5115c) is repealed.

SEC. 125. APPLICATION.

Section 205 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116d) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)'';

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking ''network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)''; and

(B) by striking '', including those funded by programs consolidated under this Act,'';

(3) by striking paragraph (3), and inserting the following:

''(3) a description of the inventory of current unmet needs and current community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect, and other family resource services operating in the State;'';

(4) in paragraph (4), by striking ''State's network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(5) in paragraph (5), by striking ''Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''start up, maintenance, expansion, and redesign of community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(6) in paragraph (7), by striking ''individual community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(7) in paragraph (8), by striking ''community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(8) in paragraph (9), by striking ''community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(9) in paragraph (10), by inserting ''(where appropriate)'' after ''members'';

(10) in paragraph (11), by striking ''prevention-focused, family resource and support program'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect''; and

(11) by redesignating paragraph (13) as paragraph (12).

SEC. 126. LOCAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.

Section 206(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116e(a)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''family resource and support services'' and inserting ''family support services for the prevention of child abuse and neglect'';

(ii) in clause (iii), by striking ''and'' at the end; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(v) respite care;

''(vi) home visiting; and

''(vii) family support services;''; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting ''voluntary home visiting and'' after ''including''; and

(3) by striking paragraph (6) and inserting the following:

''(6) participate with other community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect in the development, operation and expansion of networks where appropriate.''.

SEC. 127. PERFORMANCE MEASURES.

Section 207 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116f) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''a Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(2) by striking paragraph (3), and inserting the following:

''(3) shall demonstrate that they will have addressed unmet needs identified by the inventory and description of current services required under section 205(3);'';

(3) in paragraph (4),

(A) by inserting ''and parents with disabilities,'' after ''children with disabilities,''; and

(B) by striking ''evaluation of'' the first place it appears and all that follows through ''under this title'' and inserting ''evaluation of community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect, and in the design, operation and evaluation of the networks of such community-based and prevention-focused programs'';

(4) in paragraph (5), by striking '', prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(5) in paragraph (6), by striking ''Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect''; and

(6) in paragraph (8), by striking ''community based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect''.

SEC. 128. NATIONAL NETWORK FOR COMMUNITY-BASED FAMILY RESOURCE PROGRAMS.

Section 208(3) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116g(3)) is

amended by striking ''Statewide networks of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to prevent child abuse and neglect''.

SEC. 129. DEFINITIONS.

(a) CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES.—Section 209(1) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116h(1)) is amended by striking ''given such term in section 602(a)(2)'' and inserting ''given the term 'child with a disability' in section 602(3) or 'infant or toddler with a disability' in section 632(5)''.

(b) COMMUNITY-BASED AND PREVENTION-FOCUSED PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT.—Section 209 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116h) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraphs (3) and (4);

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

''(3) COMMUNITY-BASED AND PREVENTION-FOCUSED PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT.—The term 'community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect' includes organizations such as family resource programs, family support programs, voluntary home visiting programs, respite care programs, parenting education, mutual support programs, and other community programs that provide activities that are designed to prevent or respond to child abuse and neglect.''; and

(3) by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (4).

SEC. 130. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 210 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116i) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 210. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

''There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title $80,000,000 for fiscal year 2004 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2005 through 2008.''.

Subtitle C—Conforming Amendments

SEC. 141. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

The table of contents of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, as contained in section 1(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 note), is amended as follows:

(1) By striking the item relating to section 105 and inserting the following:

''Sec. 105. Grants to States and public or private agencies and organizations.''.

(2) By striking the item relating to title II and inserting the following:

''TITLE II—COMMUNITY-BASED GRANTS FOR THE PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT''.

(3) By striking the item relating to section 204.

TITLE II—ADOPTION OPPORTUNITIES

SEC. 201. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS AND DECLARATION OF PURPOSE.

Section 201 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5111) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking paragraphs (1) through (4) and inserting the following:

''(1) the number of children in substitute care has increased by nearly 24 percent since 1994, as our Nation's foster care population included more than 565,000 as of September of 2001;

''(2) children entering foster care have complex problems that require intensive services, with many such children having special needs because they are born to mothers who did not receive prenatal care, are born with life threatening conditions or disabilities, are born addicted to alcohol or other drugs, or have been exposed to infection with the etiologic agent for the human immunodeficiency virus;

''(3) each year, thousands of children are in need of placement in permanent, adoptive homes;'';

(B) by striking paragraph (6);

(C) by striking paragraph (7)(A) and inserting the following:

''(7)(A) currently, there are 131,000 children waiting for adoption;''; and

(D) by redesignating paragraphs (5), (7), (8), (9), and (10) as paragraphs (4), (5), (6), (7), and (8) respectively; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting '', including geographic barriers,'' after ''barriers''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''a national'' and inserting ''an Internet-based national''.

SEC. 202. INFORMATION AND SERVICES.

Section 203 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5113) is amended—

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

''SEC. 203. INFORMATION AND SERVICES.'';

(2) by striking ''SEC. 203. (a) The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary'';

(3) in subsection (b)—

(A) by inserting ''REQUIRED ACTIVITIES.—'' after ''(b)'';

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking ''nonprofit'' each place that such appears;

(C) in paragraph (2), by striking ''nonprofit'';

(D) in paragraph (3), by striking ''nonprofit'';

(E) in paragraph (4), by striking ''nonprofit'';

(F) in paragraph (6), by striking ''study the nature, scope, and effects of'' and insert ''support'';

(G) in paragraph (7), by striking ''nonprofit'';

(H) in paragraph (9)—

(i) by striking ''nonprofit''; and

(ii) by striking ''and'' at the end;

(I) in paragraph (10)—

(i) by striking ''nonprofit''; each place that such appears; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(J) by adding at the end the following:

''(11) provide (directly or by grant to or contract with States, local government entities, or public or private licensed child welfare or adoption agencies) for the implementation of programs that are intended to increase the number of older children (who are in foster care and with the goal of adoption) placed in adoptive families, with a special emphasis on child-specific recruitment strategies, including—

''(A) outreach, public education, or media campaigns to inform the public of the needs and numbers of older youth available for adoption;

''(B) training of personnel in the special needs of older youth and the successful strategies of child-focused, child-specific recruitment efforts; and

''(C) recruitment of prospective families for such children.'';

(4) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking ''(c)(1) The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(c) SERVICES FOR FAMILIES ADOPTING SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary'';

(B) by striking ''(2) Services'' and inserting the following:

''(2) SERVICES.—Services''; and

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by realigning the margins of subparagraphs (A) through (G) accordingly;

(ii) in subparagraph (F), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(iii) in subparagraph (G), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

''(H) day treatment; and

''(I) respite care.''; and

(D) by striking ''nonprofit''; each place that such appears;

(5) in subsection (d)—

(A) by striking ''(d)(1) The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(d) IMPROVING PLACEMENT RATE OF CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary'';

(B) by striking ''(2)(A) Each State'' and inserting the following:

''(2) APPLICATIONS; TECHNICAL AND OTHER ASSISTANCE.—

''(A) APPLICATIONS.—Each State'';

(C) by striking ''(B) The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(B) TECHNICAL AND OTHER ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary'';

(D) in paragraph (2)(B)—

(i) by realigning the margins of clauses (i) and (ii) accordingly; and

(ii) by striking ''nonprofit'';

(E) by striking ''(3)(A) Payments'' and inserting the following:

''(3) PAYMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Payments''; and

(F) by striking ''(B) Any payment'' and inserting the following:

''(B) REVERSION OF UNUSED FUNDS.—Any payment''; and

(6) by adding at the end the following:

''(e) ELIMINATION OF BARRIERS TO ADOPTIONS ACROSS JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award grants to, or enter into contracts with, States, local government entities, public or private child welfare or adoption agencies, adoption exchanges, or adoption family groups to carry out initiatives to improve efforts to eliminate barriers to placing children for adoption across jurisdictional boundaries.

''(2) SERVICES TO SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Services provided under grants made under this subsection shall supplement, not supplant, services provided using any other funds made available for the same general purposes including—

''(A) developing a uniform homestudy standard and protocol for acceptance of homestudies between States and jurisdictions;

''(B) developing models of financing cross-jurisdictional placements;

''(C) expanding the capacity of all adoption exchanges to serve increasing numbers of children;

''(D) developing training materials and training social workers on preparing and moving children across State lines; and

''(E) developing and supporting initiative models for networking among agencies, adoption exchanges, and parent support groups across jurisdictional boundaries.''.

SEC. 203. STUDY OF ADOPTION PLACEMENTS.

Section 204 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5114) is amended—

(1) by striking ''The'' and inserting ''(a) IN GENERAL.—The'';

(2) by striking ''of this Act'' and inserting ''of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003'';

(3) by striking ''to determine the nature'' and inserting ''to determine—

''(1) the nature'';

(4) by striking ''which are not licensed'' and all that follows through ''entity''; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) how interstate placements are being financed across State lines;

''(3) recommendations on best practice models for both interstate and intrastate adoptions; and

''(4) how State policies in defining special needs children differentiate or group similar categories of children.''.

SEC. 204. STUDIES ON SUCCESSFUL ADOPTIONS.

Section 204 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5114) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(b) DYNAMICS OF SUCCESSFUL ADOPTION.—The Secretary shall conduct research (directly or by grant to, or contract with, public or private nonprofit research agencies or organizations) about adoption outcomes and the factors affecting those outcomes. The Secretary shall submit a report containing the results of such research to the appropriate committees of the Congress not later than the date that is 36 months after the date of the enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003.

''(c) INTERJURISDICTIONAL ADOPTION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, the Secretary, shall submit to the appropriate committees of the Congress a report that contains recommendations for an action plan to facilitate the interjurisdictional adoption of foster children.''.

SEC. 205. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 205(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5115(a)) is amended to read as follows:

''(a) There are authorized to be appropriated $40,000,000 for fiscal year 2004 and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2005 through 2008 to carry out programs and activities authorized under this subtitle.''.

TITLE III—ABANDONED INFANTS ASSISTANCE

SEC. 301. FINDINGS.

Section 2 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (1);

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by inserting ''studies indicate that a number of factors contribute to'' before ''the inability of'';

(B) by inserting ''some'' after ''inability of'';

(C) by striking ''who abuse drugs''; and

(D) by striking ''care for such infants'' and inserting ''care for their infants'';

(3) by amending paragraph (5) to read as follows:

''(5) appropriate training is needed for personnel working with infants and young children with life-threatening conditions and other special needs, including those who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (commonly known as 'HIV'), those who have acquired immune deficiency syndrome (commonly know as 'AIDS'), and those who have been exposed to dangerous drugs;'';

(4) by striking paragraphs (6) and (7);

(5) in paragraph (8), by inserting ''by parents abusing drugs,'' after ''deficiency syndrome,'';

(6) in paragraph (9), by striking ''comprehensive services'' and all that follows through the semicolon at the end and inserting ''comprehensive support services for such infants and young children and their families and services to prevent the abandonment of such infants and young children, including foster care services, case management services, family support services, respite and crisis intervention services, counseling services, and group residential home services; and'';

(7) by striking paragraph (11);

(8) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), (4), (5), (8), (9), and (10) as paragraphs (1) through (7), respectively; and

(9) by adding at the end the following:

''(8) Private, Federal, State, and local resources should be coordinated to establish and maintain such services and to ensure the optimal use of all such resources.''.

SEC. 302. ESTABLISHMENT OF LOCAL PROGRAMS.

Section 101 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended—

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

''SEC. 101. ESTABLISHMENT OF LOCAL PROGRAMS.''; and

(2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) PRIORITY IN PROVISION OF SERVICES.—The Secretary may not make a grant under subsection (a) unless the applicant for the grant agrees to give priority to abandoned infants and young children who—

''(1) are infected with, or have been perinatally exposed to, the human immunodeficiency virus, or have a life-threatening illness or other special medical need; or

''(2) have been perinatally exposed to a dangerous drug.''.

SEC. 303. EVALUATIONS, STUDY, AND REPORTS BY SECRETARY.

Section 102 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 102. EVALUATIONS, STUDY, AND REPORTS BY SECRETARY.

''(a) EVALUATIONS OF LOCAL PROGRAMS.—The Secretary shall, directly or through contracts with public and nonprofit private entities, provide for evaluations of projects carried out under section 101 and for the dissemination of information developed as a result of such projects.

''(b) STUDY AND REPORT ON NUMBER OF ABANDONED INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a study for the purpose of determining—

''(A) an estimate of the annual number of infants and young children relinquished, abandoned, or found deceased in the United States and the number of such infants and young children who are infants and young children described in section 223(b);

''(B) an estimate of the annual number of infants and young children who are victims of homicide;

''(C) characteristics and demographics of parents who have abandoned an infant within 1 year of the infant's birth; and

''(D) an estimate of the annual costs incurred by the Federal Government and by State and local governments in providing housing and care for abandoned infants and young children.

''(2) DEADLINE.—Not later than 36 months after the date of the enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, the Secretary shall complete the study required under paragraph (1) and submit to the Congress a report describing the findings made as a result of the study.

''(c) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall evaluate and report on effective methods of intervening before the abandonment of an infant or young child so as to prevent such abandonments, and effective methods for responding to the needs of abandoned infants and young children.''.

SEC. 304. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 104 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) AUTHORIZATION.—For the purpose of carrying out this Act, there are authorized to be appropriated $45,000,000 for fiscal year 2004 and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2005 through 2008.

''(2) LIMITATION.—Not more than 5 percent of the amounts appropriated under paragraph (1) for any fiscal year may be obligated for carrying out section 224(a).'';

(2) by striking subsection (b);

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''AUTHORIZATION.—'' after ''(1)''; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by inserting ''LIMITATION.—'' after ''(2)''; and

(ii) by striking ''fiscal year 1991.'' and inserting ''fiscal year 2003.''; and

(4) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (b) and (c), respectively.

SEC. 305. DEFINITIONS

Section 103 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 103. DEFINITIONS.

''For purposes of this Act:

''(1) The terms 'abandoned' and 'abandonment', with respect to infants and young children, mean that the infants and young children are medically cleared for discharge from acute-care hospital settings, but remain hospitalized because of a lack of appropriate out-of-hospital placement alternatives.

''(2) The term 'acquired immune deficiency syndrome' includes infection with the etiologic agent for such syndrome, any condition indicating that an individual is infected with such etiologic agent, and any condition arising from such etiologic agent.

''(3) The term 'dangerous drug' means a controlled substance, as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act.

''(4) The term 'natural family' shall be broadly interpreted to include natural parents, grandparents, family members, guardians, children residing in the household, and individuals residing in the household on a continuing basis who are in a care-giving situation with respect to infants and young children covered under this subtitle.

''(5) The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Health and Human Services.''.

TITLE IV—FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES ACT

SEC. 401. STATE DEMONSTRATION GRANTS.

(a) UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS.—Section 303(a)(2)(C) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10402(a)(2)(C)) is amended by striking ''underserved populations,'' and all that follows and inserting the following: ''underserved populations, as defined in section 2003 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg–2);''.

(b) REPORT.—Section 303(a) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10402(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) Upon completion of the activities funded by a grant under this title, the State grantee shall submit to the Secretary a report that contains a description of the activities carried out under paragraph (2)(B)(i).''.

SEC. 402. SECRETARIAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

Section 305(a) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10404(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''an employee'' and inserting ''1 or more employees'';

(2) by striking ''of this title.'' and inserting ''of this title, including carrying out evaluation and monitoring under this title.''; and

(3) by striking ''The individual'' and inserting ''Any individual''.

SEC. 403. EVALUATION.

Section 306 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10405) is amended in the first sentence by striking ''Not later than two years after the date on which funds are obligated under section 303(a) for the first time after the date of the enactment of this title, and every two years thereafter,'' and inserting ''Every 2 years,''.

SEC. 404. INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTERS.

Section 308 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10407) is amended by striking subsection (g).

SEC. 405. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORIZATION.—Section 310(a) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10409(a)) is amended to read as follows:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title $175,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2004 through 2008.''.

(b) GRANTS FOR STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS.—Section 311(g) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10410(g)) is amended to read as follows:

''(g) FUNDING.—Of the amount appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations

under section 310(a) for a fiscal year, not less than 10 percent of such amount shall be made available to award grants under this section.''.

SEC. 406. GRANTS FOR STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS.

Section 311 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10410) is amended by striking subsection (h).

SEC. 407. EVALUATION AND MONITORING.

Section 312 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10412) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) Of the amount appropriated under section 310(a) for each fiscal year, not more than 2.5 percent shall be used by the Secretary for evaluation, monitoring, and other administrative costs under this title.''.

SEC. 408. FAMILY MEMBER ABUSE INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION PROJECT.

Section 313 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10413) is repealed.

SEC. 409. MODEL STATE LEADERSHIP GRANTS.

Section 315 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10415) is repealed.

SEC. 410. NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE GRANT.

(a) DURATION.—Section 316(b) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10416(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''A grant'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), a grant''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) EXTENSION.—The Secretary may extend the duration of a grant under this section beyond the period described in paragraph (1) if, prior to such extension—

''(A) the entity prepares and submits to the Secretary a report that evaluates the effectiveness of the use of amounts received under the grant for the period described in paragraph (1) and contains any other information as the Secretary may prescribe; and

''(B) the report and other appropriate criteria indicate that the entity is successfully operating the hotline in accordance with subsection (a).''.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 316(f) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10416(f)) is amended in paragraph (1) by striking ''fiscal years 2001 through 2005'' and inserting ''fiscal years 2004 through 2008''.

SEC. 411. YOUTH EDUCATION AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

Section 317 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10417) is repealed.

SEC. 412. DEMONSTRATION GRANTS FOR COMMUNITY INITIATIVES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 318(h) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10418(h)) is amended to read as follows:

''(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $6,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2004 through 2008.''.

(b) REGULATIONS.—Section 318 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10418) is amended by striking subsection (i).

SEC. 413. TRANSITIONAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE.

Section 319(f) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10419(f)) is amended by striking ''fiscal year 2001'' and inserting ''each of the fiscal years 2004 through 2008''.

SEC. 414. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10401 et seq.) is amended as follows:

(1) In section 302(1) by striking ''demonstrate the effectiveness of assisting'' and inserting ''assist''.

(2) In section 303(a)—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''State domestic violence coalitions knowledgeable individuals and interested organizations'' and inserting ''State domestic violence coalitions, knowledgeable individuals, and interested organizations''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (F), by adding ''and'' at the end; and

(B) by aligning the margins of paragraph (4) with the margins of paragraph (3).

(3) In section 305(b)(2)(A) by striking ''provide for research, and into'' and inserting ''provide for research into''.

(4) In section 311(a)—

(A) in paragraph (2)(K), by striking ''other criminal justice professionals,;'' and inserting ''other criminal justice professionals;'' and

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''family law judges,,'' and inserting ''family law judges,'';

(ii) in subparagraph (D), by inserting '', criminal court judges,'' after ''family law judges''; and

(iii) in subparagraph (H), by striking ''supervised visitations that do not endanger victims and their children'' and inserting ''supervised visitations or denial of visitation to protect against danger to victims or their children''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA) each will control 1 hour.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 14.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that we are here today to consider H.R. 14, the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, which reauthorizes and improves the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, CAPTA, the Adoption Opportunities Program, the Abandoned Infants Act, and the Family Violence Prevention and Treatment Act.

Consideration of this bill today is appropriate and timely, as next week begins National Child Abuse Prevention month. Unfortunately, the House and Senate were unable to reach agreement on all issues pertaining to the reauthorization of CAPTA and FVPSA at the end of last Congress. The bill before us today shows our efforts and commitment to ensuring that programs aimed at the prevention of child abuse and neglect continue.

I would like to thank my colleagues on both sides for their hard work and efforts in developing this legislation under consideration today. I especially want to thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER), the full committee chairman, for his continued support of our efforts in moving this bill forward; the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GREENWOOD) for his diligence in ensuring that infants born addicted to alcohol or drugs receive necessary service; and of course my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER), the ranking member of the full committee, for his support in quickly bringing this bill before us; and also the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA), who again in somewhat of irregular order consented to bypass the subcommittee and enable this bill to come right to the full committee and now come to the House. I thank him very much again for his partnership, and as we complete this bill today, it will now enable us to move on to other issues within the committee, so I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA) very much.

H.R. 14 provides for the continued provision of important Federal resources for identifying and addressing the issues of child abuse and neglect and for supporting effective methods of prevention and treatment. It also continues local projects with demonstrated value in eliminating barriers to permanent adoption and addressing the circumstances that often lead to child abandonment.

Mr. Speaker, this bill emphasizes the prevention of child abuse and neglect before it occurs. It promotes partnerships between child protective services and private- and community-based organizations, including education and health systems to ensure that services and linkages are more effectively provided. H.R. 14 appropriately addresses a growing concern over parents being falsely accused of child abuse and neglect and the aggressiveness of social workers in their child abuse investigations. It includes language to increase public education opportunities, to strengthen the public's understanding of the child protection system, and appropriate reporting of suspected incidents of child maltreatment.

The bill fosters cooperation between parents and child protective service workers by requiring caseworkers to inform parents of the allegations made against them. It improves the training opportunities and requirements for child protective services personnel regarding the extent and limits of their legal authority and the legal rights of parents and legal guardians. It also ensures the safety of foster and adoptive children by requiring States to conduct criminal background checks for prospective foster and adoptive parents and other adult relatives and nonrelatives residing in the household.

Lastly, this bill expands adoption opportunities to provide for services for infants and young children who are disabled or born with life-threatening conditions and requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a study on the annual number of infants and young children abandoned each year and extends the authorization for the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act.

I want to thank my colleagues for their work on this bill and urge them to join me in supporting this effort to improve the prevention and treatment of child abuse and family violence by supporting H.R. 14, the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank the gentleman from Ohio (Chairman BOEHNER). I want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA), subcommittee chairman, for their commitment to writing such a good bipartisan bill; and I look forward to working with our subcommittee chairman on many more issues that are going to be coming up in this session.

The Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, or as it is better known, CAPTA, is a small program that fills an important role in the Federal response to child abuse by focusing on prevention and treatment. Child abuse is a serious public problem, and we must do much more at the Federal level to protect children from abuse and improve the treatment they receive.

In 2002 there were almost 900,000 substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect. In 2000 an estimated 1,200 children died as a result of abuse and neglect. The bill before us today will enhance collaboration between child protection systems and the juvenile justice system. Research shows that children who are abused and neglected are more likely to be involved in delinquent and criminal behavior. By fostering linkages between the child protection and juvenile justice systems, the provisions of this bill should lead to better, more appropriate treatment services.

The legislation also makes important changes by increasing collaboration between child protective services and health agencies. Children with disabilities are almost four times more likely to be victims of abuse and neglect, and children in the child welfare system are at higher risk for health problems. Any serious attempt to prevent and treat child abuse and neglect must include procedures for linking abused children and children at risk for abuse to the appropriate health and mental health services. The bill also requires States to report on their efforts to improve caseworker training, supervision, and retention so that children and families will be served better.

Ultimately, our success in appropriately intervening and providing services and treatment for vulnerable children and their families is dependent on having a well-trained workforce to make difficult judgments about how to best keep a child safe and make sure they have the love and the support of a permanent family.

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This is a strong bill that will help children receive the services they need to grow up safe and healthy.

We must not be hypocritical about this. We cannot say we support children, but not provide the resources to do it. Right now, only 12 percent of Federal money for child abuse and neglect go toward prevention and treatment. This is shortsighted policy, because if we do not pay now for prevention and treatment, we pay later in our criminal justice system and health care costs.

The leadership has designated this week as Children's Week, and it is fitting that we focus on protecting our most vulnerable children. However, this legislation will offer little protection if it is not fully funded at the authorized level of $285 million. Similarly, designating a week as Children's Week will be little more than another empty promise if we are unwilling to provide the resources that we authorize for the key programs that serve our youth, such as this one, and the No Child Left Behind Act. I hope that the week we consider fiscal year 2004 appropriations for these programs will truly be Children's Week.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 14 today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), an individual who has a passion for helping all of our children and who has demonstrated a real caring for abused and neglected children in America.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 14, to reauthorize the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, and I thank the chairman of the committee and the ranking member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce for all the hard work that they put into this important piece of legislation.

I truly want to commend the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA) for the work that he put into this in working with Members on both sides of the aisle. He has crafted a piece of legislation that will be meaningful to the children of this country. The work that he put in is exemplary; and most importantly, what he did is he put the best interests of the child forward in writing this legislation. So many times we forget the child when we put legislation in, and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA) did an outstanding job, and we appreciate it.

Mr. Speaker, the dimensions of child mistreatment and child murder are staggering in this country. Sadly, each day four children die from child abuse and neglect. The rate of infant murder has doubled over the last 30 years. Almost one infant homicide per day was reported in the year 2000. Incredibly, half of all the infant murders took place before the baby even reached the fourth month of life; and tragically, the risk of infant homicide is highest on the day that the child is born.

The impact of child abuse goes way beyond the 1,200 children that lose their lives each year. The consequences are far reaching and devastating, resulting in permanent disabilities, juvenile delinquency, teenage drug addictions, and prostitution. Today's abused children, if they live long enough, grow up to become tomorrow's murderers and perpetrators of violence. Seventy percent, 70 percent, of adult male prisoners in this country convicted of felonies report a history of child abuse.

Mr. Speaker, in the fall of 2001, The Washington Post ran a series of articles describing the deaths of infants born addicted to drugs or alcohol in the District of Columbia. Over a period of 7 years, 11 newborns died right here in our Nation's Capital because they simply got lost in the system.

The bill before the House today offers hope. H.R. 14 will ensure that when an infant is born drug exposed, procedures will be put into place at the hospital to identify the fragile newborn and provide services to the mother.

In addition, H.R. 14 strikes the appropriate balance between ensuring a child's safety and protecting the individual rights of parents accused of child maltreatment. The committee heard testimony describing numerous cases of innocent families, many of them home schoolers, being aggressively investigated for child abuse, and then allegations were proven to be false. When this happens, not only do the families lose, but abused children lose as well, because precious time was lost.

This bill does two important things: one, it will improve public education on the role of the caseworker in investigating complaints of child abuse; and, two, it will increase training on appropriate reporting of suspected child abuse. I believe that these two things will significantly decrease the incidence of false reports that tie up the system, leaving real abused children uninvestigated.

In short, Mr. Speaker, I believe that H.R. 14 will make our children safer, and there can be no higher goal.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY).

(Mrs. MALONEY asked and was given permission to speak out of order revise and extend her remarks and include extraneous material.)

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time and for his leadership on this important bill that I am supporting. But I rise today to pay tribute to Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, and, on behalf of my colleagues and constituents, to join with them in mourning his passing today.

Senator Moynihan was one of our truly inspiring legislators. He was a scholar, a legislator, an ambassador, a cabinet officer, a Presidential adviser in four administrations, the only person in history to serve four consecutive administrations. He was a teacher, a writer, and one of the best Senators

ever to grace the halls of this institution.

He was unmatched in his ability to craft innovative solutions to society's most pressing problems, from welfare to Social Security, to transportation, to taxes. His legislative stamp is everywhere.

Known as, and I quote from the Almanac of American Politics, ''the Nation's best thinker among politicians since Lincoln, and its best politician among thinkers since Jefferson,'' Senator Moynihan moved people through the power of his ideas. He was a unique figure in public life, a man of pure intellect, who was unafraid of speaking inconvenient truths.

Senator Moynihan's life exemplified the American dream. He grew up in a slum known as Hell's Kitchen. Abandoned by his father, his mother became the sole supporter of the family during the Depression. Small wonder that Senator Moynihan grew up to be a strong voice on welfare issues. He recognized the danger of fostering a culture of dependency, while understanding the importance of maintaining a strong safety net.

He proved to be one of the most accurate prophets of our era. Time and time again he correctly predicted future consequences, even though many refused to believe him when his prediction ran counter to conventional wisdom. In the 1980s, he predicted the coming collapse of the Soviet Union. In the 1990s, he expressed concern about the tendency of our society to define deviancy down.

For New Yorkers, Senator Moynihan has and always will be one of our own homegrown heroes, our proud gift to the Nation. Despite his reputation for attention to the more scholarly pursuits, he authored 18 books, Senator Moynihan never forgot those of us who elected him.

He was a hero to landmark preservationists for his effort to preserve the Custom House and the Farley Post Office, the new train station on the Farley site, which he helped plan and which he helped to fund, but it does not yet have a name. I believe that it should be named for Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

When the Coast Guard left Governors Island, he persuaded President Clinton to agree to give the island to New York for $1, and it was this Congress that was able to make that pledge a reality. As ambassador to the United Nations, he denounced the resolution equating Zionism with racism. Seventeen years later, the U.N. reversed itself, revoking this shameful resolution.

Senator Moynihan was a prime mover behind ISTEA, which changed the way highway and transportation funds are distributed. He was widely credited with shifting transportation priorities and making it possible for us to invest in alternatives, like high-speed rail.

As a member of the Senate Finance Committee, he was a guardian of Social Security; and he focused his attention on the importance of opening up government filings and reducing secrecy in government. I was proud to have worked with him on the passage of the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure bill. After 50 years, Americans finally are beginning to get a glimpse of the things that our government knew.

Senator Moynihan was also a tireless worker on getting an accurate census for our country.

Senator Moynihan's passing will make this country a poorer place. I join my constituents and my colleagues in paying tribute to the great Senator from the Great State of New York.

Senator Moynihan was truly an American treasure. He was a great friend and mentor to me, and we will miss him greatly. My colleagues and I send to Elizabeth and their family our deep concern and condolences.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD a biography of this remarkable man.

Daniel Patrick Moynihan was the senior United States Senator from New York. First elected in 1976, Senator Moynihan was reelected in 1982, 1988, and 1994.

Senator Moynihan was the Ranking Minority Member of the Senate Committee on Finance. He served on the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works and the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration. He also was a member of the Joint Committee on Taxation and the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress.

A member of the Cabinet or sub-Cabinet of Presidents Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon and Ford, Senator Moynihan was the only person in American history to serve in four successive administrations. He was U.S. Ambassador to India from 1973 to 1975 and U.S. Representative to the United Nations from 1975 to 1976. In February 1976 he represented the United States as President of the United Nations Security Council.

Senator Moynihan was born on March 17, 1927. He attended public and parochial schools in New York City and graduated from Benjamin Franklin High School in East Harlem. He went on to attend the City College of New York for one year before enlisting in the United States Navy. He served on active duty from 1944 to 1947. In 1966, he completed twenty years in the Naval Reserve and was retired. Senator Moynihan earned his bachelor's degree (cum laude) from Tufts University, studied at the London School of Economics as a Fulbright Scholar, and received his M.A. and Ph.D. from Tufts University's Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

Senator Moynihan was a member of Averell Harriman's gubernatorial campaign staff in 1954 and then served on Gov. Harriman's staff in Albany until 1958. He was an alternate Kennedy delegate at the 1960 Democratic Convention. Beginning in 1961, he served in the U.S. Department of Labor as an assistant to the Secretary, and later as Assistant Secretary of Labor for Policy Planning and Research.

In 1966, Senator Moynihan became Director of the Joint Center for Urban Studies at Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He has been a Professor of Government at Harvard University, Assistant Professor of Government at Syracuse University, a fellow at the Center for Advanced Studies at Wesleyan University, and has taught in the extension programs of Russell Sage College and the Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations. Senator Moynihan is the recipient of 62 honorary degrees.

Senator Moynihan was the author or editor of 18 books. His most recent work is Secrecy: The American Experience, published in the fall of 1998, an expansion of the report by the Commission on Protecting and Reducing Government Secrecy. Senator Moynihan, as Chairman of the Commission, led the first comprehensive review in forty years of the Federal Government's system of classifying and declassifying information and granting clearances.

Since 1976 Senator Moynihan has published an analysis of the flow of funds between the Federal Government and New York State. In 1992 the analysis became a joint publication with the Taubman Center for State and Local Government at Harvard University, and includes all fifty states.

Senator Moynihan was a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). He was Chairman of the AAAS's section on Social, Economic and Political Science (1971–72) and a member of the Board of Directors (1972–73). He also served as a member of the President's Science Advisory Committee (1971–73). Senator Moynihan was Vice Chairman (1971–76) of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. He served on the National Commission on Social Security Reform (1982–83) whose recommendations formed the basis of legislation to assure the system's fiscal stability.

He was the founding Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden (1971–85) and served as Regent of the Smithsonian Institution, having been appointed in 1987 and again in 1995. In 1985, the Smithsonian awarded him its Joseph Henry Medal.

In 1965, Senator Moynihan received the Arthur S. Flemming Awards, which recognizes outstanding young Federal employees, for his work as ''an architect of the Nation's program to eradicate poverty.'' He has also received the International League of Human Rights Award (1975) and the John LaFarge Award for Interracial Justice (1980). In 1983, he was the first recipient of the American Political Science Association's Hubert H. Humphrey Award for ''notable public service by a political scientist.'' In 1984, Senator Moynihan received the State University of New York at Albany's Medallion of the University in recognition of his ''extraordinary public service and leadership in the field for education.'' In 1986, he received the Seal Medallion of the Central Intelligence Agency and the Britannica Medal for the Dissemination of Learning.

He has also received the Laetare Medal of the University of Notre Dame (1992), the Thomas Jefferson Award for Public Architecture from the American Institute of Architects (1992), and the Thomas Jefferson Medal for Distinguished Achievement in the Arts or Humanities from the American Philosophical Society (1993). In 1994, he received the Gold Medal Award ''honoring services to humanity'' from the National Institute of Social Sciences.

In 1997, the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University awarded Senator Moynihan the Cartwright Prize. He was the 1998 recipient of the Heinz Award in Public Policy ''for having been a distinct and unique voice in the century—independent in his convictions, a scholar, teacher, statesman and politician, skilled in the art of the possible.''

Elizabeth Brennan Moynihan, his wife of 44 years, is an architectural historian with a special interest in 16th century Mughal architecture in India. She is the author of Paradise as a Garden: In Persia and Mughal India (1979) and numerous articles. Mrs. Moynihan is a former Chairman of the Board of the American Schools of Oriental Research. She serves as a member of the Indo-U.S. Subcommission on Education and Culture, and the visiting committee of the Freer Gallery of Art at the Smithsonian Institution. She is Vice Chair of the Board of the National Building Museum, and on the Trustees Council of the Preservation League of New York State.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GREENWOOD), a member of the full committee and a gentleman who helped us work through this legislation.

Mr. GREENWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time. I also thank him for his splendid work on this very important piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I also thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA), the gentleman from Ohio (Chairman BOEHNER), and the ranking member, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER), for their work, because they truly produced a bipartisan product here. If there was ever a reason to come together across the aisle, Republican and Democrat, to come to agreement, I cannot think of one more vital than that, of protecting children from child abuse and responding to children who have been abused.

Mr. Speaker, before I entered politics, I was a caseworker. I worked with abused and neglected children. And it is painful work to do. We all know about child abuse, the immediate consequences of child abuse. There is nothing more pathetic and pitiful than to think of a young child, a newborn, a child of any age, who looks to his or her mother, his or her father, for the kind of guidance, the kind of love, the kind of nurturing that all of us want to give to our children and all of us were fortunate enough to have in our childhood, and instead receive rebukes, receive blows, to be tortured, to be sexually abused. The pain of that is unimaginable and anguishing for the child.

Then, of course, it produces long-term consequences that the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY) and others have referred to. It is the cause of so many people turning to lives of crime, it is the cause of so many individuals becoming abusers themselves of their children and of their spouses, it is the cause of substance abuse in so many cases. So many of the ills of society that are costly in terms of human suffering and costly in terms of tax dollars have their origin in the abuse of children.

One of the things that frustrated me as a caseworker was that we know how to respond to abuse. We know how to get it reported now. We have hot lines. We know how to do interventions and investigations. We know how to prosecute child abusers. We know how to seek custody of children who are dependent and not safe at home and place them into foster care. We know how to place children in adoption. We even know how, in some instances, to bring families together again and heal the parents and provide them the services that they need so that they do not have to be abusive.

But the thing that we have the most difficulty in doing is preventing the abuse in the first place. That is so hard, so difficult to get to. That is why I take such great satisfaction in the fact that the members of my committee, the ranking members of the subcommittee and the full committee and the chairman and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA) and the staff helped me to put language in this bill that I hope will do a great deal to prevent child abuse.

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If we look at the precursors to child abuse, if we try to predict child abuse and see where we can intervene before it occurs, what the experts will tell us, and those of us who have been in the field know, is that substance abuse is a great predictor of child abuse. When you have a mother and/or a father or others in the house who are addicted to alcohol, who are addicted to drugs, you find so frequently in, I think, 35 percent of the cases, you find that because they are inhibited, they break awful taboos; because their nerves are ruined, they become short-tempered and abusive to their children; because they are out of touch with reality, they do things they do not even know that they are doing. We know that substance abuse leads so frequently, almost invariably, to child abuse.

So what do we do about that? The opportunity to intervene is best found when a child is born. When a child is born in a hospital and it suffers from fetal alcohol syndrome, if it is clear that the mother is addicted to drugs because either she is showing the signs or the child is in neonatal abstinence syndrome, which means they are coming off of drugs at the time of birth, if we can see the systemic presence of a substance, a controlled substance in a child, if it has done neurological damage to a child, we know right there and then at that moment of birth of this child that if something does not happen there is an extraordinarily high chance that that child, after its neurological conditions, its physiological conditions are healed in the hospital, will then return home to a situation in which it is incredibly likely to be abused.

The problem we have had heretofore is there is no legal way to intervene. People have tried to pass laws at the State level and at perhaps the Federal level to make it a child abuse case. Well, that is problematic, because we do not want to necessarily prosecute the woman for child abuse because she has a substance abuse problem. We may even drive her away from the hospital if she knows she is going to face that, and she may choose to deliver at home in a dangerous situation. So it seems that the thing to do is to intervene with social services.

What the language that is in the bill says is that when these children appear under these circumstances is that the hospital personnel, the medical personnel shall be required to report that information to the child protective services specialists who then will come out to the hospital right away and intervene and get with that mother and hopefully the father, if the father is there, and say, look, you have a problem here. You have struck bottom. Look what your problem has done to your child. Here is an opportunity to get help. For the sake of your child, are you willing to receive nursing care at your home, in-home nurses? Are you willing to get treatment for your drug abuse? Are you willing to get social services? We can bring to bear a whole host of intervention services so that your problems are solved and you do not put your child at risk.

It is a wonderful opportunity. All of the substance abuse treatment experts will tell us that it is a bottoming-out experience when the mother and/or the father look and say, what have we done here? This is as low as it gets. We have hurt our newborn baby, that they are most ready for help. By bringing these services to bear, we can help these children and these families. We can prevent child abuse.

In the cases where the mother and the father just refuse to accept services, then that may be the trigger for the caseworkers to take that case to court and seek custody of the child and provide protective custody. But hopefully, in most cases, it will result in a happier ending than that and one in which the child is protected, the family is healed, and good is done all around.

So I want to thank the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA), the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA), the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER), the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER), and the staff on both sides of the aisle for helping me get this language in which I tried for years and years in my State legislature of Pennsylvania to get it in; and I am so happy to have it as part of this bill this evening.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, before bringing this to closure, I want to join the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) in agreeing that the tribute that she paid Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan was one that is well deserved and one that is going to be remembered

throughout the country by many thousands of people who learned to love Senator Moynihan.

I want to thank the subcommittee chairman, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA), for bringing this legislation forward and bringing it to the floor in a very bipartisan manner.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, just in closing, some may ask, what is the Federal Government's role in this? Do we not realize that dealing with these kinds of issues is done at the local level, that it is done at the State level? And they are absolutely right. What we want to do tonight is we want to recognize the tens of thousands of caseworkers and social workers who each and every day wrestle with these kinds of issues and how they help these children, how they help these families address these very serious problems.

What we are doing here tonight, what comes out of the CAPTA bill, is that at the Federal Government level we do research, we identify best practices, we provide technical assistance, we provide funding for demonstration projects. All of these things are intended to help the States and help those workers at the local level, that when they are involved in these cases that they come up with the right set of answers, the right sets of proposals, to help the child, to help the family, and to help the community forward. That is where the Federal Government can provide a helping hand to address this very, very serious problem.

So, in closing, I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA), I thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER), and I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) and the staff on both sides of the aisle for working in a very collaborative way to get this bill done. I look forward now to joining with my colleagues in passing this bill out of the House and bringing it to the other body and, soon, either being in a conference committee or being at the White House for the President to sign this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act (H.R. 14). This legislation reauthorizes several programs that attempt to both prevent and respond to cases of child abuse.

In addition to authorizing spending for these child abuse prevention programs, H.R. 14 also expands their focus to address some of the growing problems within our child protective services system.

For example, the legislation highlights the need to improve the retention and training of child welfare caseworkers. The average tenure of these workers who deal with very difficult cases of dysfunctional families and abused children is less than two years. Such a rapid turnover rate negatively affects the system's ability to make informed decisions about the placement of at-risk children.

The bill also acknowledges the importance of providing mental health and substance abuse services to some of the troubled families in the child welfare system.

We know that appropriate access to these critical services is often very limited—which either delays the reunification of children with their families, or potentially leads to their placement in unsafe environments.

As we laud this bill, we must remember that it authorizes only a few hundred million dollars a year for a whole spectrum of activities related to providing protection and permanency for children. In the context of a foster care system that spends about $5 billion a year on the placement of children outside of their homes, this is a very modest investment.

We also need to keep in mind that this bill is merely an authorization—meaning the funding must still be approved every year by the Appropriations Committee. The CAPTA grants, which the bill authorizes $200 million for next year, were funded at less than half that amount this year ($89 million).

So this bill is a good step in the right direction, but we still have a long road to travel to adequately protect at-risk children. As the year continues, I hope we can emulate the bipartisan spirit of this bill and make some additional progress toward ensuring the safety and well-being of our most vulnerable children.

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 14, the ''Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003.'' This bill reauthorizes the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act and the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, and related child and family protection acts. H.R. 14 represents our efforts and commitment to once again ensure that programs aimed at the prevention of child abuse and neglect are strengthened and continue to serve vulnerable children.

It's fitting that we are considering this bill today, as next week marks the beginning of National Child Abuse Prevention Month. This bill reflects our strong belief that every child in America deserves the security of being a part of a safe, permanent, caring family.

H.R. 14 aims to improve program implementation. It makes improvements to current law to ensure that states have the necessary resources and flexibility to properly address the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

It ensures that children are protected from abuse and neglect through best practice prevention and treatment services. It also reflects our belief that we can help achieve this goal by maintaining resources for adoption opportunities, identifying and addressing the needs of abandoned infants, and ensuring that resources continue to be available to promote family violence prevention activities. This bill also addresses the problem of child abandonment and abuse with effective solutions that can make a real difference in the lives of children.

H.R. 14 appropriately addresses issues regarding child protective services across the United States by enhancing training for personnel, requiring more effective partnerships between child protective services and private and community-based organizations, and improving public education on the child protection system.

This bill enjoys bipartisan support and is widely supported throughout the child abuse prevention and family violence prevention communities.

Finally Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues—Select Education Subcommittee Chairman HOEKSTRA, Mr. GREENWOOD, and Mr. MILLER, the ranking member of the full committee—for their efforts in bringing forward this important and timely legislation.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of H.R. 14, the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 14, the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act. There are provisions in this bill that will provide much needed resources for child abuse prevention, assistance for victims of child abuse and family violence, and adoption opportunities. In particular, I am very pleased that this bill authorizes $25 million for each of the fiscal years 2004 through 2008 for transitional housing for victims of domestic violence. It is my sincere hope that this bill will pass and the funding for transitional housing will be appropriated as soon as possible.

Transitional housing has been shown to prevent domestic violence and mitigate its effects. Unfortunately, many women who leave their abusers lack adequate resources and, with a shortage of emergency shelter and transitional housing options, are forced to choose between abuse at home or life on the streets. Yet, despite the fact that 50 percent of homeless women and children are fleeing domestic violence, there is currently no federal funding for transitional housing specifically for those victims.

It is critical that transitional housing be available to all those fleeing domestic abuse if we want to see an end to this violence. Transitional housing resources and services provide a continuum between emergency shelter provisions and independent living. A stable, sustainable home base for women and their children in transitional housing allows women the opportunities to learn new job skills, participate in educational programs, work full-time jobs, and search for adequate child care in order to gain self-sufficiency. Without such resources, many women eventually return to situations where they are abused and even killed.

In addition to supporting the funding for transitional housing as provided in H.R. 14, I am currently preparing to reintroduce the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Victims Housing Act. This bill would authorize $50 million a year to the Violence Against Women Office to award grants to provide transitional housing to women and their children escaping violence. I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

However, supporting measures such as H.R. 14 and the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Victims Housing Act are only the first step in making sure that Congress works to end the cycle of violence against women. It is crucial that Congress take the next step of actually making the money available. The House has authorized funding for transitional housing for domestic violence victims multiple times, yet has never appropriated a single dollar for this purpose. Therefore, I strongly urge my colleagues to follow through on their support for transitional housing and appropriate money for this purpose in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2004 budget.

Victims of domestic violence deserve nothing less than our full commitment to providing adequate resources that will help them rid their lives of violence forever and rebuild

healthy lives for themselves and their children. I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on H.R. 14.

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 14. This bill reauthorizes several federal programs aimed at curtailing the prevalence of child abuse across this country. While each Congressional district in the nation is affected by atrocities against children, in our South Texas community, we were vividly reminded this month of the horrors people visit on children.

Recently, three young children, ages two months to three years old, were brutally murdered by their parents in Brownsville. These children were the latest innocent victims in society's ongoing struggle against child abuse.

There is nothing this House can do to change the sad, sick hearts of those who abuse our children. But we can offer local communities resources to combat this serious problem. This legislation will increase grant funding by 114 percent for child abuse prevention and will offer roughly $80 million for community-based grants to target and combat child abuse.

This bill will require the overburdened child welfare systems to ensure abused or neglected children under age 3 have access to early intervention programs. We know that without early intervention, children become harder and harder to reach. It is the child welfare programs that are our most effective anti-crime weapon. When we reach children early, we have a chance at preserving their morale and directing their emotions in a healthy way.

This bill incorporates private partnerships by improving the supervision of casework and promoting partnerships between state child protective service systems and private organizations.

Estimates are that child protective agencies receive 3 million reports of child abuse or neglect involving 5 million children in the United States. More than 1,200 children die each year as a direct result of this neglect. This abuse is most often associated with delinquency, drug abuse and other vices on part of the parents, which was the case of the young Brownsville victims. This cycle of violence evolves from abused children to troubled adults who then victimize their own children. Intervening in this cycle, as early as possible, is the best recourse we can offer.

I am also pleased that we are also considering today H. Res. 113, to provide Congressional recognition to Child Help USA for sponsoring a ''Day of Hope'' which will be observed on April 2, during Child Abuse Prevention Month. While Congress cannot change the dark hearts of those who abuse innocent children, we can at least focus public attention on this important subject and offer additional resources to those who fight this heartbreaking fight every day.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GUTKNECHT). All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to the order of the House of Tuesday, March 25, 2003, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the previous order of the House of March 25, 2003, the Senate bill, (S. 342) is amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the text of H.R. 14, as passed by the House.

The text of the Senate bill is as follows:

S. 342

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 ''Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003''.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT ACT

Sec. 101. Findings.

Subtitle A—General Program

Sec. 111. National clearinghouse for information relating to child abuse.
Sec. 112. Research and assistance activities and demonstrations.
Sec. 113. Grants to States and public or private agencies and organizations.
Sec. 114. Grants to States for child abuse and neglect prevention and treatment programs.
Sec. 115. Miscellaneous requirements relating to assistance.
Sec. 116. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 117. Reports.

Subtitle B—Community-Based Grants for the Prevention of Child Abuse

Sec. 121. Purpose and authority.
Sec. 122. Eligibility.
Sec. 123. Amount of grant.
Sec. 124. Existing grants.
Sec. 125. Application.
Sec. 126. Local program requirements.
Sec. 127. Performance measures.
Sec. 128. National network for community-based family resource programs.
Sec. 129. Definitions.
Sec. 130. Authorization of appropriations.

Subtitle C—Conforming Amendments

Sec. 141. Conforming amendments.

TITLE II—ADOPTION OPPORTUNITIES

Sec. 201. Congressional findings and declaration of purpose.
Sec. 202. Information and services.
Sec. 203. Study of adoption placements.
Sec. 204. Studies on successful adoptions.
Sec. 205. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE III—ABANDONED INFANTS ASSISTANCE

Sec. 301. Findings.
Sec. 302. Establishment of local projects.
Sec. 303. Evaluations, study, and reports by Secretary.
Sec. 304. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 305. Definitions.

TITLE IV—FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES ACT

Sec. 401. State demonstration grants.
Sec. 402. Secretarial responsibilities.
Sec. 403. Evaluation.
Sec. 404. Information and technical assistance centers.
Sec. 405. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 406. Grants for State domestic violence coalitions.
Sec. 407. Evaluation and monitoring.
Sec. 408. Family member abuse information and documentation project.
Sec. 409. Model State leadership grants.
Sec. 410. National domestic violence hotline grant.
Sec. 411. Youth education and domestic violence.
Sec. 412. National domestic violence shelter network.
Sec. 413. Demonstration grants for community initiatives.
Sec. 414. Transitional housing assistance.
Sec. 415. Technical and conforming amendments.

TITLE I—CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT ACT

SEC. 101. FINDINGS.

Section 2 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''close to 1,000,000'' and inserting ''approximately 900,000'';

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (11) as paragraphs (4) through (13), respectively;

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2)(A) more children suffer neglect than any other form of maltreatment; and

''(B) investigations have determined that approximately 63 percent of children who were victims of maltreatment in 2000 suffered neglect, 19 percent suffered physical abuse, 10 percent suffered sexual abuse, and 8 percent suffered emotional maltreatment;

''(3)(A) child abuse can result in the death of a child;

''(B) in 2000, an estimated 1,200 children were counted by child protection services to have died as a result of abuse or neglect; and

''(C) children younger than 1 year old comprised 44 percent of child abuse fatalities and 85 percent of child abuse fatalities were younger than 6 years of age;'';

(4) by striking paragraph (4) (as so redesignated), and inserting the following:

''(4)(A) many of these children and their families fail to receive adequate protection and treatment;

''(B) slightly less than half of these children (45 percent in 2000) and their families fail to receive adequate protection or treatment; and

''(C) in fact, approximately 80 percent of all children removed from their homes and placed in foster care in 2000, as a result of an investigation or assessment conducted by the child protective services agency, received no services;'';

(5) in paragraph (5) (as so redesignated)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''organizations'' and inserting ''community-based organizations'';

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking ''ensures'' and all that follows through ''knowledge,'' and inserting ''recognizes the need for properly trained staff with the qualifications needed''; and

(C) in subparagraph (E), by inserting before the semicolon the following: '', which may impact child rearing patterns, while at the same time, not allowing those differences to enable abuse'';

(6) in paragraph (7) (as so redesignated), by striking ''this national child and family emergency'' and inserting ''child abuse and neglect''; and

(7) in paragraph (9) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by striking ''intensive'' and inserting ''needed''; and

(B) by striking ''if removal has taken place'' and inserting ''where appropriate''.

Subtitle A—General Program

SEC. 111. NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE FOR INFORMATION RELATING TO CHILD ABUSE.

(a) FUNCTIONS.—Section 103(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5104(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''all programs,'' and all that follows through ''neglect; and'' and inserting ''all effective programs, including private and community-based programs, that show promise of success with respect to the prevention, assessment, identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect and hold the potential for broad scale implementation and replication;'';

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon;

(3) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3);

(4) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) maintain information about the best practices used for achieving improvements in child protective systems;''; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) provide technical assistance upon request that may include an evaluation or identification of—

''(A) various methods and procedures for the investigation, assessment, and prosecution of child physical and sexual abuse cases;

''(B) ways to mitigate psychological trauma to the child victim; and

''(C) effective programs carried out by the States under this Act; and

''(5) collect and disseminate information relating to various training resources available at the State and local level to—

''(A) individuals who are engaged, or who intend to engage, in the prevention, identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect; and

''(B) appropriate State and local officials to assist in training law enforcement, legal, judicial, medical, mental health, education, and child welfare personnel.''.

(b) COORDINATION WITH AVAILABLE RESOURCES.—Section 103(c)(1) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5104(c)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (E), by striking ''105(a); and'' and inserting ''104(a);'';

(2) by redesignating subparagraph (F) as subparagraph (G); and

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (E) the following:

''(F) collect and disseminate information that describes best practices being used throughout the Nation for making appropriate referrals related to, and addressing, the physical, developmental, and mental health needs of abused and neglected children; and''.

SEC. 112. RESEARCH AND ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS.

(a) RESEARCH.—Section 104(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5105(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), in the first sentence, by inserting '', including longitudinal research,'' after ''interdisciplinary program of research''; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting before the semicolon the following: '', including the effects of abuse and neglect on a child's development and the identification of successful early intervention services or other services that are needed'';

(C) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) by striking ''judicial procedures'' and inserting ''judicial systems, including multidisciplinary, coordinated decisionmaking procedures''; and

(ii) by striking ''and'' at the end; and

(D) in subparagraph (D)—

(i) in clause (viii), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(ii) by redesignating clause (ix) as clause (x); and

(iii) by inserting after clause (viii), the following:

''(ix) the incidence and prevalence of child maltreatment by a wide array of demographic characteristics such as age, sex, race, family structure, household relationship (including the living arrangement of the resident parent and family size), school enrollment and education attainment, disability, grandparents as caregivers, labor force status, work status in previous year, and income in previous year; and'';

(E) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (I); and

(F) by inserting after subparagraph (C), the following:

''(D) the evaluation and dissemination of best practices consistent with the goals of achieving improvements in the child protective services systems of the States in accordance with paragraphs (1) through (12) of section 106(a);

''(E) effective approaches to interagency collaboration between the child protection system and the juvenile justice system that improve the delivery of services and treatment, including methods for continuity of treatment plan and services as children transition between systems;

''(F) an evaluation of the redundancies and gaps in the services in the field of child abuse and neglect prevention in order to make better use of resources;

''(G) the nature, scope, and practice of voluntary relinquishment for foster care or State guardianship of low income children who need health services, including mental health services;

''(H) the information on the national incidence of child abuse and neglect specified in clauses (i) through (xi) of subparagraph (H); and'';

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

''(B) Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, and every 2 years thereafter, the Secretary shall provide an opportunity for public comment concerning the priorities proposed under subparagraph (A) and maintain an official record of such public comment.'';

(3) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (4);

(4) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) RESEARCH.—The Secretary shall conduct research on the national incidence of child abuse and neglect, including the information on the national incidence on child abuse and neglect specified in subparagraphs (i) through (ix) of paragraph (1)(I).

''(3) REPORT.—Not later than 4 years after the date of the enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions of the Senate a report that contains the results of the research conducted under paragraph (2).''.

(b) PROVISION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Section 104(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5105(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking ''nonprofit private agencies and'' and inserting ''private agencies and community-based''; and

(B) by inserting '', including replicating successful program models,'' after ''programs and activities''; and

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) effective approaches being utilized to link child protective service agencies with health care, mental health care, and developmental services to improve forensic diagnosis and health evaluations, and barriers and shortages to such linkages.''.

(c) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS.—Section 104 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5105) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS.—The Secretary may award grants to, and enter into contracts with, States or public or private agencies or organizations (or combinations of such agencies or organizations) for time-limited, demonstration projects for the following:

''(1) PROMOTION OF SAFE, FAMILY-FRIENDLY PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENTS FOR VISITATION AND EXCHANGE.—The Secretary may award grants under this subsection to entities to assist such entities in establishing and operating safe, family-friendly physical environments—

''(A) for court-ordered, supervised visitation between children and abusing parents; and

''(B) to safely facilitate the exchange of children for visits with noncustodial parents in cases of domestic violence.

''(2) EDUCATION IDENTIFICATION, PREVENTION, AND TREATMENT.—The Secretary may award grants under this subsection to entities for projects that provide educational identification, prevention, and treatment services in cooperation with preschool and elementary and secondary schools.

''(3) RISK AND SAFETY ASSESSMENT TOOLS.—The Secretary may award grants under this subsection to entities for projects that provide for the development of effective and research-based risk and safety assessment tools relating to child abuse and neglect.

''(4) TRAINING.—The Secretary may award grants under this subsection to entities for projects that involve effective and research-based innovative training for mandated child abuse and neglect reporters.

''(5) COMPREHENSIVE ADOLESCENT VICTIM/VICTIMIZER PREVENTION PROGRAMS.—The Secretary may award grants to organizations that demonstrate innovation in preventing child sexual abuse through school-based programs in partnership with parents and community-based organizations to establish a network of trainers who will work with schools to implement the program. The program shall be comprehensive, meet State guidelines for health education, and should reduce child sexual abuse by focusing on prevention for both adolescent victims and victimizers.''.

SEC. 113. GRANTS TO STATES AND PUBLIC OR PRIVATE AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS.—Section 105(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106(a)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking ''DEMONSTRATION'' and inserting ''GRANTS FOR'';

(2) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(A) by inserting ''States,'' after ''contracts with,'';

(B) by striking ''nonprofit''; and

(C) by striking ''time limited, demonstration'';

(3) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''nonprofit'';

(B) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''law, education, social work, and other relevant

fields'' and inserting ''law enforcement, judiciary, social work and child protection, education, and other relevant fields, or individuals such as court appointed special advocates (CASAs) and guardian ad litem,'';

(C) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''nonprofit'' and all that follows through ''; and'' and inserting ''children, youth and family service organizations in order to prevent child abuse and neglect;'';

(D) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(E) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) for training to support the enhancement of linkages between child protective service agencies and health care agencies, including physical and mental health services, to improve forensic diagnosis and health evaluations and for innovative partnerships between child protective service agencies and health care agencies that offer creative approaches to using existing Federal, State, local, and private funding to meet the health evaluation needs of children who have been subjects of substantiated cases of child abuse or neglect;

''(E) for the training of personnel in best practices to promote collaboration with the families from the initial time of contact during the investigation through treatment;

''(F) for the training of personnel regarding the legal duties of such personnel and their responsibilities to protect the legal rights of children and families;

''(G) for improving the training of supervisory and nonsupervisory child welfare workers;

''(H) for enabling State child welfare agencies to coordinate the provision of services with State and local health care agencies, alcohol and drug abuse prevention and treatment agencies, mental health agencies, and other public and private welfare agencies to promote child safety, permanence, and family stability;

''(I) for cross training for child protective service workers in effective and research-based methods for recognizing situations of substance abuse, domestic violence, and neglect; and

''(J) for developing, implementing, or operating information and education programs or training programs designed to improve the provision of services to disabled infants with life-threatening conditions for—

''(i) professionals and paraprofessional personnel concerned with the welfare of disabled infants with life-threatening conditions, including personnel employed in child protective services programs and health care facilities; and

''(ii) the parents of such infants.'';

(4) by redesignating paragraph (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively;

(5) by inserting after paragraph (1), the following:

''(2) TRIAGE PROCEDURES.—The Secretary may award grants under this subsection to public and private agencies that demonstrate innovation in responding to reports of child abuse and neglect, including programs of collaborative partnerships between the State child protective services agency, community social service agencies and family support programs, law enforcement agencies, developmental disability agencies, substance abuse treatment entities, health care entities, domestic violence prevention entities, mental health service entities, schools, churches and synagogues, and other community agencies, to allow for the establishment of a triage system that—

''(A) accepts, screens, and assesses reports received to determine which such reports require an intensive intervention and which require voluntary referral to another agency, program, or project;

''(B) provides, either directly or through referral, a variety of community-linked services to assist families in preventing child abuse and neglect; and

''(C) provides further investigation and intensive intervention where the child's safety is in jeopardy.'';

(6) in paragraph (3) (as so redesignated), by striking ''nonprofit organizations (such as Parents Anonymous)'' and inserting ''organizations'';

(7) in paragraph (4) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by striking the paragraph heading;

(B) by striking subparagraphs (A) and (C); and

(C) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking ''(B) KINSHIP CARE.—'' and inserting the following:

''(4) KINSHIP CARE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—''; and

(ii) by striking ''nonprofit''; and

(8) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) LINKAGES BETWEEN CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICE AGENCIES AND PUBLIC HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AGENCIES.—The Secretary may award grants to entities that provide linkages between State or local child protective service agencies and public health, mental health, and developmental disabilities agencies, for the purpose of establishing linkages that are designed to help assure that a greater number of substantiated victims of child maltreatment have their physical health, mental health, and developmental needs appropriately diagnosed and treated, in accordance with all applicable Federal and State privacy laws.''.

(b) DISCRETIONARY GRANTS.—Section 105(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106(b)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''subsection (b)'' and inserting ''subsection (a)'';

(2) by striking paragraph (1);

(3) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively;

(4) by inserting after paragraph (2) (as so redesignated), the following:

''(3) Programs based within children's hospitals or other pediatric and adolescent care facilities, that provide model approaches for improving medical diagnosis of child abuse and neglect and for health evaluations of children for whom a report of maltreatment has been substantiated.''; and

(5) in paragraph (4)(D), by striking ''nonprofit''.

(c) EVALUATION.—Section 105(c) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106(c)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking ''demonstration'';

(2) in the second sentence, by inserting ''or contract'' after ''or as a separate grant''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following: ''In the case of an evaluation performed by the recipient of a grant, the Secretary shall make available technical assistance for the evaluation, where needed, including the use of a rigorous application of scientific evaluation techniques.''.

(d) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT TO HEADING.—The section heading for section 105 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 105. GRANTS TO STATES AND PUBLIC OR PRIVATE AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS.''.

SEC. 114. GRANTS TO STATES FOR CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION AND TREATMENT PROGRAMS.

(a) DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION GRANTS.—Section 106(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by inserting '', including ongoing case monitoring,'' after ''case management''; and

(B) by inserting ''and treatment'' after ''and delivery of services'';

(2) in paragraph (4), by striking ''improving'' and all that follows through ''referral systems'' and inserting ''developing, improving, and implementing risk and safety assessment tools and protocols'';

(3) by striking paragraph (7);

(4) by redesignating paragraphs (5), (6), (8), and (9) as paragraphs (6), (8), (9), and (12), respectively;

(5) by inserting after paragraph (4), the following:

''(5) developing and updating systems of technology that support the program and track reports of child abuse and neglect from intake through final disposition and allow interstate and intrastate information exchange;'';

(6) in paragraph (6) (as so redesignated), by striking ''opportunities'' and all that follows through ''system'' and inserting ''including—

''(A) training regarding effective and research-based practices to promote collaboration with the families;

''(B) training regarding the legal duties of such individuals; and

''(C) personal safety training for case workers;'';

(7) by inserting after paragraph (6) (as so redesignated) the following:

''(7) improving the skills, qualifications, and availability of individuals providing services to children and families, and the supervisors of such individuals, through the child protection system, including improvements in the recruitment and retention of caseworkers;'';

(8) by striking paragraph (9) (as so redesignated), and inserting the following:

''(9) developing and facilitating effective and research-based training protocols for individuals mandated to report child abuse or neglect;

''(10) developing, implementing, or operating programs to assist in obtaining or coordinating necessary services for families of disabled infants with life-threatening conditions, including—

''(A) existing social and health services;

''(B) financial assistance; and

''(C) services necessary to facilitate adoptive placement of any such infants who have been relinquished for adoption;

''(11) developing and delivering information to improve public education relating to the role and responsibilities of the child protection system and the nature and basis for reporting suspected incidents of child abuse and neglect;'';

(9) in paragraph (12) (as so redesignated), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(10) by adding at the end the following:

''(13) supporting and enhancing interagency collaboration between the child protection system and the juvenile justice system for improved delivery of services and treatment, including methods for continuity of treatment plan and services as children transition between systems; or

''(14) supporting and enhancing collaboration among public health agencies, the child protection system, and private community-based programs to provide child abuse and neglect prevention and treatment services (including linkages with education systems) and to address the health needs, including mental health needs, of children identified as abused or neglected, including supporting prompt, comprehensive health and developmental evaluations for children who are the subject of substantiated child maltreatment reports.''.

(b) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 106(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(b)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)(B)—

(i) by striking ''provide notice to the Secretary of any substantive changes'' and inserting the following: ''provide notice to the Secretary—

''(i) of any substantive changes; and'';

(ii) by striking the period and inserting ''; and''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(ii) any significant changes to how funds provided under this section are used to support the activities which may differ from the activities as described in the current State application.'';

(B) in paragraph (2)(A)—

(i) by redesignating clauses (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), (vi), (vii), (viii), (ix), (x), (xi), (xii), and (xiii) as clauses (iv), (vi), (vii), (viii), (x), (xi), (xii), (xiii), (xiv), (xv), (xvi) and (xvii), respectively;

(ii) by inserting after clause (i), the following:

''(ii) policies and procedures (including appropriate referrals to child protection service systems and for other appropriate services) to address the needs of infants born and identified as being affected by illegal substance abuse or withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure;

''(iii) the development of a plan of safe care for the infant born and identified as being affected by illegal substance abuse or withdrawal symptoms;'';

(iii) in clause (iv) (as so redesignated), by inserting ''risk and'' before ''safety'';

(iv) by inserting after clause (iv) (as so redesignated), the following:

''(v) triage procedures for the appropriate referral of a child not at risk of imminent harm to a community organization or voluntary preventive service;'';

(v) in clause (viii)(II) (as so redesignated), by striking '', having a need for such information in order to carry out its responsibilities under law to protect children from abuse and neglect'' and inserting '', as described in clause (ix)'';

(vi) by inserting after clause (viii) (as so redesignated), the following:

''(ix) provisions to require a State to disclose confidential information to any Federal, State, or local government entity, or any agent of such entity, that has a need for such information in order to carry out its responsibilities under law to protect children from abuse and neglect;'';

(vii) in clause (xiii) (as so redesignated)—

(I) by inserting ''who has received training appropriate to the role, and'' after ''guardian ad litem,''; and

(II) by inserting ''who has received training appropriate to that role'' after ''advocate'';

(viii) in clause (xv) (as so redesignated), by striking ''to be effective not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section'';

(ix) in clause (xvi) (as so redesignated)—

(I) by striking ''to be effective not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section''; and

(II) by striking ''and'' at the end;

(x) in clause (xvii) (as so redesignated), by striking ''clause (xii)'' each place that such appears and inserting ''clause (xvi)''; and

(xi) by adding at the end the following:

''(xviii) provisions and procedures to require that a representative of the child protective services agency shall, at the initial time of contact with the individual subject to a child abuse and neglect investigation, advise the individual of the complaints or allegations made against the individual, in a manner that is consistent with laws protecting the rights of the informant;

''(xix) provisions addressing the training of representatives of the child protective services system regarding the legal duties of the representatives, which may consist of various methods of informing such representatives of such duties, in order to protect the legal rights and safety of children and families from the initial time of contact during investigation through treatment;

''(xx) provisions and procedures for improving the training, retention, and supervision of caseworkers; and

''(xxi) not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, provisions and procedures for requiring criminal background record checks for prospective foster and adoptive parents and other adult relatives and non-relatives residing in the household;''; and

(C) in paragraph (2), by adding at the end the following flush sentence:

''Nothing in subparagraph (A) shall be construed to limit the State's flexibility to determine State policies relating to public access to court proceedings to determine child abuse and neglect.''.

(2) LIMITATION.—Section 106(b)(3) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(b)(3)) is amended by striking ''With regard to clauses (v) and (vi) of paragraph (2)(A)'' and inserting ''With regard to clauses (vi) and (vii) of paragraph (2)(A)''.

(c) CITIZEN REVIEW PANELS.—Section 106(c) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i)—

(I) by striking ''and procedures'' and inserting '', procedures, and practices''; and

(II) by striking ''the agencies'' and inserting ''State and local child protection system agencies''; and

(ii) in clause (iii)(I), by striking ''State'' and inserting ''State and local''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) PUBLIC OUTREACH.—Each panel shall provide for public outreach and comment in order to assess the impact of current procedures and practices upon children and families in the community and in order to meet its obligations under subparagraph (A).''; and

(2) in paragraph (6)—

(A) by striking ''public'' and inserting ''State and the public''; and

(B) by inserting before the period the following: ''and recommendations to improve the child protection services system at the State and local levels. Not later than 6 months after the date on which a report is submitted by the panel to the State, the appropriate State agency shall submit a written response to the citizen review panel that describes whether or how the State will incorporate the recommendations of such panel (where appropriate) to make measurable progress in improving the State and local child protective system''.

(d) ANNUAL STATE DATA REPORTS.—Section 106(d) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(13) The annual report containing the summary of the activities of the citizen review panels of the State required by subsection (c)(6).

''(14) The number of children under the care of the State child protection system who are transferred into the custody of the State juvenile justice system.''.

(e) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall prepare and submit to Congress a report that describes the extent to which States are implementing the policies and procedures required under section 106(b)(2)(B)(ii) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act.

SEC. 115. MISCELLANEOUS REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO ASSISTANCE.

Section 108 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106d) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(d) GAO STUDY.—Not later than February 1, 2004, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a survey of a wide range of State and local child protection service systems to evaluate and submit to Congress a report concerning—

''(1) the current training (including cross-training in domestic violence or substance abuse) of child protective service workers in the outcomes for children and to analyze and evaluate the effects of caseloads, compensation, and supervision on staff retention and performance;

''(2) the efficiencies and effectiveness of agencies that provide cross-training with court personnel; and

''(3) recommendations to strengthen child protective service effectiveness to improve outcomes for children.

''(e) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary should encourage all States and public and private agencies or organizations that receive assistance under this title to ensure that children and families with limited English proficiency who participate in programs under this title are provided materials and services under such programs in an appropriate language other than English.

''(f) ANNUAL REPORT ON CERTAIN PROGRAMS.—A State that receives funds under section 106(a) shall annually prepare and submit to the Secretary a report describing the manner in which funds provided under this Act, alone or in combination with other Federal funds, were used to address the purposes and achieve the objectives of section 105(a)(4)(B).''.

SEC. 116. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORIZATION.—Section 112(a)(1) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106h(a)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) GENERAL AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title $120,000,000 for fiscal year 2004 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2005 through 2008.''.

(b) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—Section 112(a)(2)(B) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106h(a)(2)(B)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''Secretary make'' and inserting ''Secretary shall make''; and

(2) by striking ''section 106'' and inserting ''section 104''.

SEC. 117. REPORTS.

Section 110 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106f) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) STUDY AND REPORT RELATING TO CITIZEN REVIEW PANELS.—

''(1) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a study by random sample of the effectiveness of the citizen review panels established under section 106(c).

''(2) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a report that contains the results of the study conducted under paragraph (1).''.

Subtitle B—Community-Based Grants for the Prevention of Child Abuse

SEC. 121. PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY.

(a) PURPOSE.—Section 201(a)(1) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116(a)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) to support community-based efforts to develop, operate, expand, enhance, and, where appropriate to network, initiatives aimed at the prevention of child abuse and neglect, and to support networks of coordinated resources and activities to better strengthen and support families to reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect; and''.

(b) AUTHORITY.—Section 201(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) by striking ''Statewide'' and all that follows through the dash, and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate) that are accessible, effective, culturally appropriate, and build upon existing strengths-that—'';

(B) in subparagraph (F), by striking ''and'' at the end; and

(C) by striking subparagraph (G) and inserting the following:

''(G) demonstrate a commitment to meaningful parent leadership, including among parents of children with disabilities, parents with disabilities, racial and ethnic minorities, and members of other underrepresented or underserved groups; and

''(H) provide referrals to early health and developmental services;''; and

(2) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by inserting ''through leveraging of funds'' after ''maximizing funding'';

(B) by striking ''a Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused''; and

(C) by striking ''family resource and support program'' and inserting ''programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)''.

(c) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT TO TITLE HEADING.—Title II of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116) is amended by striking the heading for such title and inserting the following:

''TITLE II—COMMUNITY–BASED GRANTS FOR THE PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT''.

SEC. 122. ELIGIBILITY.

Section 202 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116a) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking ''a Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused''; and

(ii) by striking ''family resource and support programs'' and all that follows through the semicolon and inserting ''programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate);''

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting ''that exists to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect'' after ''written authority of the State)'';

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''a network of community-based family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)'';

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking ''to the network''; and

(ii) by inserting '', and parents with disabilities'' before the semicolon;

(C) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''to the network''; and

(3) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)'';

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)'';

(C) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''and training and technical assistance, to the Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''training, technical assistance, and evaluation assistance, to community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)''; and

(D) in subparagraph (D), by inserting '', parents with disabilities,'' after ''children with disabilities''.

SEC. 123. AMOUNT OF GRANT.

Section 203 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116b) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1)(B)—

(A) by striking ''as the amount leveraged by the State from private, State, or other non-Federal sources and directed through the'' and inserting ''as the amount of private, State or other non-Federal funds leveraged and directed through the currently designated'';

(B) by striking ''State lead agency'' and inserting ''State lead entity''; and

(C) by striking ''the lead agency'' and inserting ''the current lead entity''; and

(2) in subsection (c)(2), by striking ''subsection (a)'' and inserting ''subsection (b)''.

SEC. 124. EXISTING GRANTS.

Section 204 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5115c) is repealed.

SEC. 125. APPLICATION.

Section 205 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116d) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)'';

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking ''network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)''; and

(B) by striking '', including those funded by programs consolidated under this Act,'';

(3) by striking paragraph (3), and inserting the following:

''(3) a description of the inventory of current unmet needs and current community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect, and other family resource services operating in the State;'';

(4) in paragraph (4), by striking ''State's network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(5) in paragraph (5), by striking ''Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''start up, maintenance, expansion, and redesign of community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(6) in paragraph (7), by striking ''individual community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(7) in paragraph (8), by striking ''community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(8) in paragraph (9), by striking ''community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(9) in paragraph (10), by inserting ''(where appropriate)'' after ''members'';

(10) in paragraph (11), by striking ''prevention-focused, family resource and support program'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect''; and

(11) by redesignating paragraph (13) as paragraph (12).

SEC. 126. LOCAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.

Section 206(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116e(a)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(2) in paragraph (3)(B), by inserting ''voluntary home visiting and'' after ''including''; and

(3) by striking paragraph (6) and inserting the following:

''(6) participate with other community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect in the development, operation and expansion of networks where appropriate.''.

SEC. 127. PERFORMANCE MEASURES.

Section 207 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116f) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''a Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(2) by striking paragraph (3), and inserting the following:

''(3) shall demonstrate that they will have addressed unmet needs identified by the inventory and description of current services required under section 205(3);'';

(3) in paragraph (4),

(A) by inserting ''and parents with disabilities,'' after ''children with disabilities,''; and

(B) by striking ''evaluation of'' the first place it appears and all that follows through ''under this title'' and inserting ''evaluation of community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect, and in the design, operation and evaluation of the networks of such community-based and prevention-focused programs'';

(4) in paragraph (5), by striking '', prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect'';

(5) in paragraph (6), by striking ''Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect''; and

(6) in paragraph (8), by striking ''community based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect''.

SEC. 128. NATIONAL NETWORK FOR COMMUNITY-BASED FAMILY RESOURCE PROGRAMS.

Section 208(3) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116g(3)) is amended by striking ''Statewide networks of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs'' and inserting ''community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect''.

SEC. 129. DEFINITIONS.

(a) CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES.—Section 209(1) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116h(1)) is amended by striking ''given such term in section 602(a)(2)'' and inserting ''given the term 'child with a disability' in section 602(3) or 'infant or toddler with a disability' in section 632(5)''.

(b) COMMUNITY-BASED AND PREVENTION-FOCUSED PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT.—Section 209 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116h) is amended by striking paragraphs (3) and (4) and inserting the following:

''(3) COMMUNITY-BASED AND PREVENTION-FOCUSED PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT.—The term 'community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect' includes organizations such as family resource programs, family support programs, voluntary home visiting programs, respite care programs, parenting education, mutual support programs, and other community programs or networks of such programs that provide activities that are designed to prevent or respond to child abuse and neglect.''.

SEC. 130. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 210 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116i) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 210. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

''There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title $80,000,000 for fiscal year 2004 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2005 through 2008.''.

Subtitle C—Conforming Amendments

SEC. 141. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

The table of contents of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, as contained in section 1(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 note), is amended as follows:

(1) By striking the item relating to section 105 and inserting the following:

''Sec. 105. Grants to States and public or private agencies and organizations.''.

(2) By striking the item relating to title II and inserting the following:

''TITLE II—COMMUNITY-BASED GRANTS FOR THE PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT''.

(3) By striking the item relating to section 204.

TITLE II—ADOPTION OPPORTUNITIES

SEC. 201. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS AND DECLARATION OF PURPOSE.

Section 201 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5111) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking paragraphs (1) through (4) and inserting the following:

''(1) the number of children in substitute care has increased by nearly 24 percent since 1994, as our Nation's foster care population included more than 565,000 as of September of 2001;

''(2) children entering foster care have complex problems that require intensive services, with many such children having special needs because they are born to mothers who did not receive prenatal care, are born with life threatening conditions or disabilities, are born addicted to alcohol or other drugs, or have been exposed to infection with the etiologic agent for the human immunodeficiency virus;

''(3) each year, thousands of children are in need of placement in permanent, adoptive homes;'';

(B) by striking paragraph (6);

(C) by striking paragraph (7)(A) and inserting the following:

''(7)(A) currently, there are 131,000 children waiting for adoption;''; and

(D) by redesignating paragraphs (5), (7), (8), (9), and (10) as paragraphs (4), (5), (6), (7), and (8) respectively; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting '', including geographic barriers,'' after ''barriers''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''a national'' and inserting ''an Internet-based national''.

SEC. 202. INFORMATION AND SERVICES.

Section 203 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5113) is amended—

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

''SEC. 203. INFORMATION AND SERVICES.'';

(2) by striking ''SEC. 203. (a) The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary'';

(3) in subsection (b)—

(A) by inserting ''REQUIRED ACTIVITIES.—'' after ''(b)'';

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking ''nonprofit'' each place that such appears;

(C) in paragraph (2), by striking ''nonprofit'';

(D) in paragraph (3), by striking ''nonprofit'';

(E) in paragraph (4), by striking ''nonprofit'';

(F) in paragraph (6), by striking ''study the nature, scope, and effects of'' and insert ''support'';

(G) in paragraph (7), by striking ''nonprofit'';

(H) in paragraph (9)—

(i) by striking ''nonprofit''; and

(ii) by striking ''and'' at the end;

(I) in paragraph (10)—

(i) by striking ''nonprofit''; each place that such appears; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(J) by adding at the end the following:

''(11) provide (directly or by grant to or contract with States, local government entities, or public or private licensed child welfare or adoption agencies) for the implementation of programs that are intended to increase the number of older children (who are in foster care and with the goal of adoption) placed in adoptive families, with a special emphasis on child-specific recruitment strategies, including—

''(A) outreach, public education, or media campaigns to inform the public of the needs and numbers of older youth available for adoption;

''(B) training of personnel in the special needs of older youth and the successful strategies of child-focused, child-specific recruitment efforts; and

''(C) recruitment of prospective families for such children.'';

(4) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking ''(c)(1) The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(c) SERVICES FOR FAMILIES ADOPTING SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary'';

(B) by striking ''(2) Services'' and inserting the following:

''(2) SERVICES.—Services''; and

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by realigning the margins of subparagraphs (A) through (G) accordingly;

(ii) in subparagraph (F), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(iii) in subparagraph (G), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

''(H) day treatment; and

''(I) respite care.''; and

(D) by striking ''nonprofit''; each place that such appears;

(5) in subsection (d)—

(A) by striking ''(d)(1) The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(d) IMPROVING PLACEMENT RATE OF CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary'';

(B) by striking ''(2)(A) Each State'' and inserting the following:

''(2) APPLICATIONS; TECHNICAL AND OTHER ASSISTANCE.—

''(A) APPLICATIONS.—Each State'';

(C) by striking ''(B) The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(B) TECHNICAL AND OTHER ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary'';

(D) in paragraph (2)(B)—

(i) by realigning the margins of clauses (i) and (ii) accordingly; and

(ii) by striking ''nonprofit'';

(E) by striking ''(3)(A) Payments'' and inserting the following:

''(3) PAYMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Payments''; and

(F) by striking ''(B) Any payment'' and inserting the following:

''(B) REVERSION OF UNUSED FUNDS.—Any payment''; and

(6) by adding at the end the following:

''(e) ELIMINATION OF BARRIERS TO ADOPTIONS ACROSS JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award grants to, or enter into contracts with, States, local government entities, public or private child welfare or adoption agencies, adoption exchanges, or adoption family groups to carry out initiatives to improve efforts to eliminate barriers to placing children for adoption across jurisdictional boundaries.

''(2) SERVICES TO SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Services provided under grants

made under this subsection shall supplement, not supplant, services provided using any other funds made available for the same general purposes including—

''(A) developing a uniform homestudy standard and protocol for acceptance of homestudies between States and jurisdictions;

''(B) developing models of financing cross-jurisdictional placements;

''(C) expanding the capacity of all adoption exchanges to serve increasing numbers of children;

''(D) developing training materials and training social workers on preparing and moving children across State lines; and

''(E) developing and supporting initiative models for networking among agencies, adoption exchanges, and parent support groups across jurisdictional boundaries.''.

SEC. 203. STUDY OF ADOPTION PLACEMENTS.

Section 204 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5114) is amended—

(1) by striking ''The'' and inserting ''(a) IN GENERAL.—The'';

(2) by striking ''of this Act'' and inserting ''of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003'';

(3) by striking ''to determine the nature'' and inserting ''to determine—

''(1) the nature'';

(4) by striking ''which are not licensed'' and all that follows through ''entity'';''; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) how interstate placements are being financed across State lines;

''(3) recommendations on best practice models for both interstate and intrastate adoptions; and

''(4) how State policies in defining special needs children differentiate or group similar categories of children.''.

SEC. 204. STUDIES ON SUCCESSFUL ADOPTIONS.

Section 204 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5114) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(b) DYNAMICS OF SUCCESSFUL ADOPTION.—The Secretary shall conduct research (directly or by grant to, or contract with, public or private nonprofit research agencies or organizations) about adoption outcomes and the factors affecting those outcomes. The Secretary shall submit a report containing the results of such research to the appropriate committees of the Congress not later than the date that is 36 months after the date of the enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003.

''(c) INTERJURISDICTIONAL ADOPTION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, the Secretary, in consultation with the Comptroller General, shall submit to the appropriate committees of the Congress a report that contains recommendations for an action plan to facilitate the interjurisdictional adoption of foster children.''.

SEC. 205. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 205(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5115(a)) is amended to read as follows:

''There are authorized to be appropriated $40,000,000 for fiscal year 2004 and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2005 through 2008 to carry out programs and activities authorized under this subtitle.''.

TITLE III—ABANDONED INFANTS ASSISTANCE

SEC. 301. FINDINGS.

Section 2 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (1);

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by inserting ''studies indicate that a number of factors contribute to'' before ''the inability of'';

(B) by inserting ''some'' after ''inability of'';

(C) by striking ''who abuse drugs''; and

(D) by striking ''care for such infants'' and inserting ''care for their infants'';

(3) by amending paragraph (5) to read as follows:

''(5) appropriate training is needed for personnel working with infants and young children with life-threatening conditions and other special needs, including those who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (commonly known as 'HIV'), those who have acquired immune deficiency syndrome (commonly known as 'AIDS'), and those who have been exposed to dangerous drugs;'';

(4) by striking paragraphs (6) and (7);

(5) in paragraph (8)—

(A) by striking ''such infants and young children'' and inserting ''infants and young children who are abandoned in hospitals''; and

(B) by inserting ''by parents abusing drugs,'' after ''deficiency syndrome,'';

(6) in paragraph (9), by striking ''comprehensive services'' and all that follows through the semicolon at the end and inserting ''comprehensive support services for such infants and young children and their families and services to prevent the abandonment of such infants and young children, including foster care services, case management services, family support services, respite and crisis intervention services, counseling services, and group residential home services;'';

(7) by striking paragraph (11);

(8) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), (4), (5), (8), (9), and (10) as paragraphs (1) through (7), respectively; and

(9) by adding at the end the following:

''(8) private, Federal, State, and local resources should be coordinated to establish and maintain services described in paragraph (7) and to ensure the optimal use of all such resources.''.

SEC. 302. ESTABLISHMENT OF LOCAL PROJECTS.

Section 101 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended—

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

''SEC. 101. ESTABLISHMENT OF LOCAL PROJECTS.'';

and

(2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) PRIORITY IN PROVISION OF SERVICES.—The Secretary may not make a grant under subsection (a) unless the applicant for the grant agrees to give priority to abandoned infants and young children who—

''(1) are infected with, or have been perinatally exposed to, the human immunodeficiency virus, or have a life-threatening illness or other special medical need; or

''(2) have been perinatally exposed to a dangerous drug.''.

SEC. 303. EVALUATIONS, STUDY, AND REPORTS BY SECRETARY.

Section 102 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 102. EVALUATIONS, STUDY, AND REPORTS BY SECRETARY.

''(a) EVALUATIONS OF LOCAL PROGRAMS.—The Secretary shall, directly or through contracts with public and nonprofit private entities, provide for evaluations of projects carried out under section 101 and for the dissemination of information developed as a result of such projects.

''(b) STUDY AND REPORT ON NUMBER OF ABANDONED INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a study for the purpose of determining—

''(A) an estimate of the annual number of infants and young children relinquished, abandoned, or found deceased in the United States and the number of such infants and young children who are infants and young children described in section 101(b);

''(B) an estimate of the annual number of infants and young children who are victims of homicide;

''(C) characteristics and demographics of parents who have abandoned an infant within 1 year of the infant's birth; and

''(D) an estimate of the annual costs incurred by the Federal Government and by State and local governments in providing housing and care for abandoned infants and young children.

''(2) DEADLINE.—Not later than 36 months after the date of enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, the Secretary shall complete the study required under paragraph (1) and submit to Congress a report describing the findings made as a result of the study.

''(c) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall evaluate and report on effective methods of intervening before the abandonment of an infant or young child so as to prevent such abandonments, and effective methods for responding to the needs of abandoned infants and young children.''.

SEC. 304. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 104 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) AUTHORIZATION.—For the purpose of carrying out this Act, there are authorized to be appropriated $45,000,000 for fiscal year 2004 and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2005 through 2008.

''(2) LIMITATION.—Not more than 5 percent of the amounts appropriated under paragraph (1) for any fiscal year may be obligated for carrying out section 102(a).'';

(2) by striking subsection (b);

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting ''AUTHORIZATION.—'' after ''(1)'' the first place it appears; and

(ii) by striking ''this title'' and inserting ''this Act''; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by inserting ''LIMITATION.—'' after ''(2)''; and

(ii) by striking ''fiscal year 1991.'' and inserting ''fiscal year 2003.''; and

(4) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (b) and (c), respectively.

(b) REDESIGNATION.—The Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 104 as section 302; and

(2) by moving that section 302 to the end of that Act.

SEC. 305. DEFINITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 301 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 301. DEFINITIONS.

''In this Act:

''(1) ABANDONED; ABANDONMENT.—The terms 'abandoned' and 'abandonment', used with respect to infants and young children, mean that the infants and young children are medically cleared for discharge from acute-care hospital settings, but remain hospitalized because of a lack of appropriate out-of-hospital placement alternatives.

''(2) ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME.—The term 'acquired immune deficiency syndrome' includes infection with the etiologic agent for such syndrome, any condition indicating that an individual is infected with such etiologic agent, and any condition arising from such etiologic agent.

''(3) DANGEROUS DRUG.—The term 'dangerous drug' means a controlled substance, as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802).

''(4) NATURAL FAMILY.—The term 'natural family' shall be broadly interpreted to include natural parents, grandparents, family members, guardians, children residing in the household, and individuals residing in the household on a continuing basis who are in a care-giving situation, with respect to infants and young children covered under this Act.

''(5) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Health and Human Services.''.

(b) REPEAL.—Section 103 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is repealed.

TITLE IV—FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES ACT

SEC. 401. STATE DEMONSTRATION GRANTS.

(a) UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS.—Section 303(a)(2)(C) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10402(a)(2)(C)) is amended by striking ''underserved populations,'' and all that follows and inserting the following: ''underserved populations, as defined in section 2007 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg–2);''.

(b) REPORT.—Section 303(a) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10402(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) Upon completion of the activities funded by a grant under this title, the State shall submit to the Secretary a report that contains a description of the activities carried out under paragraph (2)(B)(i).''.

(c) CHILDREN WHO WITNESS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.—Section 303 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10402) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (c) through (f) as subsections (d) through (g), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

''(c) For a fiscal year described in section 310(a)(2), the Secretary shall use funds made available under that section to make grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible entities for projects designed to address the needs of children who witness domestic violence, to—

''(1) provide direct services for children who witness domestic violence;

''(2) provide for training for and collaboration among child welfare agencies, domestic violence victim service providers, courts, law enforcement, and other entities; and

''(3) provide for multisystem interventions for children who witness domestic violence.''.

SEC. 402. SECRETARIAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

Section 305(a) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10404(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''an employee'' and inserting ''1 or more employees'';

(2) by striking ''of this title.'' and inserting ''of this title, including carrying out evaluation and monitoring under this title.''; and

(3) by striking ''The individual'' and inserting ''Any individual''.

SEC. 403. EVALUATION.

Section 306 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10405) is amended in the first sentence by striking ''Not later than two years after the date on which funds are obligated under section 303(a) for the first time after the date of the enactment of this title, and every two years thereafter,'' and inserting ''Every 2 years,''.

SEC. 404. INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTERS.

Section 308 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10407) is amended by striking subsection (g).

SEC. 405. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORIZATION.—Section 310(a) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10409(a)) is amended to read as follows:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out sections 303 through 311, $175,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2008.

''(2) PROJECTS TO ADDRESS NEEDS OF CHILDREN WHO WITNESS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.—For a fiscal year in which the amounts appropriated under paragraph (1) exceed $150,000,000, the Secretary shall reserve and make available 50 percent of the excess to carry out section 303(c).''.

(b) ALLOCATIONS FOR OTHER PROGRAMS.—Subsections (b), (c), and (d) of section 310 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10409) are amended by inserting ''(and not reserved under subsection (a)(2))'' after ''each fiscal year''.

(c) GRANTS FOR STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS.—Section 311(g) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10410(g)) is amended to read as follows:

''(g) FUNDING.—Of the amount appropriated under section 310(a) for a fiscal year (and not reserved under section 310(a)(2)), not less than 10 percent of such amount shall be made available to award grants under this section.''.

SEC. 406. GRANTS FOR STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS.

Section 311 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10410) is amended by striking subsection (h).

SEC. 407. EVALUATION AND MONITORING.

Section 312 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10412) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) Of the amount appropriated under section 310(a) for each fiscal year (and not reserved under section 310(a)(2)), not more than 2.5 percent shall be used by the Secretary for evaluation, monitoring, and other administrative costs under this title.''.

SEC. 408. FAMILY MEMBER ABUSE INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION PROJECT.

Section 313 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10413) is repealed.

SEC. 409. MODEL STATE LEADERSHIP GRANTS.

Section 315 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10415) is repealed.

SEC. 410. NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE GRANT.

(a) DURATION.—Section 316(b) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10416(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''A grant'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), a grant''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) EXTENSION.—The Secretary may extend the duration of a grant under this section beyond the period described in paragraph (1) if, prior to such extension—

''(A) the entity prepares and submits to the Secretary a report that evaluates the effectiveness of the use of amounts received under the grant for the period described in paragraph (1) and contains any other information the Secretary may prescribe; and

''(B) the report and other appropriate criteria indicate that the entity is successfully operating the hotline in accordance with subsection (a).''.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 316(f) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10416(f)) is repealed.

SEC. 411. YOUTH EDUCATION AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

Section 317 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10417) is repealed.

SEC. 412. NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER NETWORK.

The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act is amended by inserting after section 316 (42 U.S.C. 10416) the following:

''SEC. 317. NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER NETWORK.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—For a year in which the Secretary makes an amount available under subsection (g)(2), the Secretary shall award a grant to a nonprofit organization to establish and operate a highly secure Internet website (referred to in this section as the 'website') that shall—

''(1) link, to the greatest extent possible, entities consisting of the entity providing the national domestic violence hotline, participating domestic violence shelters in the United States, State and local domestic violence agencies, and other domestic violence organization, so that such entities will be able to connect a victim of domestic violence to the most safe, appropriate, and convenient domestic violence shelter; and

''(2) contain, to the maximum extent practicable, continuously updated information concerning the availability of services and space in domestic violence shelters across the United States.

''(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a nonprofit organization shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require. The application shall—

''(1) demonstrate the experience of the applicant in successfully developing and managing a technology-based network of domestic violence shelters;

''(2) demonstrate a record of success of the applicant in meeting the needs of domestic violence victims and their families; and

''(3) include a certification that the applicant will—

''(A) implement a high level security system to ensure the confidentiality of the website;

''(B) establish, within 5 years, a website that links the entities described in subsection (a)(1);

''(C) consult with the entities described in subsection (a)(1) in developing and implementing the website and providing Internet connections; and

''(D) otherwise comply with the requirements of this section.

''(c) USE OF GRANT AWARD.—The recipient of a grant award under this section shall—

''(1) collaborate with officials of the Department of Health and Human Services in a manner determined to be appropriate by the Secretary;

''(2) collaborate with the entity providing the national domestic violence hotline in developing and implementing the network;

''(3) ensure that the website is continuously updated and highly secure;

''(4) ensure that the website provides information describing the services of each domestic violence shelter to which the website is linked, including information for individuals with limited English proficiency and information concerning access to medical care, social services, transportation, services for children, and other relevant services;

''(5) ensure that the website provides up-to-the-minute information on available bed space in domestic violence shelters across the United States, to the maximum extent practicable;

''(6) provide training to the staff of the hotline and to staff of the other entities described in subsection (a)(1) regarding how to

use the website to best meet the needs of callers;

''(7) provide Internet access, and hardware in necessary cases, to domestic violence shelters in the United States that do not have the appropriate technology for such access, to the maximum extent practicable; and

''(8) ensure that after the third year of the website project, the recipient will develop a plan to expand the sources of funding for the website to include funding from public and private entities, although nothing in this paragraph shall preclude a grant recipient under this section from raising funds from other sources at any time during the 5-year grant period.

''(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to require any shelter or service provider, whether public or private, to be linked to the website or to provide information to the recipient of the grant award or to the website.

''(e) DURATION OF GRANT.—The term of a grant awarded under this section shall be 5 years.

''(f) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND OVERSIGHT.—The Secretary shall—

''(1) provide technical assistance, if requested, on developing and managing the website; and

''(2) have access to, and monitor, the website.

''(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out section 316 and this section, $5,000,000 for fiscal year 2004 and such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2005 through 2008.

''(2) CONDITIONS ON APPROPRIATIONS.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the Secretary shall make available a portion of the amounts appropriated under paragraph (1) to carry out this section only for any fiscal year for which the amounts appropriated under paragraph (1) exceed $3,000,000.

''(3) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Of the amount made available to carry out this section for a fiscal year the Secretary may not use more than 2 percent for administrative costs associated with the grant program carried out under this section, of which not more than 5 percent shall be used to assist the entity providing the national domestic violence hotline to participate in the establishment of the website.

''(4) AVAILABILITY.—Funds appropriated under paragraph (1) shall remain available until expended.''.

SEC. 413. DEMONSTRATION GRANTS FOR COMMUNITY INITIATIVES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 318(h) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10418(h)) is amended to read as follows:

''(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $6,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2008.''.

(b) REGULATIONS.—Section 318 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10418) is amended by striking subsection (i).

SEC. 414. TRANSITIONAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE.

Section 319(f) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10419(f)) is amended by striking ''fiscal year 2001'' and inserting ''each of fiscal years 2004 through 2008''.

SEC. 415. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10401 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 302(1) (42 U.S.C. 10401(1)) by striking ''demonstrate the effectiveness of assisting'' and inserting ''assist'';

(2) in section 303(a) (42 U.S.C. 10402(a))—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''State domestic violence coalitions knowledgeable individuals and interested organizations'' and inserting ''State domestic violence coalitions, knowledgeable individuals, and interested organizations''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (F), by adding ''and'' at the end; and

(B) by aligning the margins of paragraph (4) with the margins of paragraph (3);

(3) in section 303(g) (as so redesignated)—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking ''309(4)'' and inserting ''320''; and

(B) in the second sentence, by striking ''309(5)(A)'' and inserting ''320(5)(A)'';

(4) in section 305(b)(2)(A) (42 U.S.C. 10404(b)(2)(A)) by striking ''provide for research, and into'' and inserting ''provide for research into'';

(5) by redesignating section 309 as section 320 and moving that section to the end of the Act; and

(6) in section 311(a) (42 U.S.C. 10410(a))—

(A) in paragraph (2)(K), by striking ''other criminal justice professionals,;'' and inserting ''other criminal justice professionals;'' and

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''family law judges,,'' and inserting ''family law judges,'';

(ii) in subparagraph (D), by inserting '', criminal court judges,'' after ''family law judges''; and

(iii) in subparagraph (H), by striking ''supervised visitations that do not endanger victims and their children'' and inserting ''supervised visitations or denial of visitation to protect against danger to victims or their children''.

(For text of Senate bill, as amended, see prior proceedings of the House of today.)

The Senate bill, as so amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

A similar House bill (H.R. 14) was laid on the table.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

URGING AMERICANS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ''E-MAIL OUR TROOPS'' PROJECT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ISRAEL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, tonight I rise to urge my colleagues to participate in the E-mail Our Troops Project, a vitally important endeavor that is good for our military personnel and also good for our children.

This program allows people to send e-mail messages to men and women serving in very dangerous places around the world. It boosts the morale of our service members, it alleviates their loneliness, but it is also very helpful to children in particular.

For young children, news of war can be overpowering. It can leave them with a sense that they are not connected, they have no control; frightening news controls them. Giving them an e-mail connection to our Armed Forces is one way of creating a positive connection, letting them voice an opinion, ask a question.

Mr. Speaker, I learned that just yesterday when I visited the J. Taylor Finley Middle School in Huntington. I went there to talk to the youngsters about their opinions on what is happening in Iraq and to teach them how to e-mail our troops. I would like to share with my colleagues and with the country some of the messages that these young men and women sent to other young men and women who are fighting for our freedom.

Mario from the Taylor Finley Middle School wrote, ''Hi! My name is Mario; and I want to tell you that, in my opinion, you are going to be fine because people will and are praying for you.''

Becca wrote, ''Dear serviceperson. My name is Becca, and I am a 12 year old student at Finley Middle School. I am writing to you to say how much I am thinking about you. Our country is so grateful to have people like you fighting for America. You must be truly brave.''

Tori wrote, ''Hi! How are you? Is it hard to be so far away from your family? Do you miss them? I can't thank you enough for what you are doing. I hope you get back safely.''

Madeleine and Shannon wrote, ''Dear American, thank you for defending our country. We hope you are safe and well. You are very important to us. It must be hard to leave your family for so long. Your decision to help the effort is so commendable. We hope you come back soon.''

Mr. Speaker, Jenny wrote, ''Hello, I just wanted to say that myself and many other people are thinking of you. We are thinking very often of you during the day and how much you are doing for this country. We are so proud of you.''

And Megan wrote, ''Dear Friend, I just want to say that I am very proud of you and I support you. Thank you so much for putting your life on the line to protect the rights of others in this country and in Iraq. We all believe in you and hope that you will return very soon.''

Lauren-Taylor wrote, ''I don't want this to be another letter that says 'thank you' over and over. I want to tell you that I truly feel that you are giving this ultimate gift to people that you don't even know. The fact that you love your country and fellow Americans so much is incredible. You are showing this in great fashion. Please know that even if we don't support this war, we support you.''

And Tara e-mailed, ''Dear American, thank you so much for what you have done for our country. I really appreciate what you are doing. You are so brave to risk your own life for us. You are so brave and courageous. I hope you are proud, because I know I am.''

Mr. Speaker, just one more.

Daniella wrote, ''Dear Navy soldiers, I wanted to tell you thanks for being our hero, representing our country. Thanks for everything you have done. It is amazing. Thanks for fighting for peace in the United States. Thank you so much for everything, and thanks for being our hero.''

Mr. Speaker, when I visited this school yesterday, I learned that our young children, who have the same opinions that many of their parents do and many Members of Congress do, have a vitally important opportunity, despite those opinions, to show what counts, and that is support for our troops. These young students at the Finley Middle School had the opportunity not only to show that support but also to give expression to their feelings, to ask some questions; and, ultimately, I hope that that gave them a sense that they can engage in the great issues of our time, that they can venture an opinion, that that opinion counts, and that they can give some solace and some comfort to people who are fighting for their future in far away and dangerous places.

I want to thank the teachers, the administrators, and the students of that school; and I want to thank the people that they sent e-mails to just yesterday.

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The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GUTKNECHT). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

THE VOTE FOR A TAX CUT DURING A TIME OF DEFICIT AND WAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend I traveled to the district after our vote on the budget, and there were sincere questions that came from many of the people in the district why we would do what we had done. I felt it was necessary to address this body again about the comments that we heard and the responses to that.

First of all, Mr. Speaker, I would remind this body that when we discuss such things as a budget, we should discuss, first of all, principles, that is, values. We should remember, Mr. Speaker, that this Nation was founded on the principle of freedom; but without economic freedom, no other freedoms really make a difference. It is economic freedoms that allow us access to the other freedoms granted by our Constitution.

Mr. Speaker, I would remind the Members that property rights, private property rights, are one of the most significant aspects of our Constitution. They are one of the significant components of our economic freedoms.

So as we discuss our budget, we should remember that economic freedoms, that our constitutionally given private property rights, are a very important concept. They are the basis of the hopes and dreams, of the opportunities that this country makes.

A generation can dream for itself and then dream for its children and dream for its grandchildren. I know that is one of the greatest things that people knock on the door to get into America to achieve, to reach out for those economic freedoms, and the other freedoms of their daily lives. Mr. Speaker, as we reach those dreams, we should always be mindful that the dreams should be made ever-increasingly accessible to those who have not had them.

Mr. Speaker, I think, as we discuss the budget, we should recognize other basic principles, that is, basic, recognizable truths.

First of all, Mr. Speaker, I would say that America is overtaxed. It is not that America is undertaxed; it is that Washington overspends that causes the difficult situation facing us today.

My daughter graduated from college several years ago. She received her first paycheck. She called in indignation. I was serving as a State representative. She thought we could cure such things. She said, I am paying more in taxes than for rent, entertainment, and food combined. She said, what can you do about that? I said, well, I registered Republican. I do not know what you will do.

I would say one of the greatest principles we have here today is winning the war on terror. As we discuss the budget, we would want to understand that.

Another recognizable truth, Mr. Speaker, is that when the government spends an accumulated 20 to 25 percent of the gross domestic product, that an economy begins to stall. It becomes stagnant. We are seeing that model lived out in the socialist economies of Europe. We are very near the 22 percent limit that most economists suggest is an upward limit for vibrant growth, I would say.

I think another recognizable truth is that many of our corporations, because of our tax policies, are no longer competitive. They begin, before they even invest their first dollar, with a 10 percent or 12 percent disadvantage in the world markets.

So, Mr. Speaker, I voted for that budget because we began to cut spending and exercise fiscal restraint, and we did it while holding some of the basic programs harmless.

Mr. Speaker, there is a great curiosity why we would, in times of deficit, vote for a tax cut. I would just remind the Members that tax cuts are like investments. If we as individuals want more income in the future, we would invest a portion of our current income. We would forgo consumption in the current time to invest it into the future.

Mr. Speaker, tax cuts are the investments in the future for our government. We send the money back to a generation, that they would be able to spend it and use it in consumption, driving up demand, increasing jobs. It is not just enough to increase that demand in the short run, Mr. Speaker; we have to increase it in the long run. So the tax cuts that we offered were permanent, extending into the future.

A tax cut also needs scope. It needs largeness. That is where the dividend tax cut comes in, Mr. Speaker. It also helps as far as business investment. One of the most significant aspects of this tax cut is that it has a size and scope to make a difference.

Mr. Speaker, the tax cut will fuel the economy into the future. The growth of the economy will result in greater revenues for the current time; and by forgoing current consumption, investing in a tax cut, we grow the size of the economy so we will have more revenues in the future. With that, we will balance the budget.

UNREAL BUDGET PASSED IN HOUSE ENDANGERS OUR ARMED FORCES, AMERICA'S FAMILIES AT HOME, AND OUR ECONOMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, last week, as our Nation engaged in war in Iraq, this House voted to approve a budget resolution for fiscal year 2004 that seriously jeopardizes the health, well-being, and security of our families, our economy, and our communities. It is a budget that benefits the few, the wealthy, and those who are not in need at the cost of working families, the young, the vulnerable, the aged, and the sick. It is a budget that puts both our present and our future at risk.

I do not know what world those who supported the budget live in, but it certainly is not the real world. In the real world, our economy is in trouble. We face massive budget deficits, and our States are confronting the worst fiscal condition in over 50 years.

In the real world, our communities are laying off teachers, police, and firefighters. In the real world, our infrastructure needs repair and modernization. In the real world, our families need quality schools and child care. In the real world, our current and future veterans deserve health care and other support. In the real world, our Social Security and Medicare systems are in financial crisis.

It is past time for this Congress to debate how to meet our obligations; not a time for silence, cynicism, and accounting tricks.

Mr. Speaker, we simply cannot afford the tax cuts passed in the Republican

leadership's budget resolution. We are at war in Iraq; we are in fiscal crisis at home. We have critical needs for our hometown security.

Next week, this House will debate the President's $75 billion supplemental request to support the immediate costs of the war and the immediate needs of homeland security. This House was also going to take up a tax bill to approve at least the $726 billion in tax cuts desired by the President. That tax bill might now be temporarily postponed because yesterday the other body was shocked into a moment of clarity. If only this House might also be jolted into facing reality.

Mr. Speaker, I had, and I still have, great reservations about our policy in Iraq. I continue to believe that this Congress has abdicated its responsibilities by not having a real debate about the war for more than 5 months. As parliaments and assemblies and congresses around the world debated this issue, the United States House of Representatives was silent. What a shameful performance.

We must not repeat that mistake by failing to ask the tough, necessary questions: How much will this war cost? What are the long-term consequences of occupying Iraq? How will that affect our ability to fund other priorities? What does it mean for our war on terrorism?

I believed then and I believe today that Congress must have the basic information to meet its foreign and domestic obligations. We were told during the budget debate that the administration did not know how much the war might cost or what might be in the supplemental. Two days after the House passed its budget, however, they obviously had a very clear idea and a very specific request for $74.7 billion.

Mr. Speaker, this House passed a budget that makes a mockery of our duty to protect and promote the common good of the American people. We are not responding to the needs of the people when we pass a budget that closes down hospitals, lays off police and firefighters, shuts down after-school programs and child care centers, and cuts $15 billion from veterans health and benefits.

We are now preparing to debate a supplemental that deliberately fails to provide Congress information on the full cost of the war, of rebuilding Iraq, and of protecting our communities. Now it is being described as the first installment; but we do not know how many other installments are coming, or when, or for what purpose. We do know that this first installment includes items that have nothing to do with the war, the reconstruction of Afghanistan, or homeland security. In fact, Colombia receives more aid for military security in this supplemental than my State of Massachusetts does for homeland security.

How sad. We must do better. We must make sure that America can meet its critical needs at home and abroad. We need to support our troops, and we also need to support their families and our States and our communities right here at home.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, I urge my colleagues to get real.

ALERTING MEMBERS TO NEW REPRESSION IN CUBA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to express my concern regarding a disturbing chain of events that have unfolded in Cuba over the last week and a half.

With the United States and the world preoccupied with the situation in Iraq, Castro is using this opportunity to take steps to dismantle the pro-democracy movement on the island. Hoping his actions would be overshadowed by world events, the regime has arrested and detained over 70 nonviolent human rights activists, pro-democracy leaders and independent journalists. These are the harshest acts of oppression taken by the Castro regime to silence opposition in recent years. Many worry these are only the first steps in an all-out campaign to silence all opposition on the island.

Last Monday, Castro issued an official communique that accused dissidents on the island of Cuba of conspiring with U.S. Interests Section Chief James Cason and other American diplomats to undermine the island's leadership.

On Tuesday, Castro agents began the first wave of a series of arrests on the island, rounding up dissidents, independent journalists, owners of independent libraries, leaders of opposition political parties, and pro-democracy advocates who have worked to gather signatures for the Varela Project.

Detainees have been charged with counts of counterrevolutionary activities, subversion, and conspiracy with U.S. diplomats. Many fear that Castro will use this as an opportunity to prosecute the prisoners under a much-criticized 1999 Cuban law that makes it a crime to publish subversive materials provided by the U.S. Government, and that carries with it a sentence of up to 10 years.

Mr. Speaker, leading up to last week's events, Castro was becoming increasingly agitated by Cason and other American diplomats on the island who have met in public with opposition leaders in an effort to encourage democracy in Cuba. Cason and his associates have logged countless miles of travel and have crisscrossed Cuba to distribute shortwave radios and a wide array of books and pamphlets aimed at promoting American culture, democracy, and human rights.

In an effort to silence these efforts, the Cuban Government announced on Tuesday that it was restricting the travel of Cason and other Americans at the U.S. Interests Section, and quarantining our diplomatic officials in the province of Havana.

I would like to take this opportunity, Mr. Speaker, to note that one of the independent journalists currently in custody is Omar Rodriguez Saludes, whose work I have mentioned during previous speeches on the House floor, and who was featured in a story last June by The New York Times.

At the time, Omar shared his struggles and those of other independent journalists currently working in Cuba. He told of how he traveled around Havana on a battered child-sized bicycle and wrote his articles in longhand, or on a 20-year-old typewriter that a group of reporters share; and how he gathered every 2 weeks with other journalists in a cramped apartment in Havana to wait his turn to place a phone call and dictate his stories to audiences in the United States.

Castro believed the U.S. and other nations would be too engaged in world matters to notice the atrocities that he and his regime were committing against Omar Rodriguez and other voices for change in Cuba. I urge my colleagues to join with me and speak on the House floor and in other public forums to shed light on the situation in Cuba and show Castro that the world is indeed watching.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MCCOTTER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MCCOTTER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

A RUSH TO EXEMPT DEFENSE DEPARTMENT FROM MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, in the wake of our march to war with Iraq, too little attention has been placed on the rush to exempt the Department of Defense from most of America's major environmental laws.

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This is more than just another misguided assault on the environment by the Bush administration. It is a significant missed opportunity for the military.

Our defense-related activities are the source of the Nation's largest pollution and Superfund sites. From the radioactive legacy at Hanford, Washington, to the toxic residue of our chemical testing and manufacturing around American University here in Washington, D.C., every State, district and territory struggles with this problem.

More exemptions are not going to help. A lack of controls created this toxic legacy across America in the first

place. These exemptions will actually cost us money. Much of the tens of billions of dollars that will be necessary to clean up after our military activity is a result of delay and lack of commitment. States will be forced to step in where the Federal Government has walked away.

Failure to invest in technologies of cleanup will put lives at risk. Land mines, unexploded ordnance kill people at home and abroad.

Even the sprawl that vexes communities around the country hits at the military. Isolated areas that were once perfect for testing weapons and training soldiers are now victims of our headlong rush for urban development. Sprawl is one of the greatest challenges to military readiness as civilian uses encroach upon and around military bases and ranges.

For too long, Congress has been missing in action in this critical area. It should not just reject the Bush administration's ill-conceived but cleverly-timed effort. Now is the time for Congress to help the military fulfill its environmental obligations.

As the finest fighting force in the world, our military achieves astounding results. All they need are direct orders and adequate resources. Why not put them to work to enhance and protect the environment, rather than create more environmental threats in the future while we ignore the challenges of today?

Since I came to Congress I have been working on this problem, fighting to at least inventory the areas that are blighted by unexploded ordnance, to put somebody in charge and incrementally increase funding for cleanup and research.

As a gusher of money flows to defense, just half the budget for the ill-conceived national missile defense program could revolutionize military cleanup. Instead of a rate of spending that will now take centuries, maybe millennia, we could finish the job in a few decades.

In the long term, investing in cleanup can actually save substantial sums of money. As technologies are developed and economies of scale are achieved in environmental cleanup, there will be a wide range of civilian contractors willing, able and eager to expand their business.

Additional money for research will do far more than merely hasten cleanup and lower costs. It will have a profound implication not just for soldiers but for children and farmers who are killed and maimed every day as a result of unexploded ordnance and land mines. And this just does not happen overseas. They have been able to document over 60 American victims, including children, who have been victims here in this country.

At a time when we are deeply concerned about our economy, these investments will provide tens of thousands of family-wage jobs. Accelerated cleanup will speed the return of some of America's most interesting, scenic and valuable properties to productive uses and, in some cases, to the tax rolls.

It is not just a fear of job loss that keeps between a quarter and a third of domestic bases that are surplus to our needs in operation. Many communities feel that they will lose not just the economic security and the jobs but they will be left with a white elephant that is polluted, surrounded by barbed wire and a cyclone fence.

The Fort Ord base in California is an example. It contains some of the world's most spectacular landscape, but after 13 years since closure and over $500 million, the land still has not been fully restored to productive use.

Twenty years ago, a bipartisan coalition of ''cheap hawks'' made some significant reforms in military weapons procurement. Today, the ''hawks'' who care about the environment, the budget and military readiness should embrace bold, environmental military action.

Congress should firmly reject the anti-environmental, unnecessary initiatives of the administration and, instead, give the money and instructions to the Department of Defense so they can clean up after themselves. It will boost the economy, save taxpayer money and enhance the environment. It will improve military readiness at home while it enhances the safety of soldiers and civilians around the world.

PUBLICATION OF THE RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT, 108TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GUTKNECHT). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I submit for publication the attached copy of the Rules of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct for the U.S. House of Representatives for the 108th Congress. The Committee on Standards of Official Conduct adopted these rules pursuant to House Rule XI, clause 2(a)(1) on March 19, 2003. I am submitting these rules for publication in compliance with House Rule XI, clause 2(a)(2).

RULES—COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT—ADOPTED MARCH 19, 2003

FOREWORD

The Committee on Standards of Official Conduct is unique in the House of Representatives. Consistent with the duty to carry out its advisory and enforcement responsibilities in an impartial manner, the Committee is the only standing committee of the House of Representatives the membership of which is divided evenly by party. These rules are intended to provide a fair procedural framework for the conduct of the Committee's activities and to help insure that the Committee serves well the people of the United States, the House of Representatives, and the Members, officers, and employees of the House of Representatives.

PART I—GENERAL COMMITTEE RULES

RULE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) So far as applicable, these rules and the Rules of the House of Representatives shall be the rules of the Committee and any subcommittee. The Committee adopts these rules under the authority of clause 2(a)(1) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, 108th Congress.

(b) The rules of the Committee may be modified, amended, or repealed by a vote of a majority of the Committee.

(c) When the interests of justice so require, the Committee, by a majority vote of its members, may adopt any special procedures, not inconsistent with these rules, deemed necessary to resolve a particular matter before it. Copies of such special procedures shall be furnished to all parties in the matter.

(d) The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member shall have access to such information that they request as necessary to conduct Committee business.

RULE 2. DEFINITIONS

(a) ''Committee'' means the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

(b) ''Complaint'' means a written allegation of improper conduct against a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives filed with the Committee with the intent to initiate an inquiry.

(c) ''Inquiry'' means an investigation by an investigative subcommittee into allegations against a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives.

(d) ''Investigative Subcommittee'' means a subcommittee designated pursuant to Rule 19(a) to conduct an inquiry to determine if a Statement of Alleged Violation should be issued.

(e) ''Statement of Alleged Violation'' means a formal charging document filed by an investigative subcommittee with the Committee containing specific allegations against a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives of violation of the Code of Official Conduct, or of a law, rule, regulation, or other standard of conduct applicable to the performance of official duties or the discharge of official responsibilities.

(f) ''Adjudicatory Subcommittee'' means a subcommittee designated pursuant to Rule 23(a), that holds an adjudicatory hearing and determines whether the counts in a Statement of Alleged Violation are proved by clear and convincing evidence.

(g) ''Sanction Hearing'' means a Committee hearing to determine what sanction, if any, to adopt or to recommend to the House of Representatives.

(h) ''Respondent'' means a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives who is the subject of a complaint filed with the Committee or who is the subject of an inquiry or a Statement of Alleged Violation.

(i) ''Office of Advice and Education'' refers to the Office established by section 803(i) of the Ethics Reform Act of 1989. The Office handles inquiries; prepares written opinions in response to specific requests; develops general guidance; and organizes seminars, workshops, and briefings for the benefits of the House of Representatives.

(j) ''Member'' means a Representative in, or a Delegate to, or the Resident Commissioner to, the U.S. House of Representatives.

RULE 3. ADVISORY OPINIONS AND WAIVERS

(a) The Office of Advice and Education shall handle inquiries; prepare written opinions providing specific advice; develop general guidance; and organize seminars, workshops, and briefings for the benefit of the House of Representatives.

(b) Any Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives, may request a written opinion with respect to the propriety of any current or proposed conduct of such Member, officer, or employee.

(c) The Office of Advice and Education may provide information and guidance regarding

laws, rules, regulations, and other standards of conduct applicable to Members, officers, and employees in the performance of their duties or the discharge of their responsibilities.

(d) In general, the Committee shall provide a written opinion to an individual only in response to a written request, and the written opinion shall address the conduct only of the inquiring individual, or of persons for whom the inquiring individual is responsible as employing authority.

(e) A written request for an opinion shall be addressed to the Chairman of the Committee and shall include a complete and accurate statement of the relevant facts. A request shall be signed by the requester or the requester's authorized representative or employing authority. A representative shall disclose to the Committee the identity of the principal on whose behalf advice is being sought.

(f) The Office of Advice and Education shall prepare for the Committee a response to each written request for an opinion from a Member, officer or employee. Each response shall discuss all applicable laws, rules, regulations, or other standards.

(g) Where a request is unclear or incomplete, the Office of Advice and Education may seek additional information from the requester.

(h) The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member are authorized to take action on behalf of the Committee on any proposed written opinion that they determine does not require consideration by the Committee. If the Chairman or Ranking Minority Member requests a written opinion, or seeks a waiver, extension, or approval pursuant to Rules 3(1), 4(c), 4(e), or 4(h), the next ranking member of the requester's party is authorized to act in lieu of the requester.

(i) The Committee shall keep confidential any request for advice from a Member, officer, or employee, as well as any response thereto.

(j) The Committee may take no adverse action in regard to any conduct that has been undertaken in reliance on a written opinion if the conduct conforms to the specific facts addressed in the opinion.

(k) Information provided to the Committee by a Member, officer, or employee seeking advice regarding prospective conduct may not be used as the basis for initiating an investigation under clause 3(a)(2) or clause 3(b) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, if such Member, officer, or employee acts in good faith in accordance with the written advice of the Committee.

(l) A written request for a waiver of clause 5 of House Rule XXV (the House gift rule), or for any other waiver or approval, shall be treated in all respects like any other request for a written opinion.

(m) A written request for a waiver of clause 5 of House Rule XXV (the House gift rule) shall specify the nature of the waiver being sought and the specific circumstances justifying the waiver.

(n) An employee seeking a waiver of time limits applicable to travel paid for by a private source shall include with the request evidence that the employing authority is aware of the request. In any other instance where proposed employee conduct may reflect on the performance of official duties, the Committee may require that the requester submit evidence that the employing authority knows of the conduct.

RULE 4. FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

(a) In matters relating to Title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, the Committee shall coordinate with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, Legislative Resource Center, to assure that appropriate individuals are notified of their obligation to file Financial Disclosure Statements and that such individuals are provided in a timely fashion with filing instructions and forms developed by the Committee.

(b) The Committee shall coordinate with the Legislative Resource Center to assure that information that the Ethics in Government Act requires to be placed on the public record is made public.

(c) The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member are authorized to grant on behalf of the Committee requests for reasonable extensions of time for the filing of Financial Disclosure Statements. Any such request must be received by the Committee no later than the date on which the statement in question is due. A request received after such date may be granted by the Committee only in extraordinary circumstances. Such extensions for one individual in a calendar year shall not exceed a total of 90 days. No extension shall be granted authorizing a nonincumbent candidate to file a statement later than 30 days prior to a primary or general election in which the candidate is participating.

(d) An individual who takes legally sufficient action to withdraw as a candidate before the date on which that individual's Financial Disclosure Statement is due under the Ethics in Government Act shall not be required to file a Statement. An individual shall not be excused from filing a Financial Disclosure Statement when withdrawal as a candidate occurs after the date on which such Statement was due.

(e) any individual who files a report required to be filed under title I of the Ethics in Government Act more than 30 days after the later of—

(1) the date such report is required to be filed, or

(2) if a filing extension is granted to such individual, the last day of the filing extension period, is required by such Act to pay a late filing fee of $200. The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member are authorized to approve requests that the fee be waived based on extraordinary circumstances.

(f) Any late report that is submitted without a required filing fee shall be deemed procedurally deficient and not properly filed.

(g) The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member are authorized to approve requests for waivers of the aggregation and reporting of gifts as provided by section 102(a)(2)(C) of the Ethics in Government Act. If such a request is approved, both the incoming request and the Committee response shall be forwarded to the Legislative Resource Center for placement on the public record.

(h) The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member are authorized to approve blind trusts as qualifying under section 102(f)(3) of the Ethics in Government Act. The correspondence relating to formal approval of a blind trust, the trust document, the list of assets transferred to the trust, and any other documents required by law to be made public, shall be forwarded to the Legislative Resource Center for such purpose.

(i) The Committee shall designate staff counsel who shall review Financial Disclosure Statements and, based upon information contained therein, indicate in a form and manner prescribed by the Committee whether the Statement appears substantially accurate and complete and the filer appears to be in compliance with applicable laws and rules.

(j) Each Financial Disclosure Statement shall be reviewed within 60 days after the date of filing.

(k) If the reviewing counsel believes that additional information is required because (1) the Statement appears not substantially accurate or complete, or (2) the filer may not be in compliance with applicable laws or rules, then the reporting individual shall be notified in writing of the additional information believed to be required, or of the law or rule with which the reporting individual does not appear to be in compliance. Such notice shall also state the time within which a response is to be submitted. Any such notice shall remain confidential.

(l) Within the time specified, including any extension granted in accordance with clause (c), a reporting individual who concurs with the Committee's notification that the Statement is not complete, or that other action is required, shall submit the necessary information or take appropriate action. Any amendment may be in the form of a revised Financial Disclosure Statement or an explanatory letter addressed to the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

(m) Any amendment shall be placed on the public record in the same manner as other Statements. The individual designated by the Committee to review the original Statement shall review any amendment thereto.

(n) Within the time specified, including any extension granted in accordance with clause (c), a reporting individual who does not agree with the Committee that the Statement is deficient or that other action is required, shall be provided an opportunity to respond orally or in writing. If the explanation is accepted, a copy of the response, if written, or a note summarizing an oral response, shall be retained in Committee files with the original report.

(o) The Committee shall be the final arbiter of whether any Statement requires clarification or amendment.

(p) If the Committee determines, by vote of a majority of its members, that there is reason to believe that an individual has willfully failed to file a Statement or has willfully falsified or willfully failed to file information required to be reported, then the Committee shall refer the name of the individual, together with the evidence supporting its finding, to the Attorney General pursuant to section 104(b) of the Ethnics in Government Act. Such referral shall not preclude the Committee from initiating such other action as may be authorized by other provisions of law or the Rules of the House of Representatives.

RULE 5. MEETINGS

(a) The regular meeting day of the Committee shall be the second Wednesday of each month, except when the House of Representatives is not meeting on that day. When the Committee Chairman determines that there is sufficient reason, a meeting may be called on additional days. A regularly scheduled meeting need not be held when the Chairman determines there is no business to be considered.

(b) The Chairman shall establish the agenda for meetings of the Committee and the Ranking Minority Member may place additional items on the agenda.

(c) All meetings of the Committee or any subcommittee shall occur in executive session unless the Committee or subcommittee, by an affirmative vote of a majority of its members, opens the meeting or hearing to the public.

(d) Any hearing held by an adjudicatory subcommittee or any sanction hearing held by the Committee shall be open to the public unless the Committee or subcommittee, by an affirmative vote of a majority of its members, closes the hearing to the public.

(e) A subcommittee shall meet at the discretion of its Chairman.

(f) Insofar as practicable, notice for any Committee or subcommittee meeting shall be provided at least seven days in advance of the meeting. The Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee may waive such time period for good cause.

RULE 6. COMMITTEE STAFF

(a) The staff is to be assembled and retained as a professional, nonpartisan staff.

(b) Each member of the staff shall be professional and demonstrably qualified for the position for which he is hired.

(c) The staff as a whole and each individual member of the staff shall perform all official duties in a nonpartisan manner.

(d) No member of the staff shall engage in any partisan political activity directly affecting any congressional or presidential election.

(e) No member of the staff or outside counsel may accept public speaking engagements or write for publication on any subject that is in any way related to his or her employment or duties with the Committee without specific prior approval from the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member.

(f) All staff members shall be appointed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee. Such vote shall occur at the first meeting of the membership of the Committee during each Congress and as necessary during the Congress.

(g) Subject to the approval of the Committee on House Administration, the Committee may retain counsel not employed by the House of Representatives whenever the Committee determines, by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee, that the retention of outside counsel is necessary and appropriate.

(h) If the Committee determines that it is necessary to retain staff members for the purpose of a particular investigation or other proceeding, then such staff shall be retained only for the duration of that particular investigation or proceeding.

(i) Outside counsel may be dismissed prior to the end of a contract between the Committee and such counsel only by a majority vote of the members of the Committee.

(j) In addition to any other staff provided for by law, rule, or other authority, with respect to the Committee, the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member each may appoint one individual as a shared staff member from his or her personal staff to perform service for the Committee. Such shared staff may assist the Chairman or Ranking Minority Member on any subcommittee on which he serves. Only paragraphs (c), (e) of this Rule, and Rule 7(b) shall apply to shared staff.

RULE 7. CONFIDENTIALITY

(a) Before any Member or employee of the Committee, including members of an investigative subcommittee selected under clause 5(a)(4) of Rule X of the House of Representatives and shared staff designated pursuant to Committee Rule 6(j), may have access to information that is confidential under the rules of the Committee, the following oath (or affirmation) shall be executed in writing:

''I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will not disclose, to any person or entity outside the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, any information received in the course of my service with the Committee, except as authorized by the Committee or in accordance with its rules.''

Copies of the executed oath shall be provided to the Clerk of the House as part of the records of the House. Breaches of confidentiality shall be investigated by the Committee and appropriate action shall be taken.

(b) No member of the staff or outside counsel may make public, unless approved by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee, any information, document, or other material that is confidential, derived from executive session, or classified and that is obtained during the course of employment with the Committee.

(c) Committee members and staff shall not disclose any evidence relating to an investigation to any person or organization outside the Committee unless authorized by the Committee.

(d) Members and staff of the Committee shall not disclose to any person or organization outside the Committee, unless authorized by the Committee, any information regarding the Committee's or a subcommittee's investigative, adjudicatory or other proceedings, included but not limited to: (i) the fact or nature of any complaints; (ii) executive session proceedings; (iii) information pertaining to or copies of any Committee or subcommittee report, study or other document which purports to express the views, fining, conclusions or recommendations of the Committee or subcommittee in connection with any of its activities or proceedings; or (iv) any other information or allegation respecting the conduct of a Member, officer or employee of the House.

(c) Except as otherwise specifically authorized by the Committee, no Committee member or staff member shall disclose to any person outside the Committee, the name of any witness subpoenaed to testify or to produce evidence.

(f) The Committee shall not disclose to any person or organization outside the Committee any information concerning the conduct of a respondent until it has transmitted a Statement of Alleged Violation to such respondent and the respondent has been given full opportunity to respond pursuant to Rule 22. The Statement of Alleged Violation and any written response thereto shall be made public at the first meeting or hearing on the matter that is open to the public after such opportunity has been provided. Any other materials in the possession of the Committee regarding such statement may be made public as authorized by the Committee to the extent consistent with the Rules of the House of Representatives. If no public hearing is held on the matter, the Statement of Alleged Violation and any written response thereto shall be included in the Committee's final report on the matter to the House of Representatives.

(g) Unless otherwise determined by a vote of the Committee, only the Chairman or Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, after consultation with each other, may make public statements regarding matters before the Committee or any subcommittee.

(h) The Committee may establish procedures necessary to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of any testimony or other information received by the Committee or its staff.

RULE 8. SUBCOMMITTEES—GENERAL POLICY AND STRUCTURE

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules, the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee may consult with an investigative subcommittee either on their own initiative or on the initiative of the subcommittee, shall have access to evidence and information before a subcommittee with whom they so consult, and shall not thereby be precluded from serving as full, voting members of any adjudicatory subcommittee. Except for the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee pursuant to this paragraph, evidence in the possession of an investigative subcommittee shall not be disclosed to other Committee members except by a vote of the subcommittee.

(b) The Committee may establish other noninvestigative and nonadjudicatory subcommittees and may assign to them such functions as it may deem appropriate. The membership of each subcommittee shall provide equal representation for the majority and minority parties.

(c) The Chairman may refer any bill, resolution, or other matter before the Committee to an appropriate subcommittee for consideration. Any such bill, resolution, or other matter may be discharged from the subcommittee to which it was referred by a majority vote of the Committee.

(d) Any member of the Committee may sit with any noninvestigative or nonadjudicatory subcommittee, but only regular members of such subcommittee may vote on any matter before that subcommittee.

RULE 9. QUORUMS AND MEMBER DISQUALIFICATION

(a) The quorum for an investigative subcommittee to take testimony and to receive evidence shall be two members, unless otherwise authorized by the House of Representatives.

(b) The quorum for an adjudicatory subcommittee to take testimony, receive evidence, or conduct business shall consist of a majority plus one of the members of the adjudicatory subcommittee.

(c) Except as stated in clauses (a) and (b) of this rule, a quorum for the purpose of conducting business consists of a majority of the members of the Committee or subcommittee.

(d) A member of the Committee shall be ineligible to participate in any Committee or subcommittee proceeding in which he is the respondent.

(e) A member of the Committee may disqualify himself from participating in any investigation of the conduct of a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives upon the submission in writing and under oath of an affidavit of disqualification stating that the members cannot render an impartial and unbiased decision. If the Committee approves and accepts such affidavit of disqualification, or if a member is disqualified pursuant to Rule 17(e) or Rule 23(a), the Chairman shall so notify the Speaker and ask the Speaker to designate a Member of the House of Representatives from the same political party as the disqualified member of the Committee to act as a member of the Committee in any Committee proceeding relating to such investigation.

RULE 10. VOTE REQUIREMENTS

(a) The following actions shall be taken only upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee or subcommittee, as appropriate:

(1) Issuing a subpoena.

(2) Adopting a full Committee motion to create an investigative subcommittee.

(3) Adoption or amendment of a Statement of Alleged Violation.

(4) Finding that a count in a Statement of Alleged Violation has been proved by clear and convincing evidence.

(5) Sending a letter of reproval.

(6) Adoption of a recommendation to the House of Representatives that a sanction be imposed.

(7) Adoption of a report relating to the conduct of a Member, officer, or employee.

(8) Issuance of an advisory opinion of general applicability establishing new policy.

(b) Except as stated in clause (a), action may be taken by the Committee or any subcommittee thereof by a simple majority, a quorum being present.

(c) No motion made to take any of the actions enumerated in clause (a) of this Rule may be entertained by the Chair unless a quorum of the Committee is present when such motion is made.

RULE 11. COMMITTEE RECORDS

(a) All communications and all pleadings pursuant to these rules shall be filed with the Committee at the Committee's office or such other place as designated by the Committee.

(b) All records of the Committee which have been delivered to the Archivist of the United States shall be made available to the public in accordance with Rule VII of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

RULE 12. BROADCASTS OF COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

(a) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(b) No witness shall be required against his or her will to be photographed or otherwise to have a graphic reproduction of his or her image made at any hearing or to give evidence or testimony while the broadcasting of that hearing, by radio or television, is being conducted. At the request of any witness, all media microphones shall be turned off, all television and camera lenses shall be covered, an the making of a graphic reproduction at the hearing shall not be permitted. This paragraph supplements clause 2(k)(5) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives relating to the protection of the rights of witnesses.

(c) Not more than four television cameras, operating from fixed positions, shall be permitted in a hearing or meeting room. The Committee may allocate the positions of permitted television cameras among the television media in consultation with the Executive Committee of the Radio and Television Correspondents' Galleries.

(d) Television cameras shall be placed so as not to obstruct in any way the space between any witness giving evidence or testimony and any member of the Committee, or the visibility of that witness and that member to each other.

(e) Television cameras shall not be placed in positions that unnecessarily obstruct the coverage of the hearing or meeting by the other media.

PART II—INVESTIGATIVE AUTHORITY

RULE 13. HOUSE RESOLUTION

Whenever the House of Representatives, by resolution, authorizes or directs the Committee to undertake an inquiry or investigation, the provisions of the resolution, in conjunction with these Rules, shall govern. To the extent the provisions of the resolution differ from these Rules, the resolution shall control.

RULE 14. COMMITTEE AUTHORITY TO INVESTIGATE—GENERAL POLICY

(a) Pursuant to clause 3(b) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee may exercise its investigative authority when:

(1) information offered as a complaint by a Member of the House of Representatives is transmitted directly to the Committee;

(2) information offered as a complaint by an individual not a Member of the House is transmitted to the Committee, provided that a Member of the House certifies in writing that he or she believes the information is submitted in good faith and warrants the review and consideration of the Committee;

(3) the Committee, on its own initiative, establishes an investigative subcommittee;

(4) a Member, officer, or employee is convicted in a Federal, State, or local courts of a felony; or

(5) the House of Representatives, by resolution, authorizes or directs the Committee to undertake an inquiry or investigation.

(b) The Committee also has investigatory authority over:

(1) certain unauthorized disclosures of intelligence-related information, pursuant to House Rule X, clauses 11(g)(4) and (g)(5); or

(2) reports received from the Office of the Inspector General pursuant to House Rule II, clause 6(c)(5).

RULE 15. COMPLAINTS

(a) A complaint submitted to the Committee shall be in writing, dated, and properly verified (a document will be considered properly verified where a notary executes it with the language, ''Signed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on (date) by (the name of the person)'' setting forth in simple, concise, and direct statements—

(1) the name and legal address of the party filing the complaint (hereinafter referred to as the ''complainant'');

(2) the name and position or title of the respondent;

(3) the nature of the alleged violation of the Code of Official Conduct or of other law, rule, regulation, or other standard of conduct applicable to the performance of duties or discharge of responsibilities; and

(4) the facts alleged to give rise to the violation. The complaint shall not contain innuendo, speculative assertions, or conclusory statements.

(b) Any documents in the possession of the complainant that relate to the allegations may be submitted with the complaint.

(c) Information offered as a complaint by a Member of the House of Representatives may be transmitted directly to the Committee.

(d) Information offered as a complaint by an individual not a Member of the House may be transmitted to the Committee, provided that Member of the House certifies in writing that he or she believes the information is submitted in good faith and warrants the review and consideration of the Committee.

(e) A complaint must be accompanied by a certification, which may be unsworn, that the complainant has provided an exact copy of the filed complaint and all attachments to the respondent.

(f) The Committee may defer action on a complaint against a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives when the complaint alleges conduct that the Committee has reason to believe is being reviewed by appropriate law enforcement or regulatory authorities, or when the Committee determines that it is appropriate for the conduct alleged in the complaint to be reviewed initially by law enforcement or regulatory authorities.

(g) A complaint may not be amended without leave of the Committee. Otherwise, any new allegations of improper conduct must be submitted to a new complaint that independently meets the procedural requirements of the Rules of the House of Representatives and the Committee's Rules.

(h) The Committee shall not accept, and shall return to the complainant, any complaint submitted within the 60 days prior to an election in which the subject of the complaint is a candidate.

(i) The Committee shall not consider a complaint, nor shall any investigation be undertaken by the Committee, of any alleged violation which occurred before the third previous Congress unless the Committee determines that the alleged violation is directly related to an alleged violation which occurred in a more recent Congress.

RULE 16. DUTIES OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

(a) Whenever information offered as a complaint is submitted to the Committee, the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member shall have 14 calendar days or 5 legislative days, whichever occurs first, to determine whether the information meets the requirements of the Committee's rules for what constitutes a complaint.

(b) Whenever the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member jointly determine that information submitted to the Committee meets the requirements of the Committee's rules for what constitutes a complaint, they shall have 45 calendar days or 5 legislative days, whichever is later, after the date that the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member determine that information filed meets the requirements of the Committee's rules for what constitutes a complaint, unless the Committee by an affirmative vote of a majority of its members votes otherwise, to—

(1) recommend to the Committee that it dispose of the complaint, or any portion thereof, in any manner that does not require action by the House, which may include dismissal of the complaint or resolution of the complaint by a letter to the Member, officer, or employee of the House against whom the complaint is made;

(2) establish an investigative subcommittee; or

(3) request that the Committee extend the applicable 45-calendar day period when they determine more time is necessary in order to make a recommendation under paragraph (1) or (2) of Rule 16(b).

(c) The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member may jointly gather additional information concerning alleged conduct which is the basis of a complaint or of information offered as a complaint until they have established an investigative subcommittee or the Chairman or Ranking Minority Member has placed on the agenda the issue of whether to establish an investigative subcommittee.

(d) If the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member jointly determine that information submitted to the Committee meets the requirements of the Committee rules for what constitutes a complaint, and the complaint is not disposed of within 45 calendar days or 5 legislative days, whichever is later, and no additional 45-day extension is made, then they shall establish an investigative subcommittee and forward the complaint, or any portion thereof, to that subcommittee for its consideration. If at any time during the time period either the Chairman or Ranking Minority Member places on the agenda the issue of whether to establish an investigative subcommittee, then an investigative subcommittee may be established only by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Committee.

(e) Whenever the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member jointly determine that information submitted to the Committee does not meet the requirements for what constitutes a complaint set forth in the Committee rules, they may (1) return the information to the complainant with a statement that it fails to meet the requirements for what constitutes a complaint set forth in the Committee's rules; or (2) recommend to the Committee that it authorize the establishment of an investigative subcommittee.

RULE 17. PROCESSING OF COMPLAINTS

(a) If a compliant is in compliance with House and Committee Rules, a copy of the complaint and the Committee Rules shall be forwarded to the respondent within five days with notice that the complaint conforms to the applicable rules.

(b) The respondent may, within 30 days of the Committee's notification, provide to the Committee any information relevant to a complaint filed with the Committee. The respondent may submit a written statement in response to the complaint. Such a statement shall be signed by the respondent. If the statement is prepared by counsel for the respondent, the respondent shall sign a representation that he/she has reviewed the response and agrees with the factual assertions contained therein.

(c) The Committee staff may request information from the respondent or obtain additional information pertinent to the case from other sources prior to the establishment of an investigative subcommittee only when so directed by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member.

(d) The respondent shall be notified in writing regarding the Committee's decision either to dismiss the complaint or to create an investigative subcommittee.

(e) The respondent shall be notified of the membership of the investigative subcommittee and shall have ten days after such notice is transmitted to object to the participation of any subcommittee member. Such objection shall be in writing and shall be on the grounds that the subcommittee member cannot render an impartial and unbiased decision. The subcommittee member against whom the objection is made shall be the sole judge of his or her disqualification.

RULE 18. COMMITTEE-INITIATED INQUIRY

(a) Notwithstanding the absence of a filed complaint, the Committee may consider any information in its possession indicating that a Member, officer, or employee may have committed a violation of the Code of Official Conduct or any law, rule, regulation, or other standard of conduct applicable to the conduct of such Member, officer, or employee in the performance of his or her duties or the discharge of his or her responsibilities. The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member may jointly gather additional information concerning such an alleged violation by a Member, officer, or employee unless and until an investigative subcommittee has been established.

(b) If the Committee votes to establish an investigative subcommittee, the Committee shall proceed in accordance with Rule 19.

(c) Any written request by a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives that the Committee conduct an inquiry into such person's own conduct shall be processed in accordance with subsection (a) of this Rule.

(d) An inquiry shall not be undertaken regarding any alleged violation that occurred before the third previous Congress unless a majority of the Committee determines that the alleged violation is directly related to an alleged violation that occurred in a more recent Congress.

(e) An inquiry shall be undertaken by an investigative subcommittee with regard to any felony conviction of a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives in a Federal, State, or local court who has been sentenced. Notwithstanding this provision, the Committee has the discretion to initiate an inquiry upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee at any time prior to conviction or sentencing.

RULE 19. INVESTIGATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE

(a) Upon the establishment of an investigative subcommittee, the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee shall designate four members (with equal representation from the majority and minority parties) to serve as an investigative subcommittee to undertake an inquiry. Members of the Committee and Members of the House selected pursuant to clause 5(a)(4)(A) of Rule X of the House of Representatives, are eligible for appointment to an investigative subcommittee, as determined by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee. At the time of appointment, the Chairman shall designate one member of the subcommittee to serve as the chairman and the Ranking Minority Member shall designate one member of the subcommittee to serve as the ranking minority member of the investigative subcommittee. The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee may serve as members of the investigative subcommittee, but may not serve as non-voting, ex-officio members.

(b) In an inquiry undertaken by an investigative subcommittee—

(1) All proceedings, including the taking of testimony, shall be conducted in executive session and all testimony taken by deposition or things produced pursuant to subpoena or otherwise shall be deemed to have been taken or produced in executive session.

(2) The Chairman of the investigative subcommittee shall ask the respondent and all witnesses whether they intended to be represented by counsel. If so, the respondent or witnesses or their legal representatives shall provide written designation of counsel. A respondent or witness who is represented by counsel shall not be questioned in the absence of counsel unless an explicit waiver is obtained.

(3) The subcommittee shall provide the respondent an opportunity to present, orally or in writing, a statement, which must be under oath or affirmation, regarding the allegations and any other relevant questions arising out of the inquiry.

(4) The staff may interview witnesses, examine documents and other evidence, and request that submitted statements be under oath or affirmation and that documents be certified as to their authenticity and accuracy.

(5) The subcommittee, by a majority vote of its members, may require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers, documents, and other items as it deems necessary to the conduct of the inquiry. Unless the Committee otherwise provides, the subpoena power shall rest in the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee and a subpoena shall be issued upon the request of the investigative subcommittee.

(6) The subcommittee shall require that testimony be given under oath or affirmation. The form of the oath or affirmation shall be: ''Do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that the testimony you will give before this subcommittee in the matter now under consideration will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth (so help you God)?'' The oath or affirmation shall be administered by the Chairman or subcommittee member designated by the Chairman to administer oaths.

(c) During the inquiry, the procedure respecting the admissibility of evidence and rulings shall be as follows:

(1) Any relevant evidence shall be admissible unless the evidence is privileged under the precedents of the House of Representatives.

(2) The Chairman of the subcommittee or other presiding member at any investigative subcommittee proceeding shall rule upon any question of admissibility or pertinency of evidence, motion, procedure or any other matter, and may direct any witness to answer any question under penalty of contempt. A witness, witness' counsel, or a member of the subcommittee may appeal any rulings to the members present at that proceeding. The majority vote of the members present at such proceeding on such appeal shall govern the question of admissibility, and no appeal shall lie to the Committee.

(3) Whenever a person is determined by a majority vote to be in contempt of the subcommittee, the matter may be referred to the Committee to determine whether to refer the matter to the House of Representatives for consideration.

(4) Committee counsel may, subject to subcommittee approval, enter into stipulations with the respondent and/or the respondent's counsel as to facts that are not in dispute.

(d) Upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the subcommittee members, and an affirmative vote of a majority of the full Committee, an investigative subcommittee may expand the scope of its investigation.

(e) Upon completion of the investigation, the staff shall draft for the investigative subcommittee a report that shall contain a comprehensive summary of the information received regarding the alleged violations.

(f) Upon completion of the inquiry, an investigative subcommittee, by a majority vote of its members, may adopt a Statement of Alleged Violation if it determines that there is substantial reason to believe that a violation of the Code of Official Conduct, or of a law, rule, regulation, or other standard of conduct applicable to the performance of official duties or the discharge of official responsibilities by a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives has occurred. If more than one violation is alleged, such Statement shall be divided into separate counts. Each count shall relate to a separate violation, shall contain a plain and concise statement of the alleged facts of such violation, and shall include a reference to the provision of the Code of Official Conduct or law, rule, regulation or other applicable standard of conduct governing the performance of duties or discharge of responsibilities alleged to have been violated. A copy of such Statement shall be transmitted to the respondent and the respondent's counsel.

(g) If the investigative subcommittee does not adopt a Statement of Alleged Violation, it shall transmit to the Committee a report containing a summary of the information received in the inquiry, its conclusions and reasons therefore, and any appropriate recommendation.

RULE 20. AMENDMENTS TO STATEMENTS OF ALLEGED VIOLATION

(a) An investigative subcommittee may, upon an affirmative vote of a majority of its members, amend its Statement of Alleged Violation anytime before the Statement of Alleged Violation is transmitted to the Committee; and

(b) If an investigative subcommittee amends its Statement of Alleged Violation, the respondent shall be notified in writing and shall have 30 calendar days from the date of that notification to file an answer to the amended Statement of Alleged Violation.

RULE 21. COMMITTEE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

(a) Whenever an investigative subcommittee does not adopt a Statement of Alleged Violation and transmits a report to that effect to the Committee, the Committee may by an affirmative vote of a majority of its members transmit such report to the House of Representatives;

(b) Whenever an investigative subcommittee adopts a Statement of Alleged Violation but recommends that no further action be taken, it shall transmit a report to the Committee regarding the Statement of Alleged Violation; and

(c) Whenever an investigative subcommittee adopts a Statement of Alleged Violation, the respondent admits to the violations set forth in such Statement, the respondent waives his or her right to an adjudicatory hearing, and the respondent's waiver is approved by the Committee—

(1) the subcommittee shall prepare a report for transmittal to the Committee, a final draft of which shall be provided to the respondent not less than 15 calendar days before the subcommittee votes on whether to adopt the report;

(2) the respondent may submit views in writing regarding the final draft to the subcommittee within 7 calendar days of receipt of that draft;

(3) the subcommittee shall transmit a report to the Committee regarding the Statement of Alleged Violation together with any views submitted by the respondent pursuant to subparagraph (2), and the Committee shall make the report, together with the respondent's views, available to the public before

the commencement of any sanction hearing; and

(4) the Committee shall by an affirmative vote of a majority of its members issue a report and transmit such report to the House of Representatives, together with the respondent's views previously submitted pursuant to subparagraph (2) and any additional views respondent may submit for attachment to the final report; and

(d) Members of the Committee shall have not less than 72 hours to review any report transmitted to the Committee by an investigative subcommittee before both the commencement of a sanction hearing and the Committee vote on whether to adopt the report.

RULE 22. RESPONDENT'S ANSWER

(a)(1) Within 30 days from the date of transmittal of a Statement of Alleged Violation, the respondent shall file with the investigative subcommittee an answer, in writing and under oath, signed by respondent and respondent's counsel. Failure to file an answer within the time prescribed shall be considered by the Committee as a denial of each count.

(2) The answer shall contain an admission to or denial of each count set forth in the Statement of Alleged Violation and may include negative, affirmative, or alternative defenses and any supporting evidence or other relevant information.

(b) The respondent may file a Motion for a Bill of Particulars within 10 days of the date of transmittal of the Statement of Alleged Violation. If a Motion for a Bill of Particulars is filed, the respondent shall not be required to file an answer until 20 days after the subcommittee has replied to such motion.

(c)(1) The respondent may file a Motion to Dismiss within 10 days of the date of transmittal of the Statement of Alleged Violation or, if a Motion for a Bill of Particulars has been filed, within 10 days of the date of the subcommittee's reply to the Motion for a Bill of Particulars. If a Motion to Dismiss is filed, the respondent shall not be required to file an answer until 20 days after the subcommittee has replied to the Motion to Dismiss, unless the respondent previously filed a Motion for a Bill of Particulars, in which case the respondent shall not be required to file an answer until 10 days after the subcommittee has replied to the Motion to Dismiss. The investigative subcommittee shall rule upon any motion to dismiss filed during the period between the establishment of the subcommittee and the subcommittee's transmittal of a report or Statement of Alleged Violation to the Committee or to the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member at the conclusion of an inquiry, and no appeal of the subcommittee's ruling shall lie to the Committee.

(2) A Motion to Dismiss may be made on the grounds that the Statement of Alleged Violation fails to state facts that constitute a violation of the Code of Official Conduct or other applicable law, rule, regulation, or standard of conduct, or on the grounds that the Committee lacks jurisdiction to consider the allegations contained in the Statement.

(d) Any motion filed with the subcommittee pursuant to this rule shall be accompanied by a Memorandum of Points and Authorities.

(e)(1) The Chairman of the investigative subcommittee, for good cause shown, may permit the respondent to file an answer or motion after the day prescribed above.

(2) If the ability of the respondent to present an adequate defense is not adversely affected and special circumstances so require, the Chairman of the investigative subcommittee may direct the respondent to file an answer or motion prior to the day prescribed above.

(f) If the day on which any answer, motion, reply, or other pleading must be filed falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, such filing shall be made on the first business day thereafter.

(g) As soon as practicable after an answer has been filed or the time for such filing has expired, the Statement of Alleged Violation and any answer, motion, reply, or other pleading connected therewith shall be transmitted by the Chairman of the investigative subcommittee to the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee.

RULE 23. ADJUDICATORY HEARINGS

(a) If a Statement of Alleged Violation is transmitted to the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member pursuant to Rule 22, and no waiver pursuant to Rule 26(b) has occurred, the Chairman shall designate the members of the Committee who did not serve on the investigative subcommittee to serve on an adjudicatory subcommittee. The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee shall be the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the adjudicatory subcommittee unless they served on the investigative subcommittee. The respondent shall be notified of the designation of the adjudicatory subcommittee and shall have ten days after such notice is transmitted to object to the participation of any subcommittee member. Such objection shall be in writing and shall be on the grounds that the member cannot render an impartial and unbiased decision. The member against whom the objection is made shall be the sole judge of his or her disqualification.

(b) A majority of the adjudicatory subcommittee membership plus one must be present at all times for the conduct of any business pursuant to this rule.

(c) The adjudicatory subcommittee shall hold a hearing to determine whether any counts in the Statement of Alleged Violation have been proved by clear and convincing evidence and shall make findings of fact, except where such violations have been admitted by respondent.

(d) At an adjudicatory hearing, the subcommittee may require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and production of such books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers, documents, and other items as it deems necessary. Depositions, interrogatories, and sworn statements taken under any investigative subcommittee direction may be accepted into the hearing record.

(e) The procedures set forth in clause 2(g) and (k) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives shall apply to adjudicatory hearings. All such hearings shall be open to the public unless the adjudicatory subcommittee, pursuant to such clause, determines that the hearings or any part thereof should be closed.

(f)(1) The adjudicatory subcommittee shall, in writing, notify the respondent that the respondent and his or her counsel have the right to inspect, review, copy, or photograph books, papers, documents, photographs, or other tangible objects that the adjudicatory subcommittee counsel intends to use as evidence against the respondent in an adjudicatory hearing. The respondent shall be given access to such evidence, and shall be provided the names of witnesses the subcommittee counsel intends to call, and a summary of their expected testimony, no less than 15 calendar days prior to any such hearing. Except in extraordinary circumstances, no evidence may be introduced or witness called in an adjudicatory hearing unless the respondent has been afforded a prior opportunity to review such evidence or has been provided the name of the witness.

(2) After a witness has testified on direct examination at an adjudicatory hearing, the Committee, at the request of the respondent, shall make available to the respondent any statement of the witness in the possession of the Committee which relates to the subject matter as to which the witness has testified.

(3) Any other testimony, statement, or documentary evidence in the possession of the Committee which is material to the respondent's defense shall, upon request, be made available to the respondent.

(g) No less than five days prior to the hearing, the respondent or counsel shall provide the adjudicatory subcommittee with the names of witnesses expected to be called, summaries of their expected testimony, and copies of any documents or other evidence proposed to be introduced.

(h) The respondent or counsel may apply to the subcommittee for the issuance of subpoenas for the appearance of witnesses or the production of evidence. The application shall be granted upon a showing by the respondent that the proposed testimony or evidence is relevant and not otherwise available to respondent. The application may be denied if not made at a reasonable time or if the testimony or evidence would be merely cumulative.

(i) During the hearing, the procedures regarding the admissibility of evidence and rulings shall be as follows:

(1) Any relevant evidence shall be admissible unless the evidence is privileged under the precedents of the House of Representatives.

(2) The Chairman of the subcommittee or other presiding member at an adjudicatory subcommittee hearing shall rule upon any question of admissibility or pertinency of evidence, motion, procedure, or any other matter, and may direct any witness to answer any question under penalty of contempt. A witness, witness's counsel, or a member of the subcommittee may appeal any ruling to the members present at that proceeding. The majority vote of the members present at such proceeding on such an appeal shall govern the question of admissibility and no appeal shall lie to the Committee.

(3) Whenever a witness is deemed by a Chairman or other presiding member to be in contempt of the subcommittee, the matter may be referred to the Committee to determine whether to refer the matter to the House of Representatives for consideration.

(4) Committee counsel may, subject to subcommittee approval, enter into stipulations with the respondent and/or the respondent's counsel as to facts that are not in dispute.

(j) Unless otherwise provided, the order of an adjudicatory hearing shall be as follows:

(1) The Chairman of the subcommittee shall open the hearing by stating the adjudicatory subcommittee's authority to conduct the hearing and the purpose of the hearing.

(2) The Chairman shall then recognize Committee counsel and the respondent's counsel, in turn, for the purpose of giving opening statements.

(3) Testimony from witnesses and other pertinent evidence shall be received in the following order whenever possible:

(i) witnesses (deposition transcripts and affidavits obtained during the inquiry may be used in lieu of live witnesses if the witness is unavailable) and other evidence offered by the Committee counsel,

(ii) witnesses and other evidence offered by the respondent,

(iii) rebuttal witnesses, as permitted by the Chairman.

(4) Witnesses at a hearing shall be examined first by counsel calling such witness. The opposing counsel may then cross-examine the witness. Redirect examination and

recross examination by counsel may be permitted at the Chairman's discretion. Subcommittee members may then question witnesses. Unless otherwise directed by the Chairman, questions by Subcommittee members shall be conducted under the five-minute rule.

(5) The Chairman shall then recognize Committee counsel and respondent's counsel, in turn, for the purpose of giving closing arguments. Committee counsel may reserve time for rebuttal argument, as permitted by the Chairman.

(k) A subpoena to a witness to appear at a hearing shall be served sufficiently in advance of that witness' scheduled appearance to allow the witness a reasonable period of time, as determined by the Chairman of the adjudicatory subcommittee, to prepare for the hearing and to employ counsel.

(1) Each witness appearing before the subcommittee shall be furnished a printed copy of the Committee rules, the pertinent provisions of the Rules of the House of Representatives applicable to the rights of witnesses, and a copy of the Statement of Alleged Violation.

(m) Testimony of all witnesses shall be taken under oath or affirmation. The form of the oath or affirmation shall be: ''Do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that the testimony you will give before this subcommittee in the matter now under consideration will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth (so help you God)?'' The oath or affirmation shall be administered by the Chairman or Committee member designated by the Chairman to administer oaths.

(n) At an adjudicatory hearing, the burden of proof rests on Committee counsel to establish the facts alleged in the Statement of Alleged Violation by clear and convincing evidence. However, Committee counsel need not present any evidence regarding any count that is admitted by the respondent or any fact stipulated.

(o) As soon as practicable after all testimony and evidence have been presented, the subcommittee shall consider each count contained in the Statement of Alleged Violation and shall determine by a majority vote of its members whether each count has been proved. If a majority of the subcommittee does not vote that a count has been proved, a motion to reconsider that vote may be made only by a member who voted that the count was not proved. A count that is not proved shall be considered as dismissed by the subcommittee.

(p) The findings of the adjudicatory subcommittee shall be reported to the Committee.

RULE 24. SANCTION HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF SANCTIONS OR OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

(a) If no count in a Statement of Alleged Violation is proved, the Committee shall prepare a report to the House of Representatives, based upon the report of the adjudicatory subcommittee.

(b) If an adjudicatory subcommittee completes an adjudicatory hearing pursuant to Rule 23 and reports that any count of the Statement of Alleged Violation has been proved, a hearing before the Committee shall be held to receive oral and/or written submissions by counsel for the Committee and counsel for the respondent as to the sanction the Committee should recommend to the House of Representives with respect to such violations. Testimony by witnesses shall not be heard except by written request and vote of a majority of the Committee.

(c) Upon completion of any proceeding held pursuant to clause (b), the Committee shall consider and vote on a motion to recommend to the House of Representatives that the House take disciplinary action. If a majority of the Committee does not vote in favor of the recommendation that the House of Representatives take action, a motion to reconsider that vote may be made only by a member who voted against the recommendation. The Committee may also, by majority vote, adopt a motion to issue a Letter of Reproval or take other appropriate Committee action.

(d) If the Committee determines a Letter of Reproval constitutes sufficient action, the Committee shall include any such letter as a part of its report to the House of Representatives.

(e) With respect to any proved counts against a Member of the House of Representatives, the Committee may recommend to the House one or more of the following sanctions:

(1) Expulsion from the House of Representatives.

(2) Censure.

(3) Reprimand.

(4) Fine.

(5) Denial or limitation of any right, power, or immunity of the Member if under the Constitution the House of Representatives may impose such denial or limitation.

(6) Any other sanction determined by the Committee to be appropriate.

(f) With respect to any proved counts against an officer or employee of the House of Representatives, the Committee may recommend to the House one or more of the following sanctions:

(1) Dismissal from employment.

(2) Reprimand.

(3) Fine.

(4) Any other sanction determined by the Committee to be appropriate.

(g) With respect to the sanctions that the Committee may recommend, reprimand is appropriate for serious violations, censure is appropriate for more serious violations, and expulsion of a Member or dismissal of an officer or employee is appropriate for the most serious violations. A recommendation of a fine is appropriate in a case in which it is likely that the violation was committed to secure a personal financial benefit; and a recommendation of a denial or limitation of a right, power, privilege, or immunity of a Member is appropriate when the violation bears upon the exercise or holding of such right, power, privilege, or immunity. This clause sets forth general guidelines and does not limit the authority of the Committee to recommend other sanctions.

(h) The Committee report shall contain an appropriate statement of the evidence supporting the Committee's findings and a statement of the Committee's reasons for the recommended sanction.

RULE 25. DISCLOSURE OF EXCULPATORY INFORMATION TO RESPONDENT

If the Committee, or any investigative or adjudicatory subcommittee at any time receives any exculpatory information respecting a Complaint or Statement of Alleged Violation concerning a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives, it shall make such information know and available to the Member, officer, or employee as soon as practicable, but in no event later than the transmittal of evidence supporting a proposed Statement of Alleged Violation pursuant to Rule 26(c). If an investigative subcommittee does not adopt a Statement of Alleged Violation, it shall identify any exculpatory information in its possession at the conclusion of its inquiry and shall include such information, if any, in the subcommittee's final report to the Committee regarding its inquiry. For purposes of this rule, exculpatory evidence shall be any evidence or information that is substantially favorable to the respondent with respect to the allegations or charges before an investigative or adjudicatory subcommittee.

RULE 26. RIGHTS OF RESPONDENTS AND WITNESSES

(a) A respondent shall be informed of the right to be represented by counsel, to be provided at his or her own expense.

(b) A respondent may seek to waive any procedural rights or steps in the disciplinary process. A request for waiver must be in writing, signed by the respondent, and must detail what procedural steps the respondent seeks to waive. Any such request shall be subject to acceptance of the Committee or subcommittee, as appropriate.

(c) Not less than 10 calendar days before a scheduled vote by an investigative subcommittee on a Statement of Alleged Violation, the subcommittee shall provide the respondent with a copy of the Statement of Alleged Violation it intends to adopt together with all evidence it intends to use to prove those charges which it intends to adopt, including documentary evidence, witness testimony, memoranda of witness interviews, and physical evidence, unless the subcommittee by an affirmative vote of a majority of its members decides to withhold certain evidence in order to protect a witness, but if such evidence is withheld, the subcommittee shall inform the respondent that evidence is being withheld and of the count to which such evidence relates.

(d) Neither the respondent nor his counsel shall, directly or indirectly, contact the subcommittee or any member thereof during the period of time set forth in paragraph (c) except for the sole purpose of settlement discussions where counsels for the respondent and the subcommittee are present.

(e) If, at any time after the issuance of a Statement of Alleged Violation, the Committee or any subcommittee thereof determines that it intends to use evidence not provided to a respondent under paragraph (c) to prove the charges contained in the Statement of Alleged Violation (or any amendment thereof), such evidence shall be made immediately available to the respondent, and it may be used in any further proceeding under the Committee's rules.

(f) Evidence provided pursuant to paragraph (c) or (e) shall be made available to the respondent and his or her counsel only after each agrees, in writing, that no document, information, or other materials obtained pursuant to that paragraph shall be made public until—

(1) such time as a Statement of Alleged Violation is made public by the Committee if the respondent has waived the adjudicatory hearing; or

(2) the commencement of an adjudicatory hearing if the respondent has not waived an adjudicatory hearing; but the failure of respondent and his counsel to so agree in writing, and therefore not receive the evidence, shall not preclude the issuance of a Statement of Alleged Violation at the end of the period referenced to in (c).

(g) A respondent shall receive written notice whenever—

(1) the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member determine that information the Committee has received constitutes a complaint;

(2) a complaint or allegation is transmitted to an investigative subcommittee;

(3) that subcommittee votes to authorize its first subpoena or to take testimony under oath, whichever occurs first; and

(4) the Committee votes to expand the scope of the inquiry of an investigative subcommittee.

(h) Whenever an investigative subcommittee adopts a Statement of Alleged Violation and a respondent enters into an

agreement with that subcommittee to settle a complaint on which the Statement is based, that agreement, unless the respondent requests otherwise, shall be in writing and signed by the respondent and the respondent's counsel, the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the subcommittee, and the outside counsel, if any.

(i) Statements or information derived solely from a respondent or his counsel during any settlement discussions between the Committee or a subcommittee thereof and the respondent shall not be included in any report of the subcommittee or the Committee or otherwise publicly disclosed without the consent of the respondent;

(j) Whenever a motion to establish an investigative subcommittee does not prevail, the Committee shall promptly send a letter to the respondent informing him of such vote.

(k) Witnesses shall be afforded a reasonable period of time, as determined by the Committee or subcommittee, to prepare for an appearance before an investigative subcommittee or for an adjudicatory hearing and to obtain counsel.

(l) Prior to their testimony, witnesses shall be furnished a printed copy of the Committee's Rules of Procedure and the provisions of the Rules of the House of Representatives applicable to the rights of witnesses.

(m) Witnesses may be accompanied by their own counsel for the purpose of advising them concerning their constitutional rights. The Chairman may punish breaches of order and decorum, and of professional responsibility on the part of counsel, by censure and exclusion from the hearings; and the Committee may cite the offender to the House of Representatives for contempt.

(n) Each witness subpoenaed to provide testimony or other evidence shall be provided the same per diem rate as established, authorized, and regulated by the Committee on House Administration for Members, officers and employees of the House, and as the Chairman considers appropriate, actual expenses of travel to or from the place of examination. No compensation shall be authorized for attorney's fees or for a witness' lost earnings. Such per diem may not be paid if a witness had been summoned at the place of examination.

(o) With the approval of the Committee, a witness, upon request, may be provided with a transcript of his or her deposition or other testimony taken in executive session, or, with the approval of the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member, may be permitted to examine such transcript in the office of the Committee. Any such request shall be in writing and shall include a statement that the witness, and counsel, agree to maintain the confidentiality of all executive session proceedings covered by such transcript.

RULE 27. FRIVOLOUS FILINGS

If a complaint or information offered as a complaint is deemed frivolous by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee, the Committee may take such action as it, by an affirmative vote of its members, deems appropriate in the circumstances.

RULE 28. REFERRALS TO FEDERAL OR STATE AUTHORITIES

Referrals made under clause 3(a)(3) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives may be made by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the Committee.

BUTLER BULLDOGS ADVANCE TO SWEET SIXTEEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Indiana (Ms. CARSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Butler University, Indianapolis, Indiana, President Bobby Fong, Coach Todd Lickliter, and the outstanding basketball team, affectionately named the Butler Bulldogs.

The Bulldogs, despite previous rejection from previous participation in the championship games, won last Saturday over Louisville by 79 to 71, to advance to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Men's Basketball Championship.

Coach Todd Lickliter, son of a coach, led the Bulldogs to an outstanding season record of 27 to 5 overall. As winners of the Horizon League's regular season crown, Coach Lickliter and his team earned an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament.

I commend the Bulldog players whose outstanding teamwork has led them to the Sweet 16: Brandon Miller, Joel Cornette, Duane Lightfoot, Darnell Archey, Mike Monserez, Avery Sheets, Lewis Curry, Bruce Horan, Ben Grunst, Jeff James, Mike Moore, Andy Grunst, Nick Gardner, Rob Walls and Ryan Reynolds.

The Bulldogs face Oklahoma, No. 1 seed of the East, in the NCAA East Regional semifinals this Friday in Albany, New York.

Not only do I want to commend Butler University for their athletic achievements, but I also want to make note of their high academic standards by acknowledging them as having the highest graduation rate, 86 percent, of all schools remaining in the tournament.

It has been an exceptional season for the Bulldogs who have defied all odds and truly excelled as a team. I applaud the Bulldogs' excellent performance and sportsmanship and wish them good luck in this Friday's game.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BLACKBURN). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SMITH of Michigan addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO of Oregon addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

MISTREATMENT OF OUR NATION'S VETERANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the subject of this special order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I am joined here on the floor of the House of Representatives by my colleagues to simply bring to the attention of the President of the United States and to our Republican colleagues the mistakes they are making in the way they are mistreating our Nation's veterans in the 2004 budget that passed our House in the wee hours of the morning last Friday.

The irony of the President of the United States leading the deep and harmful cuts in this budget while we are in the middle of a war in the Persian Gulf, with our brave men and women in harm's way, is more than any American can understand. The veterans of this country are honored in ceremonies on Veterans Day and Memorial Day and at conventions, dinners, receptions and on and on and on, but when it comes to putting our money where our mouths are, increasingly we are abandoning our veterans and not taking care of their needs, as we promise them when we recruit them and when we benefit from their services.

God willing, these young men and women fighting in Iraq will some day be veterans. They are going to have medical needs, housing needs; and we will need to pay for special programs and services to attend to the problems that they will have created by their service to this country. How then can we in good conscience turn our backs on these young men and women by cutting their budgets? We should be happy to provide services for our veterans.

The President of the United States will probably try and tell the American public that we really cannot afford to take care of our veterans, but how can the President explain to our veterans why he insisted on a $1.3 trillion tax cut in 2001 and has come back to Congress with a demand for $675 billion in new tax cuts, tax cuts that benefit the wealthiest people in our society?

Madam Speaker, it does not take a Harvard scholar to know we cannot keep cutting and cutting and cutting our income and pay for our basic services and have money for a rainy day. This President is simply mismanaging this country. We are now in deficit. The economy is failing. Our President and the members of his party have failed to come up with a stimulus package, and we have placed our Social Security system in jeopardy. Education is underfunded, and millions of Americans have no health care. But one of the most unconscionable consequences of the Republican budget is the deep and devastating cuts to our veterans.

Let me just give my colleagues an example of how devastating it is. The Republican budget cuts $25 billion from veterans programs at a time when the Department of Veterans Affairs is already severely underfunded. The 2004 House budget has reduced funding for veterans health care by $844 million below the President's inadequate recommendation for next year.

Over 10 years these programs will be cut by $9.7 billion. The House budget cuts $463 million from benefit programs such as disability compensation, pension, vocational rehabilitation, education and survivors benefits this year.

Over the next 10 years, these programs will be cut by $15 billion. These cuts will likely result in the loss of 9,000 VA physicians and 19,000 nurses. It could also result in the loss of 5,000 nursing home beds for veterans.

Madam Speaker, I am so proud this evening to be a Democrat because my party developed our own budget, and we tried to convince our Republican colleagues not to make the deep cuts that they are making. The Democratic budget took a much more responsible approach to our Nation's heroes.

Unlike the Republican budget, the Democratic budget does not include any cuts to veterans benefits over the next 10 years. In fact, it provides much-needed increases. It provides for more health care than the President's budget and the House Republican budget in each of the next 10 years.

The Democratic plan provides $216 million next year for veterans health programs, including medical research and construction. It increases funding for these programs by $2 billion over the next 10 years, and it fully funds compensation for service-connected disabilities, burial benefits, means-tested pensions for permanently disabled low-income veterans, Montgomery GI Bill education benefits, rehabilitation benefits and housing loan programs.

In conclusion, the Democratic budget is an important and responsible budget that truly respects the sacrifices our veterans have made for our country.

This evening I call on the President and my Republican colleagues to stop the empty rhetoric and support our veterans before we finally resolve the differences in the budget and come up with a budget that is going to be signed by the President of the United States. I hope we can reverse the harm that is being done in this Republican budget.

Mr. EDWARDS. Madam Speaker, will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. WATERS. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. EDWARDS. Madam Speaker, I first want to thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) for giving us the opportunity tonight to speak out on behalf of America's veterans, and I can say to my colleagues firsthand that this is not the first time she has spoken out. Because 12 years ago she and I were both new members of the Committee on Veterans Affairs, and our veterans service organizations quickly learned that no one would speak out more loudly and more eloquently or more firmly in behalf of our Nation's veterans.

Madam Speaker, I am privileged to represent the only two division Army installation in the United States, Fort Hood, Texas. Even as we speak tonight in the comfort of this congressional hall, thousands of soldiers from my district are being deployed to the Iraqi theater and within days could be fighting on behalf of our country.

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Those of us here rise tonight to speak on behalf of those soldiers, our future veterans. There is one fundamental point that I would like to emphasize in my remarks, and that is that the true test of Congress' commitment to veterans is not what we say; it is what we do. Now, I would say it is fair that some people in this country believe that Republicans are veterans' best friends, but we should look at the facts. The fact is that not many Americans saw what happened at 3 a.m. on the House floor last Friday morning, but this is the fact. On that morning 214 House Republicans voted to cut veterans benefits by $28 billion, to cut veterans benefits by $28 billion. Then 5 minutes later, they voted for a resolution saying we support our troops in Iraq.

Madam Speaker, I find that hypocrisy to be outrageous. Last Friday morning, 214 House Republicans voted to cut veterans benefits, including benefits for war-wounded combat veterans, cut their benefits and their pensions and compensation checks; and 5 minutes later they voted for a resolution with no force of funds behind it saying we support our troops.

Madam Speaker, today's troops in Iraq are tomorrow's veterans. So when Members voted last Friday to cut $28 billion out of veterans programs, they are basically voting to cut the veterans benefits of those fighting and putting their lives on the line for us right now. That is outrageous.

Do not just take my word for it. Let us see what a distinguished American, Edward Heath, Sr., the National Commander of Disabled American Veterans, had to say about the Republican budget resolution. In a letter that he sent 9 days ago to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HASTERT), this is what Commander Heath said: ''Has Congress no shame? Is there no honor left in the hallowed halls of our government? Did you choose to dishonor the sacrifices of our Nation's heroes and rob our programs, health care and disability compensation to pay for tax cuts for the wealthy?''

Well said, Commander Heath.

Now, Madam Speaker, I think it is important to point out that if our country was at a time of war and we were asking all Americans to tighten their belts and sacrifice, I would imagine the first group at the front of the line to say we will play our part would be American veterans; but not one dollar in the Republican budget resolution was allocated for the Iraqi war, so these cuts were not necessitated to pay for war, they were necessitated to pay for a $374 dividend tax cut that will go to the wealthiest Americans who are sitting safely in their homes and offices as American soldiers from my district at Fort Hood will be fighting in Iraq. Outrageous.

A dividend tax cut, a dividend tax cut paid for by reduced benefits and health care for our soldiers in Iraq today, and today's and tomorrow's veterans. I find that to be a bad idea at any time, cutting benefits to pay for tax cuts that benefit primarily the wealthiest Americans; but to do so within 24 or 36 hours of the beginning of our war against Iraq I find to be insulting. No wonder the National Commander of the Disabled American Veterans asked the question: Is there no honor left in the hallowed halls of our government?

As the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) pointed out, it was good to know and I am proud as a Democrat to say that almost all House Republicans voted for these cuts, I am proud that all but one House Democrat voted against that resolution with veterans cuts. There were a handful of Republicans who went to the Republican House leadership and said these veterans cuts really are not fair, especially at time of war. I think America's veterans would be interested to hear what the response was from the House Republican leadership when, for example, our colleague, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), went to them and said we should not be cutting veterans benefits, it is a horrible idea.

Did the House leadership commend the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) for standing up for veterans, the chairman of the Committee on Veterans Affairs? Did they salute him, honor him? I am afraid not, sadly not. Today's Roll Call newspaper on Capitol Hill has a headline stating: ''Smith Spars With Leaders, Veterans Chairman Upsets Fellow Republicans on Funding Issues.''

Madam Speaker, let me read some of this: ''After months of railing against his own leadership, House Veterans Affairs Chairman Chris Smith has earned public rebukes from the Chamber's top Republicans and private warnings that he needs to do a better job toeing the GOP line.''

So not only did they not commend him for fighting on behalf of veterans, they threatened him. They said he is guilty of not toeing the GOP line. I am glad to be another colleague of the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) not toeing the GOP line. Perhaps later on they found some way in their hearts to commend him for fighting for veterans.

They said: ''Smith has pushed hard for more funding for veterans this year. In the process, he has criticized both

the House Republican budget resolution and the White House spending proposals. Earlier this month, Smith's complaints about veterans funding at a Republican conference meeting so angered Speaker Dennis Hastert that he rose to deliver the New Jersey lawmaker a highly unusual tongue lashing. 'Hastert got up and just shut him down,' said a Republican source that witnessed the exchange. 'It was off the charts. I've never seen anything like it. It was scathing.' ''

Madam Speaker, a scathing attack from the House Republican leadership on a Republican House Member for the crime of standing up and saying we should not be cutting veterans benefits by $28 billion in time of war.

I think the veterans of America are smart enough to know the difference between those who speak out on behalf of veterans on patriotic occasions like Memorial Day and Veterans Day, and then vote for a resolution at 3 a.m. on Friday morning saying we support our troops, and 5 minutes later that very morning would vote to cut veterans benefits by $28 billion. Who do they think they are fooling?

Madam Speaker, they are not fooling the veterans who put on our Nation's uniform, fought for our country, many have died for our country, and those who have survived understand the sacrifices that our country has asked them to make.

This article gets better, Madam Speaker. It goes on and says that the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) does not understand what being a team player is about: ''As one Republican staffer put it, 'The leadership wants SMITH to remember that a chairmanship is a privilege, not a right.' ''

Let me rephrase that. The American people need to understand that the leadership of this House and top staffers for them have threatened, in effect, the Committee on Veterans Affairs chairmanship by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) for having said that he thought it was a bad idea to cut veterans benefits by $28 billion. Just as DAV National Commander Heath was outraged and insulted by the cuts for veterans, I think America's veterans are going to be even more outraged at the added insult to injury that the House leadership not only wanted the cuts, they rebuked and even now in effect have threatened the chairmanship of a Member of the House who said that was wrong.

We will be judged when it comes to supporting our veterans not by our words, but by our deeds. That is the way it should be. I hope America's veterans will look at the facts and the present Republican leadership and its effort to undermine important commitments for health care and benefits to America's men and women who have served our Nation.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman, and I yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STRICKLAND).

Mr. STRICKLAND. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) for her care and concern for veterans.

As I rise tonight, I am thinking of two people, one a veteran and one I hope who will soon be a veteran. One of the people I am thinking about is my oldest brother, Charles, who is 79 years old, currently in the hospital with a broken hip. He served our country during World War II. The other individual I am thinking about tonight is a younger person, 20-year-old Matthew Dingus. Matthew is my nephew's son. We do not know where he is, but we know he is in Kuwait; and tonight our thoughts and prayers are with Matthew as he joins other young Americans in carrying out the orders of his Commander in Chief.

I speak tonight not only for veterans, but for all those who are active duty servicemen and women because they hopefully soon will be veterans. It is shocking to me that this Republican administration, that this President who has made the decision to send our young men and women into battle would at the same time preside over a budget that is so harmful to America's veterans. Some of these facts are so shocking as to almost be unbelievable.

Mr. Speaker, if there are those watching who think that I and my colleagues are exaggerating tonight, I encourage them to seek out the facts because what this administration is doing to veterans is shameful. I will just mention a few things.

About a year and a half ago when most veterans went to a VA Hospital to get a prescription medication, they were charged a $2 copay per prescription, and I was outraged when the Department of Veterans Affairs decided to increase that copayment from $2 to $7 a prescription, and I introduced legislation to roll back that copayment increase because many veterans get 10 or more prescriptions a month, and they get a 3-month supply at a time, and veterans on fixed incomes cannot afford this additional financial burden.

But what did the President ask for in his most recent veterans budget? He asked that that copayment be increased from $7 to $15 a prescription. Think about that. An additional burden of that magnitude on our veterans, I just simply find it outrageous. How, at a time when we are literally giving tax breaks to the richest people in this country, can we justify increasing the copayment for prescription drugs for our veterans, a copayment that has already been increased from $2 to $7, and now the President wants that copayment increased from $7 to $15 a prescription? That is outrageous. But the outrage does not stop there.

The President in his budget has asked for a $250 annual enrollment fee be imposed upon veterans for enrollment in the VA health care system. So we increase the cost of their prescription drugs, and then we impose a $250 annual enrollment fee.

Then we create a special priority group of veterans. We call it priority group 8, and these are veterans who have served our country with honor; and we are saying to these priority group veterans, some of whom make no more than $28,000 a year, you are a high-income veteran. And because they are high-income veterans, they will no longer be allowed to enroll in the VA health care system.

□ 2000

I think the American people should know that those of us who serve in this Chamber, the President, his Cabinet, all the Members of the Senate, the Supreme Court and those of us in the House of Representatives make about $150,000 a year. Yet we have the gall to imply that if you make $24,000 or $25,000 a year, you are a high-income veteran and so you should no longer be allowed to enroll in the VA health care system. It is outrageous. It is almost unbelievable when we really look at what they are trying to do to our veterans.

It gets worse. About a year ago, the VA decided to impose a gag order on their health care providers. Think of this. All of the health care providers around the country were told, too many veterans are coming in for services and we do not have enough money to provide those services. I guess it is because we want to use our resources to give tax breaks to wealthy people. And so a memo was put out mandating a change in policy. Health care providers were told, you can no longer market our services. You can no longer participate in community health fairs. You can no longer make public service announcements. You can no longer send out newsletters encouraging veterans to take advantage of the services they are entitled to receive under the law.

Think of that. It is what I call the VA's if-you-don't-ask-we-won't-tell policy. If you do not ask as a veteran what services you are entitled to receive under the law, services that the Congress has decided that you should receive, if you do not ask, the VA system is not going to make an effort to tell you what services you are legally entitled to receive.

Reference has been made here to the VA budget. It is true that the VA budget passed out of this House is a shameful document. No wonder they decided to do it at 3 o'clock in the morning last Friday morning when most of America was asleep. We passed two bills during those late-night hours. One bill was to provide a resolution in support of our troops, the men and women currently fighting for us in Afghanistan and in Iraq and in other parts of this world. Within 5 or 10 minutes of casting that vote, we cast another vote to pass the Republican budget resolution. That Republican budget resolution cuts funding for veterans' benefits and health care by over $28 billion. Think of that. With one hand we salute our troops and

we pass a resolution thanking them for their service, and with the other hand we take our voting cards and we vote for a budget that cuts $28 billion out of veterans health care and veterans benefits.

I want to say something that I believe deep in my heart. The best way to honor the troops who are fighting for us now is to keep our promises to the troops who have fought for us in the past. When we honor our veterans, we honor our current young men and women who are fighting for us. The American people need to know what is going on. What we are doing in this Chamber is cutting health care benefits for veterans and other benefits for veterans so that we can have the money and so that we can give it to the richest people in this country in the form of tax cuts.

That is shameful. The American people need to know it; and the veterans of this country need to rise up, draw a line in the sand and say, no more. We paid the price, we have given the service, we have risked our lives, and in some cases we have given our body parts for the defense of this Nation.

This President and this Congress have a responsibility to keep their promises to the veterans.

I want to thank the gentlewoman from California for having this Special Order and for giving us an opportunity to speak out. I want to thank her for her commitment to America's veterans.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT).

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding, and I thank her for holding this Special Order.

First of all, we need to put these cuts in perspective and with the budget to see how we got to where we are. This is a chart, not spin, not adjectives, a chart of the budget deficit which you notice goes deep under the Reagan and Bush administrations, 8 years of digging out in the Clinton administration up to a surplus and right back down into a deep deficit. This is not a war budget way down here, because this was passed without the war budget money in it. The war budget will take you off the chart. This is where we are.

What is the plan? You notice we started with a little surplus in 2001, and we spent all the Medicare surplus; in 2002, all the Medicare, Social Security and then some for as far as you can see. We had no growth, unemployment is up, the stock market is down. And what is the consequence of running up all that debt? Right now, a family of four, divide the country into the interest on the national debt, $4,500 for a family of four paying on the national debt. If we had not messed up the budget, we would have paid off the whole national debt and have zero debt tax. But by 2008 it will be $6,400; and by 2013 it will be $7,500 for a family of four because we have run up so much debt.

Because we have so much debt, we have had to cut the budget. We have had to cut agriculture. We have had to cut education, energy and commerce; and we have had to cut veterans benefits, disability compensation, pensions, GI bill, housing subsidies, health care. This is wrong. We are cutting these because we have run up the debt because of the tax cuts.

Our veterans deserve better. We should improve the budget before final passage and restore the cuts in those veterans programs. We should honor the sacrifices our troops are making today by restoring the cuts in veterans programs. Today's troops are tomorrow's veterans.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RYAN).

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. I would like to thank the gentlewoman, also, for holding this Special Order tonight.

I would also like to thank the gentleman from Ohio whom I share Mahoning County with in northeast Ohio. He has done a fine job and been quite a leader on veterans issues.

Madam Speaker, is it no wonder that people do not vote? Is it no wonder that people are disconnected from their government when they see the duplicity that we have seen in the last week or so in this Chamber? It has been stated many times tonight and I hope it will continue to be stated, where on one hand we are falling all over each other to say we are supporting our troops in Iraq and at the same time in the wee hours of the morning we are cutting veterans benefits, $15 billion in benefits, $9.7 billion in health care.

All of a sudden, we say that we can afford a tax cut that is primarily going to the top 1 and 2 percent in this country, which is going to lead to more debt. At the same time, we have more seniors, we have more veterans, we have more challenges and need more aid to spread democracy around the world. We need more aid to heal and mend the international relationships that we have ruined over the past few months. We have more of a demand for education in this country.

Madam Speaker, let me make some recommendations. We need to index the GI bill for inflation so that our veterans can afford to be educated. We need to increase the service-connected compensation and death benefits.

One thing that I constantly hear back in my district is the concurrent receipt, where someone who has been issued disability benefits, veterans disability, they leave their limbs on the battlefield all around the world, they come home, and they do not just take the benefits, they go out and they work and they get a Federal job and earn a Federal military retirement. And then we have the audacity to say you are not allowed to get both. You can leave your limb in Europe, but you are not allowed to get any benefit from it.

If we say we support our troops now, then we can only really mean it if we support our troops from wars gone by. And so I urge this Congress to reevaluate the decisions we made in the wee hours of the morning last week. Let us not be duplicitous, let us not contradict ourselves by saying one thing and doing something completely different and, more importantly, let us respect the sacrifices that have put us all in this Chamber, the respect for freedom and the dignity and what this country really stands for. Let us honor our veterans.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I am so proud of Democrats this evening. They have taken this evening to come to the floor to speak up for this Nation's veterans.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. DAVIS).

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask this Congress to seriously consider the harmful impact the budget resolution could have on veterans health care and other VA services. Already, thousands of veterans face waiting lists 6 months or longer to see a physician in a VA medical facility. All too often, veterans must seek treatment elsewhere simply because the VA does not have the resources to meet the need.

With so many veterans living in San Diego, I see firsthand the difficulties they encounter. Just today, Petty Officer Al Kovach, a paralyzed veteran from Coronado, called my office to share his story. He was bedridden for more than a year due to a service-related injury. Once doctors realized he required surgery, it took 6 months for an operating room to become available. I have heard from hundreds of others who have experienced similar delays in the VA health care system.

I do not see how, after the great sacrifices they have made, we can support a budget that cuts more than $25 billion in VA funding over the next several years. This astonishing amount will greatly reduce services and undoubtedly cause these waiting lists for health care to become even longer.

Madam Speaker, we are in a time of war. Last week we stood before the Nation and passed a resolution in support of our military personnel fighting in Iraq. On the same day, this body approved a budget outline that communicated a very different message to the men and women in the battlefield, that when the fighting is done and you return home, do not expect us to care for your needs.

I call on my colleagues to correct this contradiction, to prove that we support the men and women in harm's way and to prove to our veterans that we appreciate their sacrifices. We must restore appropriate levels of funding to the health care system and other VA services. Like the young men and women fighting today in Iraq, our veterans were there when we called upon them. Now we must be there when they call upon us.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Indiana (Ms. CARSON).

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I extend certainly my heartfelt appreciation to the honorable gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STRICKLAND) for bringing this very crucial situation to the ears and eyes of America.

Madam Speaker, we come into this Chamber on a regular basis and we are faced with this wonderful display of the first President of the United States, George Washington. In 1789, General, President George Washington said, ''The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional as to how they perceive veterans of earlier wars and how they were treated and appreciated by this country.''

How scary to think that that is still true today. It is hard to believe that those words, 200 years ago plus, have so much meaning today. We all know what President Washington was saying. We recognize and acknowledge the service of our veterans if we are to expect our young people to serve and to fight. The government must do its part with their benefits.

□ 2015

All of us as citizens must do our part; and the great corporations of this country need to do their part, too. After all, corporations are the direct beneficiaries of veterans services because, collectively, veterans have preserved the free enterprise system under which corporations operate.

Due to the limitation of time remaining, let me eliminate some of my comments and point up a few facts for edification.

Estimates are that homeless veterans run from 200,000 to 294,000, based on a VA fact sheet and the community homelessness assessment for veterans. Twenty-five percent of homeless persons are veterans. Thirty-three percent of male homeless persons are veterans. Seven hundred and seventy-five Reserve and National Guard personnel working in the VA were called up for active duty in Operation Iraq Freedom. This created a shortage in critical care nurses which may negatively affect veterans' care or add to the preponderance of the problems that veterans already face.

The Department of Defense announced today the identity of an Army soldier unfortunately killed in action March 24 in Iraq. Army Specialist Gregory P. Sanders, 19 years of age, Indianapolis, Indiana, was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 69th Armor, Fort Stewart, Georgia.

A quote from a female soldier at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, who was waiting to get shipped out to the Persian Gulf, a future veteran, knows what the cost is and yet is willing to serve: ''People are dying over there. Let me go and do my job. I want to help my comrades.''

Ladies and gentlemen of America, there are some of us who came under fierce criticism for not supporting the resolution that passed last week because in part it commended the war in which America is now engaged; and, yes, indeed it did provide our support and our prayers to those noble women and men who are serving in Iraq for the safety of our country, but let me say very sincerely there is not a Member in the House of Representatives that does not support all of those women and men who serve in harm's way 24 and 7. We love you, we uphold you, we respect you, and we appreciate you for stepping out in that situation that most Members of Congress who are here today would not dare do.

But I am pained to know that, even in our prison system, those who are incarcerated today constitute a large proportion of veterans who were in the Persian Gulf, who were in Vietnam. We just had an execution in my State last week of a Persian Gulf War veteran who was convicted for murdering someone at the military camp. A terrible situation, an abominable situation, but what is America doing for our veterans? We support the troops by resolution, but what do we do in fact in terms of those noble men and women who return to this country?

Again, I thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STRICKLAND) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) so very much because I know they, too, love and admire the troops that are serving so fearlessly for the United States of America; and I am so grateful that they have called this very urgent and critical matter to the attention of all of the people in this country who love the troops but who need to recognize what happens to the troops when they return back to American soil and thus become veterans of America. I thank them so very much.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Indiana (Ms. CARSON).

I call on the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER).

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding, and I thank them all for being here tonight to stand up for our Nation's veterans.

Our troops in Iraq are being funded at the rate of about $1 billion every 2½ or 3 days, $1 billion every 2½ or 3 days. We want our troops to have the best. We want our troops to have everything they need for success in Iraq. But if we have the money to send our troops to war, we must have the money for them when they come back from war, and that is all we are saying here tonight.

What we are saying is for 2½ or 3 days of that war in Iraq, we can fund everything that our veterans need this coming year. That is the amount of money that has been subtracted by the Republicans in their budget, $25 billion over the next decade.

We have the money. It is a question of the will. We have the resources. It is a question of our priorities. And, ladies and gentlemen, it is time to call the names and take the prisoners of those who are hurting our veterans.

You hear on Memorial Day and on Veterans Day the words of support, but watch what they do when they come and vote. Watch what they do when they vote on the budget. Watch what they do when they vote on the appropriations. Watch what they do when they take your future away from you. Watch the procedural votes. Watch us, ladies and gentlemen. Because if you just take the words, everybody here supports you, but the money ain't there to make it happen.

Let me say a couple of things that the Republican budget takes away if it goes through. As we heard earlier, a copayment for a month's worth of prescription drugs, the drugs that you need to survive, is going to double, more than double, from $7 to $15. We are going to charge enrollment fees to veterans who are in ''a higher priority'' but who are veterans and who deserve the treatment, and we can give it to them. We are going to cut 5,000 nursing home beds so only those veterans with the worst kind of disability will be able to be cared for.

We will abandon our goal of eliminating homelessness amongst our veterans. Every evening, Madam Speaker, 250,000 of our Nation's veterans are on the streets. Can the Members imagine that as a way to pay back what they have given to our country? They are homeless, and we do not seem to have the resources to change it. We give the program $20 million a year, $20 million a year. That is nothing in the context of our budget.

Disabled veterans, disabled veterans will be cut from care if this budget goes through. The Montgomery GI bill, which helps our education of our veterans, will not be funded. VA home loans will not be funded. Markers and flags for deceased veterans will not be funded.

This is hypocrisy, ladies and gentlemen, hypocrisy that comes from saying we are for the veterans and not providing the money.

Madam Speaker and the gentlewoman from California, right now there are 200,000 veterans who have waited more than 6 months for their first appointment. Veterans will die while they are waiting for that first appointment, and yet we say we cannot do anything. Let us resolve to change this.

I ask all the veterans, when we consider the appropriations, come to Washington, surround the Capitol, camp out, bivouac, and do not leave this place until we pass a budget that is worthy of you.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER), and I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. HONDA).

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BLACKBURN). The Chair will remind all Members to direct their remarks to the Chair and not to the viewing veterans.

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS), I really appreciate this opportunity for us to be able to speak to the members of our country and to share the information that somehow and sometimes never get to their years.

Madam Speaker, I rise this evening to talk about what it really means to support our troops and our Nation's veterans.

Madam Speaker, I believe it is easy for any Member of Congress to stand here in the well on the floor and say they support veterans and support our troops in Iraq. It is always easy to talk the talk, but the real question we should be asking is, will they walk the walk?

Just last week, the Senate passed a unanimous resolution in support of our troops. The following day, the House Republican leadership had the same opportunity to send an equally powerful message to our troops by introducing a clean resolution similar to the Senate version. But, instead, the House Republicans denied the troops this message of unity and decided to politicize the issue by drafting House Concurrent Resolution 104, a resolution that included language in support of President Bush's misguided Iraq policy.

By drafting a resolution that mixes support for our troops and support for President Bush's policies, Republicans sought to coerce Members opposed to the war into voting for the resolution. While I fully support our troops, I vehemently disagree with the President's decision to abandon a diplomatic solution to disarming Saddam Hussein and could not support a resolution that endorses that decision.

However disturbed I was about the politicization of support for our troops, it does not even come close to the feelings of outrage I have over the passage of the House Republican budget resolution. Just 10 minutes before the passage of House Concurrent Resolution 104, the House Republicans pushed through their budget resolution. I can think of no better way of describing the Republican budget resolution than by using a quote by the Disabled American Veterans. The quote is: ''Has Congress no shame? Is there no honor left in the hallowed halls of our Government that you choose to dishonor the sacrifices of our Nation's heroes and rob our programs, health care and disability compensation, to pay for tax cuts for the wealthy?''

The Republican budget resolution makes room, makes room, for the President's $1.6 trillion tax cut, while cutting discretionary health care spending for veterans below the level needed to maintain purchasing power at the 2003 level.

The Republican budget also directs the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to cut $14.6 billion from mandatory benefit payments to veterans, including compensation for service-connected disabilities, burial benefits, and veterans' education benefits.

This is why the Disabled American Veterans, the Paralyzed Veterans of America, and the American Legion all issued statements opposing the Republican budget.

The Democrats, in contrast, eliminated the $14.6 billion Republican cut to mandatory veterans' benefits program, including compensation for service-connected disabilities, burial benefits, Montgomery GI education benefits, and housing loan programs. Our budget also protected the veterans' health benefits from the Republican cuts, providing $16.2 billion more than the House Republican budget.

I voted for the Democratic budget. I am proud to support our troops. I am proud to support and reflect our budget and our values.

Madam Speaker, this pattern of patriotic posturing must end. Congress needs to start showing real support for our troops by taking care of our Nation's veterans. During this time of war, we must do no less.

Republican leaders can sure talk the talk, but can they walk the walk?

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER). I call on the gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. POMEROY).

Mr. POMEROY. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding, and I especially thank her for organizing this important hour to discuss the deeply troubling cuts in the funding of veterans' services in this country.

This is a serious night. We are at war. We have young men and women of our country with their lives on the line in Iraq, fighting for all of us, and yet here in the Congress, while we honor their service and to a man and woman serving in this Chamber, I believe we honor their service, we are fighting this partisan fight on whether or not we ought to fully fund the veterans' services.

I find it nothing less than stunning that our Republican friends would bring a budget that takes $28 billion out of the funding of veterans' services over the next 10 years, $14 billion from that portion of veterans' funding that goes to the health benefits for veterans, and $14 billion from that portion of the budget that funds the disability benefits for those who have laid their lives on the line and wear the scars of battle the rest of their lives.

□ 2030

It is unbelievable that this, at all times, would be the time that we would see a budget cutting veterans services to fund those tax cuts, tax cuts that flow so disproportionately to the wealthiest few in this country, contained in the Republican budget. It is wrong.

You do not have to take our word for it, because the veterans of this country have spoken on this matter, and spoken with one voice and great clarity.

The Paralyzed Veterans of America: ''We do not consider payments to war-disabled veterans, pensions for the poorest disabled veterans and GI Bill benefits for soldiers returning from Afghanistan to be waste, fraud and abuse'' worthy of the kind of cuts in the majority budget.

The Disabled Veterans of America state: ''Has Congress no shame? Is there no honor left in the hallowed halls of our government that you choose to dishonor the sacrifices of our Nation's heroes and rob our programs to pay for tax cuts for the wealthy?''

The American Legion writes: ''This budget defies common sense. There must be a better way to provide tax relief to the American people than to balance the budget on the backs of disabled veterans.''

Mr. Speaker, there are other colleagues here also eager to speak, so I will cut my remarks short, other than to say in my entire time in Congress, I have never seen a worse policy judgment than to cut the funding of veterans services while our Nation is at war and the lives of young men and women are literally laid on the line in battle for our country tonight. We have got to overturn the Republican budget.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from North Dakota.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ).

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. I want to take this opportunity to thank the gentlewoman for taking this time. I have the pleasure of sitting on the Committee on Veterans Affairs, and let me just indicate that we really must honor our veterans' service. We honor them by ensuring that we honor the promise that we make to them to provide them with the access to quality benefits and services once they come home.

Let me also add at this point in time, our veterans are reaching that point in time where they need our help. They are reaching the age where they need this assistance. They were there for us; we need to be there for them now. With our troops in the field and, sadly, with many Americans already experiencing war's devastating effects, it is shameful that the House would pass a budget resolution on the same day that our soldiers began Operation Iraqi Freedom cutting $15 billion, yes, cutting $15 billion, from the veterans disability compensation programs and $9.7 billion from veterans health care.

The budget resolution also, as it calls for that cut, indicates that it is under the disguise of trying to do away with ''fraud, waste and abuse.'' Let me tell you that 90 percent of the budget on spending for the VA entitlement is paid out in monthly payments to disabled veterans and their survivors. I do not consider payments to our war-disabled veterans pensions, pensions for the poorest disabled veterans and the GI benefits for soldiers returning from Afghanistan to be fraud, waste and abuse.

I recently joined, and I want to thank my colleague on the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, the gentleman from New Jersey (Chairman

SMITH), in a very bipartisan recommendation to the Committee on the Budget, which would have added $3 billion next year alone for veterans discretionary programs, including medical care and research, construction and programs that fund the administration costs of other important benefits such as compensation, pension and education programs. I want to thank the gentleman for the efforts he has made in working with us in that area.

But I urge all my colleagues to do the right thing and to honor our commitment to our veterans. These cuts are irresponsible; they are shameful and unacceptable.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity once again to thank the gentlewoman for taking this time tonight. It is important that we continue to talk about this issue. We cannot allow this issue to go away, because, as we stand here tonight and as we go back and talk to our veterans, I never hear one Member talk and say they are not going to be responsive. Yet Members say it is important what we do, not necessarily what we say, because what we do, and the budget says it all, that is going to be very important.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for allowing me to be here tonight with her.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. DELAHUNT).

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding. I want to congratulate her for presenting to the American people the truth.

I was so impressed as I heard my colleagues come to the floor and describe the realities of what is occurring. The gentleman from Texas just alluded to the chairman of the Committee on Veterans Affairs and praised him for his efforts. It is fascinating to read in today's Roll Call that he was castigated and admonished by the House Republican leadership for his efforts in this regard. That, I suggest, says something loud and clear to the American people.

We know what is happening. The veterans know what is happening. But it is time for the American people to be informed, and I congratulate the gentlewoman for her efforts.

What I find particularly fascinating is sometime supposedly next week we will be considering a supplemental budget in the amount of $75 billion, some $63 billion of which I think we all support. It is for our troops and for the men and women that find themselves in harm's way. The rest of the money, much of it, is allocated to other nations: $1 billion for Turkey, monies for Egypt, for Jordan. And for what reason I cannot understand. But if we can afford to take care of the rest of the world, we should be able to take care of the men and women that served us, not just in this war, not just in the Vietnam conflict, not just in Korea and World War II, but all of our veterans.

It is absolutely unconscionable. It is un-American. Those men and women that will be coming home from the Middle East and leave the military, many of them will assume the title ''veteran.'' While we honor them while they are there, we are disrespectful to them when they come home, and that has to stop.

We, and I know the gentlewoman has been a leader in this regard, have to design a strategy when it comes to that supplemental budget to take care of those men and women and not to continue the disrespect that has been shown to them.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I tonight rise in ardent support of our troops fighting in Iraq. As a veteran of the Korean War, I fully understand the sober task which our soldiers have undertaken. We must remember that these troops are on the front line doing their duty, saluting and following orders. They are great Americans. I want them to know, along with their families, that they have my unwavering support. It is well known that I strongly disagree with the policies that have led us to war in Iraq. It is my opinion on many, many levels that the U.S. should not be at war in Iraq. However, my support of U.S. troops is resolute.

I think it is important that support be more than just lip service. Last week I voted against the Bush Administration's budget which would have drastically reduced veteran's health care and benefit programs. Even though the President is waging this preventive doctrine war, he presented a budget to Congress that would have cut Mandatory Veterans Programs benefits by billions of dollars. Mandatory veteran's programs include disability compensation, pensions, vocational rehabilitation, and survivors' benefits. The Bush administration's budget slashes compensation for service connected disabilities and education benefits by $15 billion and cuts veteran's health care funding by another $15 billion over the next ten years. The Disabled American Veterans, the Paralyzed Veterans and the American Legion have all issued statements opposing the Bush Administration's budget. In fact, the Michigan Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans wrote to me, stating, ''the proposal, if implemented, would have a shocking effect on VA health care services and be an affront to millions of veterans. The proposal, approximately 1.3 billion above the FY 2003 appropriation, would not even cover inflationary impact and anticipated salary increases for VA health care workers.'' Furthermore, ''budget resolutions set spending priorities. We find it hard to fathom that veterans would not be priority to the Budget Committee, or the leadership of the House of Representatives.'' I submit to you that budget cuts such as these do not bode well for strengthening the solidarity of our troops to our country.

I'd like to close with a quote from George Washington, ''The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be justified, shall be directly propositional as to how they perceive the veterans of wars were treated and appreciated by the Nation.''

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire). The time of the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) has expired.

SUPPORTING OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, before we begin, let me yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. DELAHUNT), the distinguished former district attorney from Boston, to finish his statement.

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, I thank my dear friend for yielding. I thank the gentleman for his spirit of collegiality.

Mr. Speaker, what I wanted to conclude with was this observation, and I direct it to my colleagues on both sides of the aisle: if we are unable to work out in the course of our consideration of the supplemental budget full funding for all veterans services, then it is time for the veterans in this country to take action. Many of us have read in our history books that there was a march on Washington in the early 1930s. It is time for the veterans organizations and for the American people to march again.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, we want to talk a little bit about the situation in Iraq tonight and a number of other subjects.

Mr. Speaker, I am joined by the distinguished gentleman from Colorado (Mr. BEAUPREZ), a businessman and new freshman. The gentleman is on his way to take his daughter to dinner, and, as a father of two daughters, that takes high priority. So let me yield to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. BEAUPREZ.)

Mr. BEAUPREZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. It is a pleasure to be with the gentleman tonight on the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight with my colleagues to commend the tremendous progress being made by our troops in Iraq. However, I am disgusted with recent media reports proclaiming setbacks and delays of our troops in battle.

Mr. Speaker, such editorializing of the news represents a severe disconnect with reality. At this very moment we are within minutes of Operation Iraqi Freedom being just 1 week old. One week, Mr. Speaker. In one week, we have flown over 7,000 combat sorties, we have delivered 600 Tomahawk missiles with surgical precision such as never before seen in battle, we have moved numerous ground troops to within 50 miles of Baghdad, and we have killed or captured thousands of Iraqi soldiers. We have adapted, we have overcome, and, Mr. Speaker, we will prevail.

But in the din of news reports and live briefings, the fog of battle for Americans can be information overload. We learn a lot about what is happening today. But for the next couple of minutes, Mr. Speaker, I would like

to make sure that we remember what has happened before to lead us to this point.

In 1979, Saddam Hussein took control of the Iraqi Government. The next year he launched a costly 8-year war with Iran that was both inconclusive and violent.

In 1988, after his unsuccessful foray into Iran, he took on a less formidable enemy, the Kurdish people of Northern Iraq, his own people. Using chemical weapons and poison gas, he destroyed 1,000 to 2,000 of their villages. The death toll from that holocaust may have been as high as 182,000 people.

In 1990, he once again crossed international boundaries and invaded tiny Kuwait. During that exercise his soldiers carried out orders to kill any civilian who did so little as violate curfew.

In 1991, his continued aggression against Kuwait brought about the attention of the United States and the United Nations and his swift defeat during Operation Desert Storm.

In the 12 years since Desert Storm, Mr. Speaker, the United Nations has passed 17 different resolutions outlining conditions under which Saddam can stay in power. He has violated them all.

We now have further evidence that Saddam and his band of loyalist thugs have no respect for human life, common decency, nor even the international rules of engagement. The heinous treatment of our soldiers and the abuse of even his own citizens once again is absolutely despicable.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, I hope the world takes note of another truth of this conflict. As Hitler was supported by the Nazi loyalists, so, too, is Saddam supported by his Baath Party fanatics.

□ 2045

My colleague from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON), stood on this floor on February 25 and outlined the atrocities of the regime in terrible, gruesome detail. He described mutilated babies, crippled children, adults without limbs, dipped in acid, torture beyond the imagination of civilized people, all at the hands of Saddam Hussein and his Ba'ath party.

Referring to these and the regime's other crimes against humanity, our President, our Commander in Chief said, ''If this is not evil, then evil has no meaning.'' Mr. Speaker, I could not agree more. That is why Operation Iraqi Freedom is about regime change, not just about Saddam. All those that promote terror, manufacture it, and export it must be squelched before liberation can come to the Iraqi people and peace to the rest of the world.

Mr. Speaker, the bullets are flying; and our troops are in harm's way. As we continue to be briefed on their daily progress, as we see the sacrifices being made in the field by our soldiers and back home by their families, let us keep this in proper perspective. Let us remember why we are there: to end a regime of terror and liberate a people who have never known freedom.

Godspeed to our troops and God bless America.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Colorado; and I want to commend him on words well said. I appreciate everything that he is doing to help free the people of Iraq as a new Member of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I want to talk about a number of things. I want to read a letter from an Iraqi woman. I want to read a letter from Charlie Daniels. I wanted to talk about a French company that has nearly a $1 billion catering contract to the U.S. Marine Corps, and I want to talk about Iraqi violations of the Geneva Convention.

First, let me read a rather spirited letter from Charlie Daniels. We know Charlie Daniels is the songwriter who wrote The Devil Went Down to Georgia, among other things. He is great playing the fiddle, and he is a great American. So this is Charlie Daniels' letter, open letter to the Hollywood bunch. I am going to read directly from the letter.

Okay, let's say just for a moment you bunch of pampered, overpaid, unrealistic children had your way and the USA did not go into Iraq.

Let's say that you really get your way and we destroy all of our nuclear weapons, stick daisies in our gun barrels and sit around with some white wine and cheese and pat ourselves on the back, so proud of what we have done for world peace.

Let's say that we cut the military budget to just enough to keep the National Guard on hand to help out with floods and fires.

Let's say that we close down our military bases all over the world and bring our troops home, increase foreign aid, and drop all trade sanctions against everybody.

I suppose that in your fantasy world, this would create a utopian world where everybody would live in peace. After all, the great monster, the United States of America, the cause of all of the world's trouble, would have disbanded its horrible military and certainly all of the other countries of the world would follow suit.

After all, they only arm themselves to defend their country from the mean USA.

Why, you bunch of pitiful, hypocritical, idiotic spoiled mugwumps. Get your head out of the sand and smell the Trade Towers burning.

Do you think that a trip to Iraq by Sean Penn did anything but encourage a wanton murderer to think that the people of the USA didn't have the nerve or guts to fight him?

Barbara Streisand's fanatical and hateful rantings about George Bush makes about as much sense as Michael Jackson hanging a baby over a railing.

You people need to get out of Hollywood once in a while and get into the real world. You'd be surprised at the hostility you would find out here.

Stop in at a truck stop and tell an overworked long-distance trucker that you don't think Saddam Hussein is doing anything wrong.

Tell a farmer with a couple of sons in the United States military that you think the United States has no right to defend itself.

Go down to Baxley, Georgia, and hold an antiwar rally and see what the folks down there think about you.

You people are some of the most disgusting examples of a waste of protoplasm I've ever had the displeasure to hear about.

Sean Penn, you are a traitor to the United States of America. You gave aid and comfort to the enemy. How many American lives will your little fact-finding trip to Iraq cost? You encourage Saddam Hussein to think that we didn't have the stomach for war.

You people protect one of the most evil men on the face of this earth and you won't lift a finger to save the life of an unborn baby. Freedom of choice, you say?

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire). The gentleman should address his remarks to the Chair.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I am reading a letter from Charlie Daniels which I think I am certainly allowed under the rules to do. Not that I would ever argue with the distinguished parliamentarian, particularly the one on your right, but I believe I can read a letter.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman can read his letter provided it is otherwise in order.

Mr. KINGSTON. I thank the Speaker. I am still in quotes, Mr. Speaker, and probably it is very appropriate for the Speaker to point out that I am reading a letter, open letter to Hollywood written by Mr. Charlie Daniels, one of America's most popular entertainers. I am going to continue with that, back to the quoted letter.

Well, I'm going to exercise some freedom of choice of my own.

If I see any of your names on a marquee, I'm going to boycott the movie. I will completely stop going to the movies if I have to. In most cases, it certainly wouldn't be much of a loss.

You scoff at our military whose boots you are not even worthy to shine.

They go to battle and risk their lives so ingrates like you can live in luxury.

The day of reckoning is coming when you will be faced with the undeniable truth that the war against Saddam Hussein is the war on terrorism.

America is in imminent danger.

You're either for her or against her. There is no middle ground.

I think we all know where you stand.

What do you think?

God bless America.

Unquote, Charlie Daniels.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues can get this off the website. However, due to technological ethics, I am unable to give out that website number, but if somebody would call my office, I would be glad to give it to them.

Mr. Speaker, here is a guy who is one of the American-dream-type success stories, came up the hard way. I believe Charlie Daniels went to the University of Chicago, so he is not exactly just this country boy from back home on the farm that Hollywood would scoff at. But this is a guy who has really made it pretty big in the entertainment world, knows the Hollywood bunch because he calls them up front and he writes a letter like that to give us an idea of what he thinks.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I am going to read another letter by a woman named

Katrin Michael. She is member of Women for a Free Iraq, a Washington-based advocacy group. She wrote this for Newsday, but I read it in the Savannah Morning News. I am going to again quote from this.

As an Iraqi woman who wages peace and has fought in war, I am compelled to support a U.S.-led action to remove Saddam Hussein. After 26 years of resistance against Saddam, I have come to the conclusion that only forces from outside Iraq can bring an end to the nightmare of his rule.

The stories of Saddam Hussein's brutality are all true. Ethnic cleansing, summary imprisonment and execution, torture and rape are all part of the nightmare. I know this from personal experience.

My father founded an Iraqi peace movement, a crime for which he was murdered. At the time I was 14 years old. I was arrested by the regime merely because I joined the Iraqi Women's League. I was not the only young girl arrested for such a trivial offense.

Later, I joined the Kurdish resistance, even though I was, in their eyes, a mere woman and a Christian. I traveled in disguise to Baghdad and around the country to organize opposition to Saddam. When I was injured in one of his chemical bombardments against hundreds of Kurdish villages in 1987 and 1988, I was forced to flee to a refugee camp in southern Turkey where I stayed until I finally reached freedom in the United States in 1997. I continue to suffer to this day from lung, nerve and eye damage caused by these weapons.

No one in Iraq is immune from Saddam's brutality, not even the closest members of his own family. He even executed two of his own sons-in-law in 1996.

A commonly used form of torture is to bring a detainee's female relative, preferably his wife, daughter or mother, and gang rape her in front of him.

Members of the Iraqi opposition in exile receive videotape of tapes of their female relatives in Iraq being raped. Women who criticize or merely offend Saddam are accused of being prostitutes and regularly beheaded in public.

His son, Uday, often leads these beheadings. They occur in Baghdad as well as in smaller villages throughout Iraq. The heads of the executed women are hung on the doors of their houses for all to see.

I am saddened when I see people who sincerely care for the fate of the Iraqi people resist the American-led effort to remove Saddam and restore hope for the Iraqis. We cannot do it alone.

Iraqis had their closest brush with freedom in 1992 during Operation Desert Storm. I regret, as do most Iraqis, that the United States and its allies allowed Saddam to squash this resistance and remain in power. Those who care about peace and justice for the Iraqis should not make the same mistake again.

Saddam will never leave power willingly. He will never give up his weapons and allow the Iraqi people to live in freedom.

That is the end of the letter, Mr. Speaker, but I want to restate one more time that this was written by an Iraqi woman who was raised in Iraq, who was part of the peace movement, who has come to the conclusion that only a U.S.-led action will remove Saddam Hussein, and that is the only way that the world will be rid of him.

I think that is so important, Mr. Speaker, because there are a lot of well-meaning people who are against the United States action. There are a lot who are not so well-meaning. A lot of people just have a gripe with George Bush, and they find the war a convenient vehicle to air their opinion. There are a lot of people who do not like the United States of America and, again, they find the war a convenient excuse to air their opinion on that. But then there are a lot of people who are absolutely sincere: peace first, peace only, negotiations.

Yet what this Iraqi woman is saying, who has been there and has been injured by Saddam Hussein, is we cannot do it alone, we have to have a U.S.-led coalition.

Today, Mr. Speaker, in Basra, we did find out that there was an uprising and at this point it has not continued, but I think that it will, and I think in the days and weeks ahead we are going to see more and more Iraqi citizens coming out of their hiding places and facing Saddam Hussein and joining the resistance against him.

Now, I have been joined by our friend from Miami, Florida (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART). I want to yield some time to him.

I have a couple of other topics I want to talk about surrounding Iraq. One of them has to do with a French company that has a lucrative contract with the Department of Defense feeding 55 garrisons throughout America. I also want to talk about the House Resolution that we passed today urging Iraq to comply with the Geneva Convention. But the gentleman has been a very active freshman Member of Congress and has a lot of issues he has been working on, too. So I yield to him to jump in on this or switch topics or whatever pleases him.

□ 2100

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me. I was listening to the gentleman's words today, and I was moved by the gentleman's statements and by the strength and veracity of that letter from that young woman who suffered the intense oppression of that brutal, crazy dictator, that dictator that is oppressing the people of Iraq.

What she says is so true: the Iraqi people have been suffering for a long, long time. They have suffered through what we really cannot even imagine, the most horrendous humiliations, tortures, murders, assassinations. That man who has killed about 1.5 million people, has gassed his own people, and other nations; who has no concern for life or for any basic principles or freedoms, and who the world was negotiating with for about 12 years.

Think about that. We all believe in negotiations. We all believe in diplomacy. I believe that we should try to negotiate; and when we have a dictator, a crazy, insane man who has committed mass genocide and murder, that we should try to negotiate, for 1 year, 2 years, 3 years, 4 years, 10 years, 12 years? When is enough failed negotiations enough? When is enough failure enough?

I believe that the United Nations has a role to play. Yes, I believe we should get the United Nations resolutions to express the sentiment of the world once, twice, three times, ten times. But 17 times? How many resolutions must he ignore and continue his oppression, his assassination, and more dangerous to us, his trying to obtain nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction?

How many times should we say, or is there a time when we should say, enough? What does it take? What does it take for the world to react?

Thank God, fortunately, we have a President who stated after the attacks, those horrendous attacks that occurred on 9–11 against our people, our innocent people, he stated very clearly that those that harbor terrorism were terrorists, and that there was going to be a price to pay.

Then he tried to warn, and he did warn, Saddam Hussein. He went to the United Nations and got one last chance for Saddam Hussein from the United Nations. But there is a time, unfortunately, when one must act. That time has come. Now our brave men and women are doing what the President said he was going to do, what he was going to ask them to do if Saddam Hussein did not disarm. He was going to disarm them with our brave men and women.

They are doing an incredible job, an incredible job. This is the time to support our troops. This is the time to not vacillate in that support for our troops.

I know there are those who say, well, we support our troops, but we wish they were not there. They are there. They are performing a vital job. We have to support them wholeheartedly, not with caveats, not with reservations. We have to support them. We have to support them, and they have to do what it takes to get the job done.

It is up to us, who are living and enjoying the freedoms that those thousands of men and women in uniform for generations have fought to give us. We should utilize those freedoms to show appreciation, to show respect, to show admiration, and to say, job well done. We are with you. We are going to be with you to the end.

They are going to succeed because the vast majority of the American people supports them; because the vast majority of the American people supports our President, our Commander in Chief, in his efforts. We are so grateful.

I actually was walking through, and I heard what the gentleman was saying on the floor. I had to come by and thank the gentleman, thank the gentleman for those words, and thank him for reminding us what is at stake. When the gentleman read that letter from that young woman, I think it brought it home. It brought it home to roost. What is at stake here is so precious. It is liberty, it is life, it is everything that we care for, everything that we believe in.

Yes, unfortunately, it is expensive. It is expensive. It has been expensive for generations. But those who have to protect those lives, those freedoms are the American people. Once again, our troops are doing it with the honor, with the valor, with the talent that they have always done it. I want to thank them for what they are doing.

I want to thank you, sir, for once again bringing that to light. That is why I had to come by here. I saw the gentleman on TV, and I had to come by to thank him for these words of solidarity to our troops, to the Commander in Chief; and to remind everybody why it is that we are in this battle; and that we are going to win this battle because it is so important, because so much is at stake. Yes, we are on the right side.

Mr. KINGSTON. I want to thank the gentleman for those words, Mr. Speaker.

It is interesting, today we had a great moment where all Members, Democrat and Republican, came together on the issue of Iraq complying with the Geneva Convention, which of course they are not doing. Each day there is a new revelation.

There was a very tender moment today as we in Congress saw the pictures of the prisoners, the American POWs, that Iraq had filmed. As the gentleman knows, it was very gruesome. First, the cameras panned on some dead soldiers, soldiers who at least three of them had a shot right in their forehead; young men, strong men, men in uniform, men with their dog tags around their necks and the blood that was on their chests, in some cases. It was a very sobering, very gut-wrenching scene to see.

Then, apparently in the same room, but it was not clear, were the live prisoners. Iraqi TV or whoever the reporters were were interviewing them and asking them a lot of questions. There seemed to be some pushing and shoving in the room. It seemed that there were a lot of people. We could tell by the look in these American prisoners' eyes that they did not know if they were going to be alive the next minute, or make it through the night, or what was going to happen to them. It seemed like utter confusion.

What struck me, among other things, is that even in Somalia, and we all have read or seen ''Blackhawk Down,'' which I think was a great depiction of that battle. When they had the captive helicopter operator, he was still allowed to get the International Red Cross to come in. Yet in Iraq they do not even let the Red Cross in to see our prisoners.

Today, on a bipartisan basis, we debated, and we will vote on it tomorrow, House Concurrent Resolution 118, which I had, I guess I am not going to say the honor, which would be the usual word, but I offered it, along with the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES).

I represent the Third Infantry in Hinesville, Georgia, and he represents Fort Bliss in Texas, where the members of 507th Maintenance Division were from, supporting the Third Infantry.

Just to see the House come together and say, you know, this is absolutely not right, and we are going to put the folks from Iraq on notice that they will be tried as war criminals as soon as possible. If that means waiting until the war is over, fine; but if we can get them out of there before then, they will be tried as war criminals. We made that statement to them, number one.

Number two, we assured our troops that we are watching and we are with them in thought and in spirit, and we are going to do everything that we can to get them out of there alive.

Number three, we sent a signal to the international community, the French, the Germans, the Chinese, the Russians, those who were so quick to denounce the United States of America and this action. Well, there are 164 countries that have signed the Geneva Conventions going back to 1949. Let these countries now step forward and denounce Iraq, who incidentally is a signer of the Geneva Conventions; and let the world community find something that they can agree on in the form of these seven soldiers who are captured as we speak tonight.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, it is interesting, the gentleman mentioned some of these countries that were so quick to criticize the United States, criticize the United States for enforcing the resolutions that they unanimously supported, by the way.

Yet, we now see some of them, and I do not know why they have acted the way they have, but I can just throw some facts on the table. We now see that the Government of Russia has sold to the Iraqi Government some very high-tech military equipment.

Mr. KINGSTON. That Russian equipment sold to Iraq, Mr. Speaker, that is radar-jamming or missile-jamming technology. Is that not the case?

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART. It is highly sophisticated night vision equipment, equipment to avoid radar, missiles, and also to confuse GPS devices that are obviously a big part of a military arsenal.

Yet a lot of these things are things that were not permissible under the sanctions that those same governments supported. So on one side, they are saying, well, Iraq is a violator of all sorts of rights. They are trying to obtain weapons of mass destruction. They have supported all these resolutions in the past. On the other side of their mouths, they are selling them high-tech equipment, military equipment.

That regime that they have condemned for the human rights abuses, for the rape of the women, for the assassinations, they are selling that regime high-tech military equipment, much of it banned by the United Nations. Those countries voted to ban that equipment to the Iraqi regime.

We saw that the wonderful, talented men and women of the U.S. Air Force shot down missiles. Some were destined to land in populated areas of Kuwait. Those are missiles that supposedly they do not have, that Iraq does not have. What more proof do we need?

I ask a question, I ask a rhetorical question, How many violations does it take for these countries to realize that there is a problem? Of course, what we realize now is that it is not that they do not realize that they are violations. It is that they have been assisting this regime and selling them high-tech equipment that has been banned, that is unlawful, according to the United Nations resolutions. They have been assisting this regime in their oppression, in their assassinations.

I think we are going to find a lot of that. I am not telling the gentleman that is the reason why some of these countries oppose the United States' effort to free the people of Iraq, just like the United States military freed the people of France twice.

By the way, the people of France, thank God, they had the right to be free. A lot of brave young American GIs died to free the people of France. I am glad that France is free. The people of Iraq are no less human beings than the people of France. They have the right to be free, as well.

Mr. KINGSTON. It is interesting that the gentleman mentions that, because there is a degree of racism, I think, on the part of the peace activists of the world. The reason why I say racism is because would these people support a Saddam Hussein if he were in Paris? Would they do it if he were in Germany? No. They would denounce him quickly. But as long as he is in the Middle East, well, they have been fighting for years. Or if he is in, say, South Asia or something, well, they have been fighting for years; or if he is in Africa.

How many times have we heard, they have been fighting for years, we cannot bring peace in the Middle East, like the people in the Middle East do not deserve peace; but the folks in Europe, that is the high standard to live by. To me it is just a double standard. I can only summarize it with racism.

The gentleman mentioned Russia selling sophisticated, high-tech equipment to Iraq. We already are seeing in Congress that we have the supplemental budget coming, and it is going to be to fund the military operation as well as the humanitarian operation.

As a result of the humanitarian operation, I am already seeing a gold rush. I am seeing companies actually start lobbying for contracts. That bothers me a lot when we have one missing in action today, seven captured, and eight casualties American and 18 British. Yet what really bothers me is some of these countries are not American countries and they are not English countries and they are not Australian; they are not coalition countries.

I have one example, though, of a company. USAID, which is a foreign aid branch, it does a lot of good things, but it is going to let some humanitarian contracts go, and French and German companies will be eligible to compete for it. That bothers me a lot, that they will be able to profit from this war.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART. I could not agree with the gentleman more, if the gentleman will yield, Mr. Speaker. This is a two-fold problem. There is, first, the opposition to this effort to free the Iraqi people and to free the world from this very dangerous dictator, free the world from a dictator who is trying to get or obtain nuclear weapons, and who already has other weapons of mass destruction.

□ 2115

We are trying to free the Iraqi people while at the same time free the world from this incredible threat.

So we have to remember these countries that we are objecting to that, that even though unanimously, just a few months before, they said, hey, look, we are going to give this dictator one last chance, he has to disarm, but it is worse than that because not only are they objecting to the freeing of the Iraqi people, are they objecting to ridding of the world of this dictator who is trying to get nuclear weapons, who has ties with terrorist organizations and, by the way, including terrorist organizations that have assassinated Americans, but what is even more offensive is that at the same time they are selling this dictator high-tech equipment that he can use to further exploit, hurt, oppress, kill, murder his people and others because of his ties with terrorism.

One would hope that humanity has gone above and beyond that, and yet there are those that would like to profit even while selling high-tech equipment that they know they should not be selling because they have said it repeatedly in U.N. resolutions. So they know it, it is not by mistake, and yet they are doing so to earn a buck, to earn a buck?

Mr. KINGSTON. There is another example. Another company called Sedxho, S-E-D-X-H-O, it is a French company. It is a publicly-owned French company, but they have $1 billion worth of food service contracts with the United States Department of Defense. Recently, they signed an $881 million contract to feed the U.S. Marines in 55 different garrisons. We are working on a letter to the Secretary of Defense, Mr. Rumsfeld, to say he needs to renegotiate this, he needs to cancel it, he needs to look into it. But can my colleague imagine, here is a French company, and France, I do not remember one division in the country of France in terms of their stance against America in the last 3 to 6 months. I do not remember anybody moderating.

In America we had division. We had a pro-war and an anti-war group, and the world knew that. But, in France, it seems like they were all united against the United States and against this war.

Apparently, that is not a problem to Sedxho, because they are a French company. And yet here are the Marines, the brave and the honorable Marines who are the ones who discovered this hospital today, allegedly a hospital, and yet 55 different garrisons in the United States of America, when an 18-year-old Marine sits down for lunch, a French company is making a profit from that. That is unbelievable, and I call on the Department of Defense to cancel that contract.

Listen, there are reasons sometimes we have to buy from an enemy. There are reasons that somebody has something unique, but we are talking catering. I am sure there are good companies in Florida and Georgia and all over America that can do the catering service for the U.S. Marine corps, but a French company, it is unbelievable.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. If the gentleman would yield, I think we are going to find a lot of that. I think we are going to find a lot of companies that are profiting from selling goods to the United States, including to the United States Armed Forces and armed services, as the gentleman just pointed out, who, by the way, are probably also making a hefty profit selling products to Iraq, even though there are sanctions there and probably even some high-tech equipment to the tyranny in Iraq.

I think it kind of explains some of the ferocity of the argument, some of the aggressiveness of some of those that were objecting to the United States' noble stance to help free an oppressed people and also help rid the world of these weapons of mass destruction and the possible obtaining of nuclear weapons to this dictator. I think we are going to see a lot of that.

The thing that surprised me, and it does not surprise me anymore because we are starting to see why, and my colleague just mentioned it, we are starting to see why but, surprisingly, the ferocity of the argument and how France, for example, not only do they object to any resolution that was not of their liking in the U.N. recently and they said so, but, also, they went lobbying. They actually were talking to every nation possible to try to stop this movement to free the people of Iraq and to free the world from this dictator who has caused so much grief.

I think we are starting to see why, but it is sad, it is sad that it looks like one of the main reasons or at least one of the reasons may be because they are making a buck off of this dictator.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, also, are they not making a buck or profit, things like that, but they have had a lucrative oil contract in Iraq they did not want to disturb. That it is clear France is not after some noble or high ground about peace, but it simply boils down to profit.

If the gentleman would like to make any closing comments, I need to actually make an engagement.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I just want to thank the gentleman from Georgia. Again, I had to come to the floor today once I was hearing what he was talking about. I had to come here and thank the gentleman, thank him for standing up for our troops, thank him for supporting our troops, thank him for supporting the President of the United States, Commander in Chief in such a difficult time. Our troops are going to prevail because of their honor, their integrity, their decency and because they are the best people, best troops and the best human beings that this world has ever seen, and they are well led, and their cause is just.

I wanted to thank the gentleman again for his words. They were humbling, and they were touching, and I wanted to come here and thank him tonight for his words.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate everything the gentleman is doing.

SALUTING OUR TROOPS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRADLEY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 60 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the subject of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, this evening, members of the Congressional Black Caucus wanted to take a moment to salute our troops. These are men and women who have voluntarily put on the uniform of the United States of America to make sure that we maintain our way of life, maintain our constitutional rights, maintain our privileges; and they have put their lives on the line to keep us safe.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great sadness today to start off my remarks by having to pay tribute to a great American hero who died in the line of duty while serving his country in pursuing the American dream. Originally from my hometown of Baltimore, Marine Staff Sergeant Kendall Damon Waters-Bey, age 29, was one of the four U.S. Marines who died when their CH–46 Sea Knight helicopter crashed near the Iraqi-Kuwait border.

I would like to start off by first expressing my deepest condolences to the Waters-Bey family during this very, very difficult time. I mourn their loss, along with the other members of the Maryland Federal delegation.

Our prayers are with Sergeant Waters-Bey's 10-year old son, Kenneth; his

wife, Belinda Waters-Bey of San Diego, California; his parents, Michael and Angela Waters-Bey; and four sisters, Shernell Waters-Bey, Sharita Waters-Bey, Michelle Waters and Nakia Waters.

This tragedy makes the war in Iraq more personal for all of us. I did not have the privilege of knowing Staff Sergeant Waters-Bey, but his story is one that is familiar to many of us in Baltimore.

Fellow Marine and Captain Ray Coleman said that Sergeant Waters-Bey viewed the military as a path out of the struggles and challenges of urban life. I understand these challenges, Mr. Speaker, as I live in an urban area in Baltimore City.

Not too far from the Capitol in which we stand tonight, many young people are confronted with violence, oppression, lack of quality health care and lack of equal access to the all-American dream every day. Their terror is as real as the terror that the Iraqi people are facing right now. For these Americans, it often takes a miracle to climb over the barriers.

Achieving the American dream is often out of reach, but the barriers did not stop Sergeant Waters-Bey from reaching his dream. In spite of a hard life, friends say that Sergeant Waters-Bey had a jovial spirit. He was known for making people laugh with his funny jokes and funny faces. While a student at Baltimore's Northern High School, he refused to fall into the wrong crowd and chose instead to be an athlete whose afternoons were filled with running track and swimming.

Upon graduation, Sergeant Waters-Bey was determined to make something of himself. Since he could not afford to go to college, he enlisted in the Marines and worked very hard to succeed as a Marine; and he did. He entered the service as a mechanic, but as a result of his determination he quickly moved up to crew chief.

The Marines took Sergeant Waters-Bey around the Nation from Maryland to Florida and then to Camp Pendleton in California. But distance did not keep him from his family. Sergeant Waters-Bey always made time for his 10-year old son Kenneth. Whenever father and son spent time together, they would go on fishing trips, watch cartoons or just play ball, according to family members. Unfortunately, that shall be no more, for he has given his life so that ours might be uplifted.

The evening before his father's death, young Kenneth was about to get a new computer so he could e-mail his dad in the Iraqi desert. Now, young Kenneth will never have a chance to send an e-mail to his father.

Last Thursday, tragically, the helicopter where Sergeant Waters-Bey served as a crew chief crashed and killed all who were aboard.

The other U.S. Marines killed in Thursday's crash were Major Jay Thomas Aubin, 36, of Waterville, Maine; Captain Ryan Anthony Beaupre, 30, of Bloomington, Illinois; and Corporal Brian Matthew Kennedy, 25, of Houston, Texas. Our prayers go out to all of them and to their families.

Before I close, Mr. Speaker, I have to bring up the fact that Mr. Waters-Bey's family is asking why their son, father and brother died in a war that lacks an international mandate. I agree with the Waters-Bey family and also believe that our Nation should have continued to pursue diplomatic measures to disarm Saddam Hussein's regime before sending Sergeant Waters-Bey and other members of our Armed Forces to the Middle East.

I still stand behind our troops. They are our sons, our daughters, our fathers, our mothers, our friends; and I salute all of our men and women in Iraq and pray for their safe return.

□ 2130

Finally, I would like to say Sergeant Kendall Waters-Bey was not only a hero because he served this country in the Armed Forces, but also because he climbed over barriers that were placed before him, so many barriers that many of his neighbors were not able to climb. I applaud Sergeant Waters-Bey for not only what he did in Iraq, but because of what he did right here in the United States. By his example, he was not only on a mission to set the Iraqi people free from oppression, but also set on a mission to set himself free from the obstacles that keep so many Americans from achieving the American dream. God bless Sergeant Waters-Bey.

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS SALUTES TROOPS

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I will now address the issues that the Congressional Black Caucus would like to bring before the Congress.

Mr. Speaker, at this very hour, this very moment, our servicemen and women are literally fighting for their lives. They are doing so with unbelievable courage and determination. We stand shoulder to shoulder with our military and pledge again tonight that while they are on the battlefield, they will have every resource they need to get the job done. We pray that they will return home soon to their families and loved ones.

But, Mr. Speaker, I worry about what kind of country our servicemen and women will be returning to after the war. What signal and what message is the Congress of the United States sending to our men and women in the military when we pass a budget like the one that the Republican majority passed last week? A budget that cuts veterans' benefits, a budget that cuts funding to address the health care needs in America, a budget that cuts loan opportunities for college students, a budget that cuts school lunch and child nutrition programs, a budget that cuts job training programs; and on top of that, the budget does nothing to create any new jobs or businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I ask what kind of America will our men and women serving in Iraq come back to and what kind of America will their families be living in while they are away? Mr. Speaker, we have to do better. We must do better. They deserve better. We must work to create an America that every American can be proud of, but most importantly, an America that invests in its people.

We still have an opportunity to do better. Over the next few days and weeks, the Congress will have a conference committee on the budget resolutions passed by the House and the Senate. This conference committee has the opportunity to right some of the wrongs passed by the House. In addition, the President announced yesterday that his fiscal year 2003 supplemental legislation would be in the amount of about $75 billion. While we do not know all of the details, much of the money, and rightfully so, will go to ensuring that we win the war as quickly as possible. Some of the money will also go to helping rebuild Iraq and that is understandable, too.

However, I have a question: When are we going to rebuild America? Many of our cities and rural areas need rebuilding today. I am certain that Governors, mayors, city and county officials all around the country can give us a laundry list of infrastructure needs that the American people need right now.

That is why the Congressional Black Caucus will advocate for the inclusion in any supplemental bill monies to help rebuild America. Our citizens deserve the best we can give them, and we should do our very best.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, when our men and women return home from Iraq and any Member of Congress greets them in their State, city or neighborhood, I want us all to be able to say we have done our very best to invest in their future and in their families' futures.

Unfortunately, the budget that we passed last week does not invest in their future, but we can fix that and I hope that we will.

Now, Mr. Speaker, it gives me great honor and privilege to yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON).

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, our Armed Forces are now at war. They are performing the duties which they have been preparing for their whole careers. They are the best-trained and the best-equipped military in the world. We have no doubt that they will prevail, but we also have no doubt that their task is perilous and difficult. All of America supports them and we pray for their swift and safe return.

Last week, Members of Congress had the chance to cast a vote in support of our troops in the field. I do not refer to the resolution congratulating the President. Instead, I refer to the vote on the President's budget for this fiscal year. In fact, a vote against the President's budget was a vote for our troops. I find it shameful that at a time when our dedicated men and women of the

Armed Forces are in the field fighting, perhaps subjected to attacks from chemical and biological weapons, that the President of the United States and the Republican leadership have not felt it necessary to include in their budget one dime to support their efforts. I cannot think of a more stunning vote of no confidence, a bigger slap in the face of our troops than to send them into battle and then refuse to pay for it.

It is not that there have not been estimates of what this war might cost. Those estimates have been reported in the media for several months now, and we now belatedly have a request for this funding from the President; but the President pointedly refused to provide us with numbers last week so that Congress could include them in the budget and make sure the war is paid for.

Now, I personally find it hard to believe that last week we had no idea what the war would cost and that this week we suddenly have a full and accurate accounting. Does the price of ammunition fluctuate that much? Did the White House really have no sense of the cost of providing 300,000 troops with resources in the desert?

Or perhaps there is another more practical reason. Perhaps the President is afraid that if the budget reflected the cost of war, Americans might ask the President to hold off on a huge tax cut for his wealthiest supporters, tax cuts that by themselves cost more than 10 times what the President thinks it will cost to remove Saddam Hussein from power. I think it is scandalous that this administration will send our troops into the field and risk their lives and refuse to budget for it simply so they can justify huge tax cuts for the wealthy.

Mr. Speaker, the right thing for us to do now is to reconsider this budget resolution to factor in the $75 billion that the President estimates it will cost to remove Saddam Hussein from power. We owe nothing less to our troops who as we speak are being asked to put their lives on the line. If Americans do the numbers, they see that we cannot give a tax cut and pay for the war up to this point. I understand there will be subsequent proposals given to us to continue our efforts, and I understand just today, we are not looking for weapons of mass destruction, we are looking for a regime change. So what will be the cost of setting a new regime in place? Do we have a Marshall Plan? What is our policy? I think Americans should know what their hard-earned tax dollars must do in the future.

Mr. President, please give us the full story, please give us the amount that it is going to cost us because the cost in terms of the lives of our coalition members and Americans is just too high.

Mr. President, do the right thing.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire). The Chair reminds Members to please direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her remarks.

I want all people to know that the Congressional Black Caucus wholeheartedly supports our troops. When I move throughout my district and I have an opportunity to talk to the many men and women in the grocery store, the hardware store and simply stopping at a gas station and hear Americans talk about their sons and daughters and friends that are overseas now fighting for us, my heart definitely goes out.

Over the last few days we have seen a few of our men and women taken as prisoners of war; and every time I see those pictures, I cringe because I cannot imagine what they might be going through and what they might be feeling. So while we stand concerned about the budget situation in our country, while we stand concerned about our cities, many of which need that $1.6 trillion like Iraq will need to be reconstructed; as we stand concerned about young children who are still reading from textbooks printed when Jimmy Carter was President; as we stand still concerned about children who can actually go through high school without ever looking through a microscope; as we stand concerned about so many elderly people who cannot afford prescription drugs; as we stand concerned about people who cannot get medical care because they simply do not have the insurance; as we stand concerned about the National Institute of Medicine's report on ''Disparity in Health Care,'' that shows if one is African American you get one type of treatment and if you are white you get another type, and Hispanics gets another type, and that an African American if they have the same insurance, they have the same level of ailment, they are the same age, and if they have diabetes, for example, they have a four-times greater chance of having an amputation below the waist; as we stand concerned about the many homeless people in our Nation; as we stand concerned about the many people who unfortunately have tried their very best after being put off of welfare and because of our economy are unable to find a job; as we stand watching children who should have an opportunity to go into Head Start but because of budget cuts will not have that opportunity; as we stand looking at so many people who have over and over and over again begged us, begged us for the Hope VI program which would allow them to have decent housing; as we stand where there are schools not very far from here where children sit with rain falling on their heads; as we stand here tonight concerned about all those things and many, many others, I say we stand for our troops.

□ 2145

It gives me great pleasure, Mr. Speaker, to say this, that so often I think what happens is that we lose a sense of balance. I have often said that it is extremely important that we protect ourselves from outside forces and that we protect ourselves from terrorists. I think that is extremely important, and I know that 9/11 and those planes flying into the Twin Towers is embedded in the DNA of every cell of America's brains. But the fact still remains, Mr. Speaker, that we must not only worry about outside forces and, by the way, some homegrown ones, but we must also worry about the implosion of our country from the inside.

So the Congressional Black Caucus comes tonight simply saying that we stand for our troops, but we also stand for America, and we stand for balance. Because we realize that on 9/11, that horrible day when some demented people flew planes into the Twin Towers and brutally and maliciously killed so many of our fellow Americans, we understand that we have to make sure that that never happens again. But, at the same time, we also have to make sure that all the people that I just talked about, that we take care of them, too.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to yield to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. MEEK), a young man who has come from Florida and has already made a name for himself and who is working very, very hard to uplift his district and to uplift the American people.

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman for his leadership and the members of the Congressional Black Caucus for bringing voice to the real level of patriotism that our country is at at this particular time.

I think it is so very, very important, Mr. Speaker, that we make sure that all Americans understand the level of integrity when we look at our military. When we look at our military, not only the sacrifice they are undertaking right now in the theaters of war in other parts of the world but it is also the sacrifice that their families are paying. Their families are truly paying the ultimate price of giving a loved one the opportunity to serve their country and many of those individuals like two young men from Florida.

I just called home, Mr. Speaker, and spoke to my wife; and she shared with me that just today in the Miami Herald they had a story of a letter of one of our outstanding young patriots who gave his life on behalf of this country willingly. He was happy and thought it was a great opportunity for him, right out of college, to fight on behalf of his country.

I know in this Congress that many of us do not agree with the rules of engagement that we used, especially in Iraq, and we had a resolution here on this very floor and many Members were draped up in the flag, rightfully so, paying praise to all of our troops that are getting sand in their teeth right now. We all understand here in the

Congress that the sacrifice, the sacrifice of family, of friendship, the sacrifice of just being an American, few of us have the opportunity to put our lives on the line on behalf of this country, but we have thousands of Americans that are doing that. Some 43 percent of the individuals that are in the theater right now are what we may call our volunteer army, reservists, individuals that have given up their weekends from their families for years and now they have been called upon.

I think it is important since we have set the stage of saying truly that we are here to pay not only respect to those who are fighting the war now but it is important that this Congress and members of the Congressional Black Caucus feel very strongly about this, that we continue to respect those that put it on the line in the past. We know that we have a number of these individuals that are serving our country right now in a time of war that are going to return back to the United States and they are going to need adequate health care, veterans' benefits. They will be our new veterans. Some of them will be as young as 19 and 20 and 21. Some will be 55 and over 65.

It was very disheartening when the budget, this Federal budget that passed by a very narrow, narrow margin, that we would have a shortfall of some $1.9 billion in the 2003 fiscal year. It is good for us to pay respect and cry and pray on behalf of those that will return and those that will not return. But I think words are inadequate to even describe the kind of, how would I put this, I am trying to be a distinguished gentleman here, but the kind of understatement, for us to undercut our veterans.

Veterans of wars past right now, in my district, the Miami VA hospital, those that have laid it down in different theaters of war, some of them in two different theaters of war, have to wait a year and a half to see an eye doctor. What do you think after this $1.9 billion shortfall that is going to be given to the richest Americans here, how is it going to affect that veteran if we allow this huge tax cut that the President is trying to pass?

I commend the Senate for taking half of the responsibility and saying that in a time of war, just like in the past, we have never given a tax cut. Yes, times are hard, and it is important that we sacrifice.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire). The gentleman will refrain from casting reflections on the Senate.

Mr. MEEK of Florida. The Senate did an outstanding job in their light. But I think it is important that we pay very, very close attention to what our priorities are right now. Our priorities right now should be making sure that our men and women return back to the States safely, making sure that the Iraqi people receive the kind of freedom that they yearn, and also making sure that we treat our veterans, even when they return back, back here to the United States, treat them with dignity, the dignity that I know this Congress wants to treat them with. I urge my colleagues here in the Congress, and I am sure the Congressional Black Caucus would like to urge them, let us treat our veterans and let us give the dollars toward the veterans that we should give toward their health care and making sure that they do not have waiting lists as we have right now existing here in the United States.

I came tonight, in closing, to be able to pay respect to those that not only are in the theater of war right now but on behalf of those patriots of the past. I think it is very, very important that we remember, Mr. Speaker, those individuals in such a time as this. On behalf of this Member of Congress from the 17th Congressional District of Florida, I think it is very, very important, all Americans, that we pray for the safe return and we respect and pray for those that have provided us with the very freedom that we enjoy this evening.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I listened to the gentleman from Florida very carefully as he talked about a person from Florida who gave his life. Before he came on the floor tonight, I had talked about a young man, not from my district but he lives very close to me, within actually about 10 minutes, Sergeant Kendall Waters-Bey, who was one of the young men who was killed in the helicopter accident, I guess almost in the first 24 hours of this war.

I am so glad that you said all the things you said. You are absolutely right. Our soldiers and their families, they do give a lot. Every time I see the news footage of our soldiers going off to sea and see the small children tugging on daddy's leg or mother is crying as she gets on the bus and has to leave her loved ones behind and not even knowing whether they are going to return, and if they do return, whether they will be disabled. Every time I see that, it just reminds me that we have a lot of truly, truly great Americans.

I just want to thank the gentleman for what he said, because I think so often as we watch what is going on on television in Iraq, that sometimes we have a tendency to forget about those families, but the gentleman is absolutely right. Those families still have to struggle here at home. They still have to do without a parent here at home. There have been some situations, I am sure the gentleman is well aware, where it may have been a single head of household who then had to have loved ones take care of the children.

To all of them, to the families and certainly to our troops and to all of those, as the gentleman said, who were there, we have so many veterans who have given so much. We see them all the time in our districts, at our town hall meetings, at our veterans meetings, and I always try to remind them that we shall never forget them because they stood up for this country, they stood up for us when we could not even stand up for ourselves so many times. I really appreciate what the gentleman said.

Mr. MEEK of Florida. I will tell the chairman, just watching some of the news accounts of many of these destroyers, our destroyers leaving to go to the Persian Gulf, as an individual that knows the sacrifice as it relates to many of my friends who I attended college with that were involved in ROTC, that are officers in our military right now, that have been shipped off, that e-mail me every now and then about their experiences overseas, and they are very proud to be there. I think it is very important that as we start to look at those families, someone is going to have to pick up the kid after school. Someone is going to have to read a story. Someone has to go and minister to a wife or husband that is having not only to take the burden on of the family but to also take the burden on of having their loved one overseas serving our country.

When we look at this, those families really understand that this is not a made-for-TV movie, that this is real, that the possibility exists that they may never see their loved ones again. We all pray for that not to happen. We had a good day yesterday in Iraq with no U.S. casualties.

But my heart goes out also to those other individuals in our world, the Iraqi children, the Iraqi people, that we are trying to provide freedom for. I am glad that this country has gone through great lengths in trying to preserve life. And so I commend those family members, sons and daughters, that are paying a mental and physical, emotional tax because a loved one from their family and not even to mention the single parents, that the aunt or grandmother or grandfather has to take care of the children now.

□ 2200

So tonight it was more than an honor for me to be a member of the Committee on Armed Services to come tonight to pay tribute to those families and to those troops and to those veterans that have provided the kind of freedom that we celebrate here today. I look forward to working with Members of the Congress and also members of the Black Caucus as we continue to be the conscience of the U.S. Congress and hopefully the world in the future as we start dealing with this new level of terrorism that we are having to work and fight against every day.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, it was the theologian Swindoll who said it is what you do when you are unnoticed, unknown, unappreciated, and unapplauded that means so much. And as I listened to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MEEK), I could not help but think about all of those people that he talked about, people getting sand in their

teeth, like he said, and sand blowing in their eyes and going through very difficult circumstances right now, and our prayers are with them.

There is another thing that the gentleman talked about, Mr. Speaker, and that is balance. And one of the things that we are always concerned about in our Nation is housing. Housing is extremely important for all of us, and when we look at again that balance that we are talking about, supporting our troops, but we also want that balance when it comes to making sure that Americans and those soldiers, when they do come back, that they have housing. And one of the sad things that has happened is that when we look at the President's budget, we have zeroed out under HUD the Hope VI program, zeroed it out; and what that means to Baltimore, we have been able in the city of Baltimore to tear down at least five high-rise public housing projects and replace them with beautiful low-rise neighborhoods, and as I said to a friend of mine the other day, when I ride through there, Mr. Speaker, I feel like I am on ''Andy of Mayberry.'' They are so beautiful, right smack dab in the middle of the seventh congressional district.

So when we have a situation where we have a budget that zeroes out programs that allow that to happen, it certainly concerns the Congressional Black Caucus, and I think it should concern all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure and privilege to yield to the distinguished gentlewoman from the great State of Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus very much for yielding, and I appreciate very much the opportunity to share with my colleagues what I think is a very crucial debate. I appreciate very much the leadership of the gentleman from Florida who serves us very ably not only on the Committee on Armed Services but on the Select Committee on Homeland Security, and he has brought a great insight because I know the State of Florida, similar to the State of Texas, has a large number of individuals who in years past either are drafted but volunteered. That does not leave out my good friend from Baltimore, Maryland, one of the founding colonies, and certainly no stranger to fighting the wars of this Nation.

I think it is important for some of us to clarify where we have been on this question of war and why it is important to have this discussion with our colleagues because for some reason there has been an effort or an impression that the Congress has become marginalized on these very crucial issues. I can assure the Members that members of the Democratic Caucus who reached out to our friends on the other side of the aisle, members of the Congressional Black Caucus, have been persistent in our viewpoints that we should raise our voices even in the specter of war as the war winds are raging because that is democracy.

And I heard one of the generals comment just 24 hours ago, and they said that the military does not oppose dissent. The military in fact respects dissent. They just want to have it acknowledged, that dissent should be thrust toward the policymakers because our brave men and women are following orders and risking their lives on behalf of all of us. So I would simply say let the word go out, let a clarion call reach the ears of all who might hear that there is not one single divide amongst us on the love, affection, and respect for United States troops who have offered their lives on our behalf so that our values in this Nation might be promoted. There is not one single difference in our support for those families in terms of our commitment, but there has to be a question on our practices.

I think democracy is all about practice as opposed to words. So I think it is important that personally I acknowledge that I have spoken quite continuously on my view that war should be the last option, that we should have chosen or could have chosen other options other than war. But I come to the floor tonight to join the gentleman in my concern that we not be silent on issues dealing with the budget, issues that will have a devastating impact on the young men and women who are now facing harm's way, who we have lifted up in our prayers and where we have stood steadfast to interject our respect and our resolve that they come home safely.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues today on the floor as a co-sponsor of H. Res. 118, the POW resolution that demanded that the Iraqi Government comply with the Geneva Conventions and as well demand that the Red Cross be able to see these individuals and as well to hold the Iraqi Government responsible for any inhumane treatment of our POWs. I stand resolved that the Iraqi Government hear us, that we will not tolerate this inhumane treatment that we have perceived is occurring.

As the chairman well knows, there are a number of POWs, a number of them from Texas, a number of them from around the country. One in particular happens to be a woman, happens to be a single parent. I know the families of these individuals, the families of the missing in action, the family of the lost Marine corporal in my congressional district; and when I say lost, who lost his life in valor, in bravery. We owe them something.

We owe them our undivided commitment, but we also owe them the respect to come to the floor and be able to question our colleagues as to why they would cast a budget that would in fact cut 28 percent from veterans services. Having a veterans hospital that I hope to name after Dr. Michael DeBakey, one of the warriors who fought in World War II, and when I say fought, was an outstanding physician in World War II. In my own congressional district, as we speak today, there are veterans who are being de-enrolled or not enrolled. My fear is that some of these very brave young soldiers, sailors, and others of all the branches will come home and look to the services that are necessary not only for them but for their family members, some of them will be veterans as they leave this action, and out of being veterans, there may be a matter of any number of ailments that they may encounter. We are not far away from the Gulf War disease where there are thousands of veterans still suffering from an undiagnosed, to some, and diagnosed, to some, disease. How many of us remember Agent Orange, and yet we took so long to be able to remedy those veterans who had suffered in the Vietnam War and now the Persian Gulf.

Let me say why I am concerned about a budget that barely passed and it barely passed, Mr. Speaker, because it should not have passed. The budget fails to have a meaningful prescription drug plan. My seniors have been waiting and waiting, and this budget only provides $400 billion. The tax cuts, even what my good friends in the other body did, and I applaud an outstanding, very brave Senator, but I would say that we do not need any tax cuts, $726 billion with a raging war, with the needs of those who are left behind in education and Medicare and Medicaid. Mr. Speaker, it is interesting that when we are in times of war, I remember it well in the history books, of course, that Presidents before us indicated that we must rise to a mutual sacrifice. I think the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL), my good friend and colleague, coined that phrase, ''mutual sacrifice.'' Mutual sacrifice does not pretend to have $726 billion in tax cuts when we have a $283 billion deficit expected to implode into $1 trillion. The tax cut is expected to go to $1.3 trillion, and we are expected that the war really is costing $100 billion right off the bat and may even cost us $1 trillion.

Mr. Speaker, where are we getting these funds? That was not even included in the budget. We know for sure that the Congress is being accused of being marginalized, but we are disrespecting the concept of the three branches of government. Let me say that what was reported in The New York Times, the administration's request, this recent request, places most of the war funds in a discretionary fund that would allow money to be moved around at will by the Department of Defense. I have made a commitment, as I review the emergency supplemental, that I am not going to leave the troops that I love and respect without the resources that they need; but what we are doing with this discretionary fund is turning 200 years of constitutional and congressional oversight mandated by the Constitution, and remember now I have argued vigorously that only the Congress as pursuant to the Constitution can declare war under article I, section 8.

The Constitution also dictates that the Congress raises up armies and the Congress, the House in particular, has a hold on the purse strings. How can that be done with all of this money being put into discretionary funds, marginalizing a third branch of government duly qualified under the Constitution to be able to assess how these funds are used so that we know that if our troops encounter nuclear activity, radioactive activity that we should be assured that they have the highest quality equipment shipped in immediately, preceding that they have enough battalions while we are in this midst even though I am one who is advocating peace and would welcome a cease-fire right now and will be pressing forward with my position on peace but recognizing where our troops are.

Does this make any sense that we put all these moneys in discretionary funds in violation of our duty? It includes $150 million for the DOD to fund indigenous forces, Mr. Speaker, throughout the globe without any input from Congress; and while the administration may argue that it will require such latitude, the fact is that during World War II, Mr. Speaker, with D–Day about us, with Pearl Harbor behind us, with troops raging all over the European theater, Congress passed 11 supplemental requests in just 2 years, thus preserving the oversight vote. How can we do this in this time when our troops need us to eliminate the authority and responsibility of Congress?

Mr. Speaker, I think this budget also fails because it calls for at least $265 billion over 10 years in cuts to mandatory public benefits. Right now in my State with a $12 to $15 billion deficit, we are looking for ways to cut people off Medicaid, the most vulnerable people. Mr. Speaker, right as I speak, we have closed doors with the mental health services, hundreds of employees laid off, but more importantly 1,500 clients or patients not being able to be served or marriaged into another clinic that now serves 3,000 clients.

□ 2215

Nine thousand people calling in for help on the help line, and 2,000 people on the waiting list in my community trying to get mental health services.

This budget fails to address the mutual sacrifice that is needed, Mr. Speaker. While I believe that this Congress and Members should still be engaging in ways of resolving the conflict, working with the administration, talking prospectively about how we keep the peace; we must support our troops, and that includes ensuring that they have the resources.

To do that, Mr. Speaker, it includes their families. We do not know the magnitude of need. We do not know how many will come back not able to work. We already know that we have lost young lives. We already know they are resolved to fight on our behalf.

But as we do that, Mr. Speaker, we have another challenge; and that challenge, of course, is to ensure the safety of the home front. I believe it is extremely important that the supplemental is not addressing the amount of money that we would need for grants.

Already my first responders are looking for the money that they were promised in 9/11. New Yorkers are looking for the money promised after 9/11. And the way to get money to the local cities and governments is to ensure that we have dollars for grants to our local responders, to our HAZMAT teams, those hazardous material teams.

Likewise, let me say that we have a lot of money missing out of the Coast Guard, the Customs Service, the border community, meaning the border security that is needed. We were meeting today with members of the Canadian Government, and they are concerned that we are treating our neighbors differently. We can do better than this. We can have a joint partnership on security and must not be discriminatory with our northern neighbors and our southern neighbors.

We can be secure without violating civil liberties or requiring Canadian citizens, one white, one Muslim, the Muslim fingerprinted, the white not fingerprinted. The Canadians are raising their voices. They are saying we are all Canadians. The same thing with civil liberties in this town.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, as I listen to the gentlewoman, I cannot help but think about the fact that we do have to make sure that during this time of war and this time of terrorism, since 9/11, that we make sure that we preserve the rights that are granted to our citizens under the Constitution of the United States of America.

I have often said that although we are facing very difficult circumstances, we do not want to be in a situation where, when all the dust settles and the war is over, that we have given up so many rights that we, the country, do not even look like a pre-9/11 country.

So I agree with the things the gentlewoman has been talking about and bringing to bear. The gentlewoman has been a staunch supporter of the Constitution and making sure that we stick to it and that we do not allow it to be set aside in these difficult circumstances to collect dust, and then later on, for generations yet unborn, they look back and say, what did you all do under your watch.

I just want to applaud the gentlewoman for that.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to compliment the gentleman for his leadership, because most people would be frightened to raise such a matter during this time of raging war. When I say these matters, issues that the Nation and the Congress should be addressing, civil liberties, civil rights, the question as to whether or not homeland security has been fully funded.

The gentleman was brave enough to bring us to the floor to announce our dedication to the troops, to announce our patriotism, to announce the fact that we have lost constituents, neighbors, that there are family members we know that are mourning now; and we do not want to make light of the very seriousness of this and the sensitivity of it. I hesitate. I have not called the name of the constituent that I lost. I will not do so until I share with the family. I have not called the name of the young woman who is a POW on the floor of the House, out of respect for those family members.

But it is important, because they are risking their lives, that we come and argue for them now, so that they do not come back broken and beaten, if that is the case. Some will come back valiant and standing, God bless them, but others will need us.

I want to applaud the gentleman for coming down to Houston this weekend to talk about an issue that has to do with this country's values, civil rights, affirmative action. Some would fault us for raising these issues now; but I believe, as a general said, that our military does not want us to be silenced. They are not afraid of dissent. And I have said this once before today, Hubert Humphrey said we need critical lovers of America, the kind of patriots who will work to improve America.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, the interesting thing is that that is what I hope, and I know that they are fighting for. They are fighting for that Constitution. They are fighting for the things that this country is all about. They are trying to make sure that those rights that we have are protected, not just for us, not just for our children, but for generations yet unborn.

I think it is quite appropriate that we stand here and make sure that they are not fighting in vain.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. The gentleman is absolutely right. I have been among veterans and the military personnel. Many of us had the honor, and I call it the honor, of visiting our troops on their respective bases in Germany, in Italy, Kosovo, Bosnia, Afghanistan; and I have saluted, as I have been instructed, and I have indicated to them that we have the greatest respect for what they do.

I think there should be other words we could capture out of the dictionary to express the affection we have for these young men and women. These are young people who have volunteered.

I happen to be supporting the reinstatement of the draft, and I have a young man in my family, my son, 17 years old. That is a challenge for me to even say it. Probably I would want to step away from those words. But I do think we should let these volunteers know that we know what a sacrifice they are making, and that we believe in mutual sacrifice.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, I say to the chairman, I am hoping that we can fight together against this tax cut and that we can work to bring dollars home

to the homeland security frontline individuals. We need to be able to have a system where we can all communicate together. Just imagine in the course of our work of securing the home front that we have difficulties because we have systems that are different. Work needs to be done in this area, and we cannot do it with a budget that clearly does not give credence to the two important responsibilities we have now: the home front juxtaposed or right next door to the raging winds of war, and then the domestic agenda of people who are now suffering with, I understand, some 200,000 service jobs being cut, unemployment still at a peak, and people in need.

This is an important discussion. I am hoping that this budget process that shows such enormous cuts, and allow me to say two others, the veterans benefits, billions have been cut from pensions and safety net programs, such as SSI, where $62 billion over 10 years has been cut from the Earned Income Tax Credit, which is one that we have been very supportive of. Then the environment has been cut, and health care.

So I would simply say, Mr. Speaker, that our voices need to be heard, because we need to get to work and uphold the constitutional duty of this Congress to have oversight over war spending and the constitutional duty as well to be engaged in the budgeting process as we lift up monies for armies; but we need to deal with this budget to help the people we represent all over America.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman. I just wanted to say this to the gentlewoman: I just wanted to say, Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Black Caucus stands behind our troops, but we also stand for a very strong America. We stand for our Constitution, and we want it to be well. We also stand for that flag that is up there behind you. We stand for the little children that tomorrow morning will put their little hands up to their little hearts and say, ''I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God.''

That is why we have come here today, to just remind America, and beg America, to pray for our troops, to lift their families up in their prayers, but also to be vigilant, to be vigilant for the rights and the privileges that we have as Americans.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, just to close, I would simply say we were praying in our churches this past week. I was at the Greater St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church with Pastor Willie Davis; and we prayed, and we prayed across Houston and the Nation. I believe we have the freedom to pray. No one is forced to pray. We wanted to pray, our different faiths. And I agree with the gentleman, we pledge ourselves to a united Nation, and we pledge our resolve for our troops to come home. But we also pledge, as the youngsters at Forest Brook High School said, will there be an opportunity for me to be educated? That is why we are here on the floor today, to insist that we stand united for the troops, but also united for the people of America, for the opportunities for them in the future.

I thank the gentleman for allowing me to be here this evening.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight in strong support of our troops.

Today, American men and women are putting their lives on the line in the service of their country. I deeply mourn the deaths of our troops and hope and pray for the safe return of all of their comrades in arms. I mourn as well the deaths of innocent civilians, especially children, who have been or may be caught in the crossfire of this conflict.

Some Americans are now held as prisoners of war and they hold a special place in our thoughts and prayers.

As the daughter of a career army officer, my heart goes out especially to the families of our service men and women as they anxiously await word from their loved ones. That waiting is its own kind of torment.

Thousands of National Guards and Reserves are serving in the Middle East today, honoring their commitment and abandoning their civilian lives to answer this call.

We honor their service and sacrifice as well as that of all the personnel in our armed forces.

It is my deepest hope that our troops will soon be home with their friends and families. I wish them Godspeed and hope that peace is both rapid and lasting.

In closing, let me once again reiterate my support and admiration for our troops who are in harm's way.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today after 1:00 p.m. and the balance of the week on account of official business in the district.

Mr. PUTNAM (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today until 4:00 p.m. on account of accompanying the President of the United States to visit the troops at MacDill Air Force Base in Florida.

Mr. BILIRAKIS (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today until 4:30 p.m. on account of accompanying President Bush on a visit with U.S. troops at MacDill Air Force Base.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. ISRAEL) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. ISRAEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCGOVERN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BLUMENAUER, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. CARSON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PEARCE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. MCCOTTER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HEFLEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CRANE, for 5 minutes, March 27.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PEARCE, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, March 27, 2003, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1433. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Folpet; Pesticide Tolerance [OPP-2003-0075; FRL-7296-2] received February 27, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1434. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Hexythiazox; Pesticide Tolerance [OPP-2003-0036; FRL-7292-8] received February 27, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1435. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Division of Market Regulation, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Customer Protection—Reserves and Custody of Securities Delegation of Authority to the Director of the Division of Market Regulations [Release No. 34-47480; File No. S7-20-02] (RIN: 3235-AI51) received March 12, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1436. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance (RIN: 1601-AA04) received February 28, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

1437. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Enforcement of Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in Department of Homeland Security Programs or Activities (RIN: 1601-AA05) received February 28, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

1438. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Operating

Permits Program; State of Iowa [IA 167-1167a; FRL-745 8-8] received February 27, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1439. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants: New Hampshire; Negatives Declaration [NH-055a; FRL-7458-3] received February 27, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1440. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants: Rhode Island; Negative Declaration [RI-1047a; FRL-7458-5] received February 27, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1441. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Conditional Approval of Implementation Plan; Indiana [IN 140-3; FRL-7457-3] received February 27, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1442. A letter from the Senior Legal Advisor, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Implementation of the Satellite Home Viewer Improvement Act of 1999: Application of Network Non-Duplication, Syndicated Exclusivity, and Sports Blackout Rules to Satellite Retransmission of Broadcast Signals [CS Docket No. 00-2] received February 27, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1443. A letter from the Deputy Chief, Policy and Rules Division, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Amendment of Part 2 of the Commission's Rules to Allocate Spectrum Below 3 GHz for Mobile and Fixed Services to Support the Introduction of New Advanced Wireless Services, including Third Generation Wireless Systems [ET Docket No. 00-258] received February 10, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1444. A letter from the Senior Legal Advisor, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Vici, Oklahoma) [MB Docket No. 02-205; RM-10470]; (Big Lake, Texas) [MB Docket No. 02-206; RM-10469]; (Leakey, Texas) [MB Docket No. 02-207; RM-10468] received February 10, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1445. A letter from the Senior Legal Advisor, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Albany, Vermont) [MB Docket No. 02-192; RM-10507] received February 10, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1446. A letter from the Senior Legal Advisor, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Groom, Texas) [MB Docket No. 02-226; RM-10459]; [MB Docket No. 02-227; RM-10467]; [MB Docket No. 02-228; RM-10460] received February 10, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1447. A letter from the Chief Counsel (Foreign Assets Control), Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Cuban Assets Control Regulations: Family and Educational Travel-Related Transactions, Remittances of Inherited Funds, Activities of Cuban Nationals in the United States, Support for the Cuban People, Humanitarian Projects, and Technical Amendments—received March 18, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on International Relations.

1448. A letter from the Deputy Chief Counsel, (Foreign Assets Control), Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Authorization of Certain Humanitarian Activities by Nongovernmental Organizations in Iraq and Iran—received March 10, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on International Relations.

1449. A letter from the Director, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Direct Investment Surveys: BE-12, Benchmark Survey of Foreign Direct Investment in the United States-2002 [Docket No. 020813189-2330-02] (RIN: 0691-AA44) received March 18, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on International Relations.

1450. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Restrictions Upon Lobbying (RIN: 1601-AA12) received February 28, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

1451. A letter from the Chair, Office of General Counsel, Federal Election Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Administrative Fines [Notice 2003-6]—received March 10, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on House Administration.

1452. A letter from the Director, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Determination of Endangered Status for the Sonoma County Distinct Population Segment of the California Tiger Salamander (RIN: 1018-AI61) received March 19, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

1453. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; Trip Limit Increase [Docket No. 001005281-0369-02; I.D. 012703A] received February 10, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

1454. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Amendment 69 to Revise American Fisheries Act Inshore Cooperative Requirements [Docket No. 020724175-3022-02; I.D. 062602E] (RIN: 0648-AP71) received February 25, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

1455. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Vessels Catching Pacific Cod for Processing by the Offshore Component in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No. 021212306-2306-01; I.D. 012903G] received February 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

1456. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Gulf of Alaska; Interim 2003 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish [Docket No. 021212306-2306-01; I.D. 110602B] received February 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

1457. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries Off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; Coastal Pelagic Species Fishery; Amendment 10 [Docket No. 021016235-3005-02; I.D. 092402E] (RIN: 0648-AP87) received February 6, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

1458. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; Closure [Docket No. 001005281-0369-02; I.D. 020303C] received February 25, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

1459. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule—Administrative Wage Garnishment—received February 27, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1460. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Authority of the Secretary of Homeland Security; Immigration Laws (RIN: 1601-AA06) received February 28, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1461. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Regulations Regarding Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Race, Color, or National Origin in Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance from the Department of Homeland Security (RIN: 1601-AA03) received February 28, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1462. A letter from the Director, Regulations and Forms Development, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule—Readjustment of Immigration Benefit Application Fees [INS No. 2260-03] (RIN: 1115-AH00) received February 27, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1463. A letter from the Chief Counsel, St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Seaway Regulations and Rules: Automatic Identification System [Docket No. SLSDC 2002-13698] (RIN: 2135-AA15) received February 28, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1464. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Establishment of Class E2 airspace and modification of existing Class E5 airspace; Ainsworth, BE; Correction [Airspace Docket No. 02-ACE-8] received February 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1465. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Revocation of Class E Airspace; Brookfield, MO [Docket No. FAA-2003-14243; Airspace Docket

No. 03-ACE-3] received February 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1466. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Change of Controlling Agency for Restricted Areas R-6601 Fort A.P. Hill, VA; and R-6608A, R-6608B, and R-6608C, Quantico, VA [Docket No. FAA-2002-14110; Airspace Docket No. 02-AEA-23] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1467. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Amendment to Using Agency for Restricted Area 2301E, Ajo East, AZ; Restricted Area 2304, Gila Bend, AZ; and Restricted Area 2305, Gila Bend, AZ [Docket No. FAA-2002-14163; Airspace Docket No. 02-AWP-11] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1468. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Aging Airplane Safety [Docket No. FAA-1999-5401; Amdt. Nos. 119-6, 121-284, 129-34, 135-81, 183-11] (RIN: 2120-AE42) received February 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1469. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No. 30351; Amdt No. 3042] received February 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1470. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No. 30350; Amdt. No. 3041] received February 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1471. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; McDonnell Douglas Model DC-9-10, DC-9-20, DC-9-30, DC-9-40, and DC-9-50 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 2001-NM-277-AD; Amendment 39-13032; AD 2003-03-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1472. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 737-300, -400, and -500 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 2001-NM-274-AD; Amendment 39-13029; AD 2003-03-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1473. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; BAE Ssytems (Operations) Limited Model BAe 146 and Avro 146-RJ Series Airplanes [Docket No. 2002-NM-48-AD; Amendment 39-13034; AD 2003-03-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1474. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A300 B2 and B4; A300 B4-600, B4-600R, and F4-600R (Collectively Called A300-600); A310, A319; A320; A321; A330; and A340 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 96-NM-179-AD; Amendment 39-13028; AD 2003-03-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1475. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Coast Guard Transition to Department of Homeland Security; Technical Amendments Reflecting Organizational Changes [USCG-2003-14505] received February 28, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1476. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Modification of Class D Airspace; and modification of Class E Airspace; Topeka, Philip Billard Municipal Airport, KS [Docket No. FAA-2003-14347; Airspace Docket No. 03-ACE-4] received March 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1477. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Revision of Prohibited Area P-49 Crawford; TX [Docket No. FAA-2003-14369; Airspace Docket No. 03-AWA-1] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received March 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1478. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Realignment of Federal Airways V-72 and V-289; MO [Docket No. FAA-2002-13413; Airspace Docket No. 02-ACE-6] received March 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1479. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Modification of Class E Airspace; Ames, IA [Docket No. FAA-2003-14427; Airspace Docket No. 03-ACE-7] received March 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1480. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Modification of Class E Airspace; Lebanon, MO [Docket No. FAA-2003-14426; Airspace Docket No. 03-ACE-6] received March 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1481. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Modification of Class E Airspace; Ankeny, IA [Docket No. FAA-2003-14428; Airspace Docket No. 03-ACE-8] received March 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1482. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Establishment of Class E Airspace; Wasilla, AK [Docket No. FAA-2002-14075; Airspace Docket No. 02-AAL-7] received March 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1483. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Modification of Class E Airspace; Clarinda, IA [Docket No. FAA-2003-14459; Airspace Docket No. 03-ACE-12] received March 11, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. FOLEY (for himself, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. MCNULTY, Mr. FROST, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. BERMAN, and Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland):

H.R. 1440. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that aliens who commit acts of torture, extrajudicial killings, or other specified atrocities abroad are inadmissible and removable and to establish within the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice an Office of Special Investigations having responsibilities under that Act with respect to all alien participants in war crimes, genocide, and the commission of acts of torture and extrajudicial killings abroad; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 1441. A bill to require the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development and the Secretary of Defense to give a preference for American companies in the award of contracts to provide assistance for Iraq, and to require the use of CDMA technology in any such contract for the provision of commercial mobile wireless communication service; to the Committee on International Relations, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. POMBO (for himself, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. GIBBONS, and Mr. MURTHA):

H.R. 1442. A bill to authorize the design and construction of a visitor center for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. CALVERT (for himself, Mr. ISRAEL, and Mr. FEENEY):

H.R. 1443. A bill to amend section 251 of the National Housing Act to enable homebuyers to make use of the authority of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to insure hybrid adjustable rate mortgages; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. DEGETTE:

H.R. 1444. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for garnishment of military retired pay to satisfy a judgment against a retired member of the uniformed services for physically, sexually, or emotionally abusing a child; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 1445. A bill to designate the western breakwater for the project for navigation, New Haven Harbor, Connecticut, as the ''Charles Hervey Townshend Breakwater''; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. FARR (for himself, Mr. BACA, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. BERMAN, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. CARDOZA, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DOOLEY of California, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FILNER, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. HONDA, Mr. LANTOS, Ms. LEE, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. MATSUI, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. PELOSI, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. STARK, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. WATSON, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. DREIER, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. OSE, Mr. ISSA, Mr. CALVERT,

Mr. COX, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. NUNES, Mr. HUNTER, Mrs. BONO, Mr. GALLEGLY, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California):

H.R. 1446. A bill to support the efforts of the California Missions Foundation to restore and repair the Spanish colonial and mission-era missions in the State of California and to preserve the artworks and artifacts of these missions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky:

H.R. 1447. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives to increase the sale and use of certain ethanol and biodiesel fuels; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LOBIONDO (for himself, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. FROST, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon, Mr. WYNN, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. BACA, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. OBERSTAR, and Mrs. MALONEY):

H.R. 1448. A bill to require that health plans provide coverage for a minimum hospital stay for mastectomies and lymph node dissection for the treatment of breast cancer and coverage for secondary consultations; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD:

H.R. 1449. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a program to provide assistance to enhance the ability of first responders to respond to incidents of terrorism, including incidents involving weapons of mass destruction, and to improve security of infrastructure, and for other purposes including emergency preparedness; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security (Select), for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 1450. A bill to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to permit the Council of the District of Columbia to impose a tax on the income of professional baseball players which is earned within the District of Columbia; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. OSBORNE (for himself, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. KIND, Mr. WAMP, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. WOLF, Mr. GOODE, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. WICKER, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. GORDON, Mr. LINDER, Mr. WALSH, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. SPRATT, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. EHLERS, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina):

H.R. 1451. A bill to prohibit high school and college sports gambling in all States including States where such gambling was permitted prior to 1991; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. BRADY of Texas, and Mr. SULLIVAN):

H.R. 1452. A bill to provide that the language of the text of United States passports is written in English and Spanish; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. VITTER:

H.R. 1453. A bill to declare the policy of the United States with respect to design and deployment of a missile defense system capable of defending the national territory of the United States against ballistic missile attack; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. VITTER:

H.R. 1454. A bill to establish the policy of the United States with respect to deployment of missile defense systems capable of defending allies of the United States against ballistic missile attack; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on International Relations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WAXMAN (for himself, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. SHERMAN):

H.R. 1455. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to make private, nonprofit medical facilities that serve industry specific clients eligible for hazard mitigation and disaster assistance; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. VITTER:

H.J. Res. 43. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to limit the number of terms that a Member of Congress may serve; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KINGSTON (for himself, Mr. REYES, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. HYDE, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, Mr. COX, Mr. HOBSON, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. BALLENGER, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. MCINNIS, Mr. AKIN, Mr. HAYWORTH, Mr. KLINE, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. DELAY, Mr. GINGREY, Mr. BEREUTER, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. COLE, and Mr. DREIER):

H. Con. Res. 118. Concurrent resolution concerning the treatment of members of the Armed Forces held as prisoner of war by Iraqi authorities; to the Committee on International Relations, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CRANE (for himself, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. PENCE, Mr. HOEFFEL, Mr. OSE, and Mr. CROWLEY):

H. Con. Res. 119. Concurrent resolution condemning attacks on United States citizens by Palestinian terrorists, and for other purposes; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mrs. EMERSON:

H. Con. Res. 120. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the need to protect post offices; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. HASTINGS of Florida:

H. Con. Res. 121. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress concerning United States and allied Armed Forces personnel killed or wounded or taken captive while engaged in the war on terrorism and the war with Iraq and offering deepest sympathy to the families of those killed in action; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on International Relations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. TAUSCHER:

H. Con. Res. 122. Concurrent resolution urging the United Nations to put in place broad United Nations Security Council authority to help the people of Iraq; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. VITTER:

H. Con. Res. 123. Concurrent resolution supporting the goals and ideals of St. Tammany Day on May 1, 2003, as a national day of recognition for Tamanend and the values he represented; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. NEY (for himself and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut):

H. Res. 163. A resolution providing amounts from the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives for continuing expenses of standing and select committees of the House from April 1, 2003, through April 11, 2003; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. FLAKE:

H. Res. 164. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the human rights situation in Cuba, and for other purposes; to the Committee on International Relations.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, private bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN:

H.R. 1456. A bill to provide for the liquidation or reliquidation of certain entries of pasta; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. PELOSI:

H.R. 1457. A bill for the relief of Oleg Rasulyevich Rafikov, Alfia Fanilevna Rafikova, Evgenia Olegovna Rafikova, and Ruslan Khamitovich Yagudin; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 2: Mr. BROWN of South Carolina.

H.R. 25: Mr. BAKER, Mr. GUTKNECHT, and Mr. DELAY.

H.R. 36: Mr. BROWN of South Carolina.

H.R. 40: Mr. CLAY.

H.R. 58: Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. TURNER of Ohio, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. KELLER, Ms. BERKLEY, and Mr. MANZULLO.

H.R. 92: Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois and Mr. BROWN of Ohio.

H.R. 111: Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, and Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin.

H.R. 133: Mr. FILNER and Mr. PLATTS.

H.R. 151: Mr. MICHAUD.

H.R. 176: Mr. COX and Mrs. NORTHUP.

H.R. 185: Mr. RANGEL.

H.R. 195: Mr. LUCAS of Oklahoma.

H.R. 202: Mr. ISAKSON.

H.R. 208: Mr. ROTHMAN.

H.R. 235: Mr. RENZI, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, and Mr. TOOMEY.

H.R. 300: Mr. BROWN of South Carolina.

H.R. 303: Mr. LYNCH and Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 347: Mr. DAVIS of Florida.

H.R. 371: Mr. RANGEL and Mr. MEEHAN.

H.R. 412: Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. BERRY, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, and Ms. SOLIS.

H.R. 446: Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 447: Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 448: Mr. EVANS and Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 463: Mr. BURNS, Mr. ENGLISH, Mr. SIMMONS, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. DOOLEY of California, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. LANTOS, and Mr. HAYWORTH.
H.R. 466: Mr. GIBBONS.
H.R. 496: Mrs. MUSGRAVE.
H.R. 570: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MOORE, and Mr. ALLEN.
H.R. 571: Mr. CAMP, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. CRANE, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky, Mr. WAMP, Mr. NEY, and Mr. COLLINS.
H.R. 584: Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. NEY, and Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina.
H.R. 589: Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, and Mr. MCCRERY.
H.R. 593: Mr. STRICKLAND and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 594: Mr. HAYES, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. COLE, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. BERKLEY, and Mr. GREENWOOD.
H.R. 611: Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida.
H.R. 627: Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts and Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky.
H.R. 630: Mr. LATHAM.
H.R. 655: Mr. BROWN of South Carolina.
H.R. 660: Mr. LATHAM.
H.R. 676: Ms. VELAZQUEZ.
H.R. 684: Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. AKIN, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. HERGER, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, Mr. BEAUPREZ, and Mr. FEENEY.
H.R. 693: Mr. GINGREY and Mr. CAPUANO.
H.R. 707: Mr. PALLONE and Mr. COOPER.
H.R. 709. Mr. RANGEL and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
H.R. 713: Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey.
H.R. 728: Mr. TANCREDO and Mr. BONILLA.
H.R. 735: Mr. RENZI, Mr. ENGLISH, Mr. FLETCHER, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, Mr. WAMP, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. TERRY.
H.R. 741: Ms. BERKLEY.
H.R. 745: Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia.
H.R. 768: Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 770: Mr. ACEVEDO-VILA.
H.R. 786: Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota.
H.R. 803: Mr. MATHESON and Mr. MCNULTY.
H.R. 804: Mr. HAYWORTH.
H.R. 812: Ms. HART.
H.R. 816: Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 817: Ms. CARSON of Indiana and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 872: Mr. JONES of North Carolina and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H.R. 873: Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. HOLT, Mrs. MALONEY, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. WALSH, and Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 879: Mr. MILLER of Florida.
H.R. 886: Mr. GINGREY.
H.R. 931: Mrs. EMERSON.
H.R. 941: Mr. FORD, Mr. WELLER, and Mr. HOEFFEL.
H.R. 944: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Mr. WEINER.
H.R. 947: Mr. CASE.
H.R. 979: Mr. MEEKS of New York and Mr. MILLER of North Carolina.
H.R. 983: Mr. CAMP, Mr. WALDEN of Oregon, and Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 1002: Mr. GORDON, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. COOPER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 1006: Mr. KOLBE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. RAMSTAD, and Mr. GILCHREST.
H.R. 1022: Mr. RAHALL.
H.R. 1038: Mr. RENZI.
H.R. 1068: Mr. FOSSELLA, Mr. HOLT, Mr. TURNER of Texas, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. TERRY, Mr. CHOCOLA, Mr. REYES, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. SABO, Mr. ACKERMAN, and Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 1097: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. SHERMAN, and Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 1136: Mr. HULSHOF.
H.R. 1157: Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. CLAY, and Mr. TIERNEY.
H.R. 1161: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. CHOCOLA, and Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina.
H.R. 1163: Mr. SMITH of Michigan.
H.R. 1191: Mr. WHITFIELD and Mr. SPRATT.
H.R. 1199: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1202: Mr. SOUDER.
H.R. 1205: Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, and Mrs. JONES of Ohio.
H.R. 1231: Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. MCINNIS, Mr. CANNON, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. TANNER, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. LUCAS of Oklahoma, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. COOPER, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. MOORE, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. FLETCHER, and Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1238: Mr. QUINN.
H.R. 1242: Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. MEEHAN, and Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 1244: Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. FILNER, and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 1245: Mr. FILNER, Mr. WEINER, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. MCNULTY.
H.R. 1251: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. STENHOLM, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, and Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 1258: Ms. DELAURO, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, and Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota.
H.R. 1260: Mr. PICKERING.
H.R. 1263: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 1264: Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. HONDA, and Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 1282: Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 1305: Mr. BAKER, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, and Mr. HOSTETTLER.
H.R. 1309: Ms. LEE.
H.R. 1331: Mr. CALVERT, MR. BACHUS, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. FROST, Mr. OTTER, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. MURPHY.
H.R. 1340: Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. FARR, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. MATSUI, and Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California.
H.R. 1349: Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 1355: Mr. RAHALL, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. DAVIS of Florida, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. GUTIERREZ, and Mr. FROST.
H.R. 1366: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. COSTELLO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. FROST, Mr. LAMPSON, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, and Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD.
H.R. 1389: Mr. QUINN.
H.R. 1415: Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. ROYCE, Mrs. NORTHUP, Mr. POMEROY, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. OLVER, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. LATOURETTE, and Mr. LANTOS.
H.R. 1429: Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. WYNN, Mr. CLAY, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. RUSH, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. WATSON, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. HONDA, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. FORD, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. JEFFERSON, and Mr. CONYERS.
H.J. Res. 37: Mr. KLECZKA and Mr. GEPHARDT.
H. Con. Res. 6: Mr. UPTON.
H. Con. Res. 47: Ms. WATERS, Mr. CLYBURN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. BACA.
H. Con. Res. 50: Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland and Mr. BISHOP of Utah.
H. Con. Res. 56: Mr. BAKER, Mr. MATHESON, and Mr. CROWLEY.
H. Con. Res. 78: Mr. SANDERS.
H. Con. Res. 99: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Ms. WATSON.
H. Con. Res. 103: Ms. SOLIS.
H. Con. Res. 109: Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. HAYES, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. GOODE, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. FOSSELLA, Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, and Mr. HERGER.
H. Con. Res. 116: Mr. KINGSTON and Mr. SULLIVAN.
H. Res. 118: Mr. TANCREDO.
H. Res. 127: Mr. BAKER.
H. Res. 153: Mr. DEMINT and Mr. BURTON of Indiana.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 149 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 2003 No. 49

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable LINDSEY GRAHAM, a Senator from the State of South Carolina.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's prayer will be given by our guest Chaplain, Rev. Campbell Gillon, pastor emeritus of Georgetown Presbyterian Church.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, we thank Thee for this cornucopia of a continent, blessed not only by natural beauty and resources but by the courage, endurance, inventive skill, and robust faith of those who came, and by the vision and wisdom of the Founders who lived with the awareness that their deeds were done under Thy Providence. We are heirs to a freedom, itself not free, but bought by others' sacrifice. We think even now of those who suffered and died to pass on this legacy.

Remind us, Lord, that the everyday panoramic picture of life in this land is only possible when maintained within the framework of a strong defense. Since the only guarantee of the rights enunciated by the Constitution lies in the will of people prepared to die for them, then multiply, O God, our gratitude to all those who have done so in the past and those who continue to lay their lives on the line for the long-term safety and protection of this Nation and the cause of liberty across the globe. In these testing times give guidance and steadfastness to freedom's defenders: the President and his advisors, the Armed Forces, our allies, and the representatives of the people who gather under this roof.

O God, although the future is unknown, yet grant to this Senate to see clearly the eternal beacons by which the Founders were led. So bless them with vision informed by wisdom; wisdom instructed by truth; truth revealed to integrity and integrity touched by love—all learned in humility before Thee, O God, whose children we are called to be. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable LINDSEY GRAHAM led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, March 26, 2003.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable LINDSEY GRAHAM, a Senator from the State of South Carolina, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

Mr. LINDSEY GRAHAM thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. For the information of all Senators, this morning there will be a period for morning business until 11:30 a.m. A number of Members have requested time to make remarks regarding our courageous men and women of the Armed Forces, and this morning will be an opportunity for them to do that.

At 11:30, we will resume consideration of the budget resolution. We made substantial progress yesterday. Of the 22 amendments remaining on the list, far fewer will be offered and require votes. We will resume voting on the offered amendments at 11:30 a.m. and will continue voting over the course of the afternoon until we reach passage of the resolution.

Under the consent agreement reached last week, we will vote on adoption of the budget resolution at 4 p.m. today. It may be possible to complete action on the resolution earlier than that, but we will have to wait and see how many amendments will actually necessitate votes over the course of the late morning and early afternoon. To this point, we have had 45 rollcall votes on this budget resolution.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the chairman and ranking member for their orderly consideration of this very important measure. I will have more to say about their good work as we approach passage over the course of the afternoon.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. While the majority leader is in the Chamber, on behalf of the Senate, I commend him and the minority leader for the arrangement that was made. This legislation upon which we work is almost impossible to go through each year, but we have done it. This year has been about as orderly as I have seen. I know the leader wanted to finish this bill last week, but it was just impossible to do, no matter what his wishes were. The work that the majority leader and Senator DASCHLE have done to allow us to get to this point has made it possible that the two managers could do the great work they have done to move this legislation along.

As I heard one Senator say last night, this is the Senate at its best. I

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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believe we have had good, short debate and we have had some spirited voting. I hope we can continue that today, which I am confident we will, and make this one of the most productive weeks we have had in a long time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

Mr. FRIST. I thank the assistant minority leader for his comments. Indeed, I believe that by 4 p.m. today the product we end up with will reflect the will of the Senate after adequate time for debate, discussion, and time for people to express both their feelings and their convictions. We will have a product of which we will all be proud, where neither side will agree with it in its entirety.

We have a lot of work to do. I appreciate the comments and look forward to a productive day.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Virginia.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. WARNER. Will the leader suggest perhaps what the order of the first few speakers might be? I see the Senator from Texas is in the Chamber. I understand the Senator from North Dakota is due to arrive shortly and then the Senator from Virginia could follow. Could that be a tentative arrangement?

Mr. REID. That would be certainly appropriate, if the Senator from Texas wishes to speak, and then if Senator DORGAN is on time, which I am confident he will be, then the Senator from Virginia could follow him. I put that in the form of a unanimous consent request.

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 11:30 a.m., with the time to be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

The Senator from Texas.

SUPPORT FOR OUR TROOPS

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I thank the majority and minority leaders for setting aside this time for Senators to talk about events in the battlefield. While our troops are in the field in the Iraqi conflict, I certainly hope we will set aside an hour every morning for Senators to talk about happenings in the field, tributes to the troops, and other related incidents. I can think of no better way to start the Senate every morning than to pay tribute to those who are in the field as we speak.

All of us have seen the graphic pictures on television of the sandstorm and our troops continuing to make their way forward toward Baghdad, even though the pictures show that it is so dark that even in the daytime they have been hampered by these horrendous sandstorms.

I am particularly moved by the prisoners of war and the missing in action. All of us were riveted this weekend to the television that showed our first prisoners taken. There have been quite graphic pictures of these prisoners taken by the Iraqis and published on television stations overseas. They have not, mostly, been published over here. Certain parts have not been published at all.

I say, first, that every single one of the missing or prisoners are from Texas bases, they are from Fort Bliss or Fort Hood—every single one of them.

I have talked to some of the families. I have tried to reach some but I have not been able to. But it really brings it home when you hear that this has happened and you feel as if you know these people because they are so close to home.

I want to reiterate what the President of the United States has said—all of our leaders. We hope the Iraqis will treat the prisoners of war as Americans are treating the Iraqi prisoners of war. Americans are giving the Iraqis medical treatment. They are giving them food and water. I think one of the most poignant early pictures from the field was a marine giving water from his canteen to an Iraqi soldier who had surrendered.

It is my fervent hope that the Iraqis will show a good side in complying with the Geneva Convention so they will not harm these prisoners or in any way treat them improperly, certainly not humiliate them in any way.

There will be more stories of heroism as we go through the coming days and weeks. Today I wish to share some remarks from British Army LTC Tim Collins, who spoke to his troops just before they moved into their first battle against Saddam's forces. These words are stirring and they give us a glimpse into the hearts of those who are carrying out the job in Iraq, who are doing the job so well, part of a coalition of freedom-loving people.

I don't think anyone in America will ever forget the incredible support of the British Government and the British Army. There are many other governments and armies that have come forward. We are up to 45 countries in support of this action, the last I heard. But I particularly was touched by Lieutenant Colonel Collins's speech to his men. He said:

> There are some who are alive at this moment who will not be alive shortly. It is my foremost intention to bring every single one of you out alive, but there may be some among us who will not see the end of this campaign. We will put them in their sleeping bags and send them back. There will be no time for sorrow. . . .
>
> Those who do not wish to go on that journey, we will not send. As for the others, I expect you to rock their world. Wipe them out if that is what they choose. But if you are ferocious in battle, remember to be magnanimous in victory. It is a big step to take another human life. It is not to be done lightly. . . .
>
> I know of men who have taken life needlessly in other conflicts. I can assure you they live with the mark of Cain upon them. If someone surrenders to you, then remember they have that right in international law and ensure that one day they can go home to their family. The ones who wish to fight, well, we aim to please. . . .
>
> We go to liberate, not to conquer. We will not fly our flags in their country. Iraq is steeped in history. It is the site of the Garden of Eden, of the Great Flood and the birthplace of Abraham. Tread lightly there. . . .
>
> You will see things that no man could pay to see and you will have to go a long way to find a more decent, generous and upright people than the Iraqis. You will be embarrassed by their hospitality even though they have nothing. . . .

Colonel Collins and his men formed the first battalion of the Royal Irish Regiment. Colonel Collins is from Belfast and most of his men are from Northern Ireland. We are very proud to have them among our coalition.

I think I speak for every American in saying we support our troops, we support our allies, and we support everything they are doing in the field as we are here, enjoying the freedom they are fighting to keep for us, for our children and our grandchildren.

We will never be able to fully repay the debt to those who have lost their lives, but we will always remember them. We will respect them. We will duly honor them as time goes by, as one of those brave souls in the history of our country who have allowed us to keep the freedom that is the beacon to the world.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from North Dakota.

THE BUDGET

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, 100 years from now, none of us will be here. I guess that is the bad news. We will all be dead a century from now. But those who are interested in who we were, what we were, what our value systems were about, could take a look at what we are doing here and determine a little something about what we thought was important.

Someone once asked the question, if you were charged with writing an obituary for someone else and knew nothing about them but had to write it from their check register—the only information you had about someone was their check register—how would you write their obituary? I suppose you would find out what they spent their money on, what they thought was important, what was their value system.

So, too, could you evaluate the value system of this country and this Congress by this budget we are voting on today.

I am going to vote against this budget. I will tell you why. Because I think in the rearview mirror, this budget represents a value system that misses much of what is important about what our obligation is today.

We are at war. We are at war with terrorists. We are at war in Iraq. We have a responsibility to protect our homeland. We have a serious threat with respect to North Korea, apparently now building additional nuclear weapons.

What does this budget document tell us is the most important element in the Federal Government? They say the most important element is to give those who have the highest incomes in America more tax cuts.

Let me turn to page 6 and tell you what this budget document says. This budget document says, assume all of the President's proposed tax cuts, most of which go to wealthy Americans—assume that. This is the result on page 6: By the year 2013, this country will have a nearly $12 trillion Federal debt—this country will have a nearly $12 trillion debt. The gross debt will be $11.919 trillion—almost $12 trillion.

We are saying to those men and women fighting for this country today, you go ahead and pursue this battle on behalf of America and when you come back what we will do is burden you, we will saddle your shoulders with all of this debt because the priority in this budget is tax cuts, most of which will go to upper income Americans.

We heard all day yesterday on amendments that this is going to hurt the growth package. What growth? Where is the growth? The only growth I see in this package is going from $6.6 trillion in debt to $12 trillion in debt. Yes, it is on page 6. That assumes all the tax cuts. This is the President's plan. The plan is to go to $12 trillion in debt. I don't think that is much of a plan. This grows the economy, does it? It produces new jobs, new economic opportunity? New tax revenues? I guess not, not if you are going to go to a $12 trillion gross debt. I do not understand at all what on Earth is happening here.

About 2 years ago we had this debate about dramatically increased tax cuts. Some of us said let's be a bit conservative. The President said, no, there is no need to be conservative; let's pass all these tax cuts. Then we had a recession. The technology bubble burst. The stock market pancaked. We had 9/11. We had a war on terrorism. We had the largest corporate scandals in decades and decades—perhaps in this country's history. And the result, of course, was very large budget surpluses turned to very large budget deficits.

Now we are told if we just pass this budget it will be better. But look on page 6. Assuming all the President wants, assuming all he asks us to do, on page 6, they say, in the year 2013, our gross debt will be nearly $12 trillion. Explain that. Explain this. It makes no sense. That is why I am going to vote no.

RECONSTRUCTION AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN IRAQ

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, let me make a comment about another item. We will be, later this week, responding to the President's request for a supplemental appropriations.

Clearly, we need to provide supplemental funding. We will not send America's sons and daughters to war and then decide we will not provide the funds necessary. This Congress will and must.

One piece, however, of this request by the President is for reconstruction assistance in Iraq, and humanitarian assistance. Should we do humanitarian assistance? You bet we should. Absolutely. It ought to be a first priority.

But reconstruction? Let me make the case that reconstruction in Iraq, in my judgment, should be funded from Iraqi resources and Iraqi oil. This is a country rich in resources, endowed with very substantial oil reserves.

While I will support reconstruction in Iraq, I am one who believes, when the job in Iraq is finished, the resources and the oil that exists in the country of Iraq ought to produce the revenue for the reconstruction of Iraq. I intend to make that case in the Appropriations Committee later this week and next week here in the Congress.

COVERAGE OF THE WAR ON TELEVISION

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, let me make one final point while I am in the Chamber.

I came to talk about this budget and the $12 trillion of debt that this budget document heads us toward. Let me make one final point. I watch the television coverage every morning, as do most Americans, with respect to the war. And my thoughts and prayers are with our soldiers. My thoughts and prayers are with the innocent folks in Iraq. We have no quarrel with the Iraqi citizens. This is with Saddam Hussein and his regime.

It breaks my heart to see casualties on any side. But one of the things that concerns me, in the mornings when I watch this coverage, or in the evenings before I retire and I watch this coverage, is there are a number of retired generals and admirals and others who stand before the cameras, showing us, on the maps, exactly where our troops are moving, exactly what the strategy is, saying: Here is the route to Baghdad for this division and that division.

I ask myself: I wonder if that is in the interests of the American soldiers fighting in Iraq. I just wonder. Do we need to have retired officers, with pointers, pointing to maps and saying, ''Here is where this division is going; here is where I think it is going to be,'' and some saying, ''I disagree with the current strategy''?

I worry a lot about whether the information provided to the other side—the information provided to our adversaries from that kind of briefing that goes on on every channel, every network, by retired officers, who know a great deal about battle plans—I wonder whether they should be offering that precise analysis of exactly where troop movements are on television morning, noon, and night.

The 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week coverage on this is something I think provides information to the American people—and I think we want information—but I do not believe anyone wants information disclosed during this 24–7 news cycle in a manner that would in any way alert the adversary about what is happening.

I worry sometimes, when I see this on television: Is this healthy? Is more information made available, by retired generals and admirals and others who are analyzing troop movements, than really should be made available to our adversaries? I just ask the question. I think it is an important question to ask. I intend to ask it this morning in the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, where I will return in just a few moments.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, parliamentary inquiry.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator will state his inquiry, please.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I ask, what is the parliamentary situation?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. We are in morning business until 11:30, at which time we will proceed out of morning business to resume consideration of S. Con. Res. 23.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, has morning business been allocated equally to each side?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. By unanimous consent, we have the Senator from Virginia to speak next. And I believe the time will be equally divided after that.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to speak following the Senator from Virginia. As I understand it, the Senator from Virginia is now to be recognized to speak. I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to speak following the Senator from Virginia.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I will certainly accede to that, but that then we should indicate the Senator from Utah would follow the Senator from Maryland, if that is agreeable.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I would also

like to get in this queue. So we make sure, maybe we can specify the times as well so that we know that we have got enough time before 11:30.

How much time does the Senator from Virginia——

Mr. WARNER. I say to my distinguished colleague, about 10 minutes.

Mr. CONRAD. How much time does the Senator from Maryland seek?

Mr. SARBANES. How much time would there be available?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. We have until 11:30 in morning business.

Mr. CONRAD. So there would be 25 minutes.

Mr. SARBANES. Yes. Equally divided?

Mr. CONRAD. Would that be fair for the Senator, if we equally divide the remaining time?

Mr. BENNETT. Reserving the right to object, I want to accommodate my friend and more senior colleague, but I had understood that the time was equally divided between the two sides; the Republicans would have 11 to 11:30, and the Democrats from 10:30 to 11. If that were not done, I would be more than happy to split the time available, after the Senator from Virginia is finished, with the Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there be 10 minutes for the Senator from Virginia, followed by the Senator from Maryland for 8 minutes, the Senator from Utah for 8 minutes, and 8 minutes for the Senator from North Dakota.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. WARNER. Reserving the right to object, and then the time remaining would be accorded to someone on this side of the aisle, should that person appear to seek that recognition?

Mr. CONRAD. I think that will actually use up all the time, I say to the Senator.

Mr. WARNER. If there is time remaining, then it would return to this side.

Mr. CONRAD. All right.

Mr. WARNER. I do not object.

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

The Senator from Virginia.

SUPPORTING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise this morning with a deep sense of humility to express this Senator's gratitude for the courage and bravery being displayed from our President, Commander in Chief, to the Secretaries of State and Defense, and to, particularly, General Franks and General Abizaid, and those immediately in charge of the operations in Iraq, and, most importantly, to the men and women of the Armed Forces under these commands, and their families.

We all start this morning with expressing our deepest condolences to the families and loved ones who have lost members of the Armed Forces. That is the cost of freedom.

As we watch unfolding the pictorial representation of these families, as they boldly step up to appear on media, all of us cannot but be heartened by the courage that the families are showing, and as exemplified by the men and women in uniform fighting this battle.

I thought to myself, there were roughly 1,300,000 men and women on active duty prior to the commencement of the larger operations in Iraq. And as the buildup progressed, the President called up roughly 300,000—somewhat short of that—so for ease of mathematics, about 1.5 million are now on active service, together with their families. I always mention the families.

In that 1.5 million, if you juxtapose it with the total population of this Nation of 290 million, roughly one-half of 1 percent—one-half of 1 percent—of our population is out there assuming the full risks of loss of life and limb to defend freedom and to defend this Nation. That shows the magnitude of the depth of gratitude that we have to all those who are engaged in this conflict.

We have conducted—and I commend the administration—each morning, at 9 o'clock, a briefing in S–407. All Senators are invited. We have had very good attendance. We will have, this afternoon, from 5:30 to 6:30, a briefing with the Secretary of Defense in S–407 again for all Senators. But the questions raised there are very good questions. They are tough questions.

I assure America that the Senate is involved in its oversight responsibilities as a coequal branch in this conflict, in the judgment of this Senator. I am proud of the large participation from numbers of our Senators—questions about the magnitude of the battle plan; is that sufficient?

Our colleague from North Dakota just mentioned that there had been a lot of criticism. That is part of the freedoms we enjoy. Those who have served honorably in our Armed Forces are coming forth with their expertise. Frankly, I follow it very carefully. I think it has been constructive on the whole. Nevertheless, the Secretary of Defense, here in the Vice President's office yesterday afternoon when he met with several of us, was asked questions on the battle plan. He very firmly said this battle plan was conceived carefully. It went through the Joint Chiefs, not once, not twice, but perhaps a dozen times, and was shared with our principal ally, Great Britain, and others. I have total confidence in the manner in which this war is being conducted by our military commanders and, indeed, by the Commander in Chief, the President.

The question of the prisoners of war is very much on our minds. It is hoped that the Senate will address this issue in the near future. I have been in consultation, as have other Senators, with the distinguished leadership on both sides. It is important that this institution express its strong sentiment for the care and protection and adherence to international law as this conflict ensues.

The coalition has been very substantial, over 40 nations. I will ask unanimous consent to print in the RECORD following my remarks a communication from the distinguished Ambassador to the United States from Australia, Mr. Michael Thawley, along with the comments of the Prime Minister of Australia.

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

(See exhibit 1.)

Mr. WARNER. Australia has been a vital part of the coalition from the beginning. They have forces in country in Iraq now assisting in many aspects for the success of this operation.

This morning at around 6:30, I watched the Prime Minister of Great Britain address Parliament just prior to his departure for the United States to confer with our President today. In the course of that dissertation—it is always fascinating for those of us in the Congress to watch their freewheeling system—the first question out of the box to the Prime Minister: Will you talk to the President, impressing upon him the need to address the conflict in the Middle East, most specifically, the remarks made by the President just recently as to reasserting once again the efforts of this President to foster the peace process.

This brings to mind a thought this Senator has had for some time as to one idea—it is just an idea, a concept, a concept that might help to bring about some stability in that region—a cessation of some hopefully large measure of the conflict so that the talks can get under way. It is difficult to see how any constructive talks can take place without the cessation of the fighting, the human bombing employed by the Palestinians, and the retaliation, that is really necessary but all too often takes place before the cameras, as a disproportionate use of force in the eyes of the world, by the Israelis, who have been afflicted so grievously by these human bombs.

I ask unanimous consent to print in the RECORD a letter I wrote to the President just a week or so ago, on March 14.

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

(See exhibit 2.)

Mr. WARNER. I will now address the contents of the letter.

Dear Mr. President: I would like to commend you on the step you took today to give new impetus to the Middle East process by announcing that it was time to share with Israel and the Palestinians the road map to peace that the United States has developed with its ''Quartet'' partners. This is a welcome and timely initiative, given the complex way in which the Middle East conflict, Iraq and the global war against terrorism are intertwined.

I pointed out that I have given basically this same set of remarks in concept on the floor three times. I have

addressed the NATO ambassadors and given this concept. It is one basically that can help to bring about a measure of stability and cessation to the fighting; that is, at the invitation of the Government of Israel and the Palestinian Authority, particularly now that the new Prime Minister has been designated, at that invitation, that NATO be asked to look at whether or not they could constitute a peacekeeping force to bring in to work in coordination with the security structures of both the people of Israel and the people of Palestine in hopes that the fighting can be brought under control such that the peace talks can originate. That is something I believe in strongly because it has a direct relationship, a threat to not only our forces but the other forces throughout the world of the hatred generated among militants in that region, generated by this conflict.

To the degree this conflict can be brought under control and peace talks initiated, hopefully there will be a commensurate lessening of the threat to our forces, not only the military but our embassies and others abroad. It is an important step. I commend our President. I hope they will consider this concept as they proceed.

The war we are witnessing in Iraq was a last resort to disarm a regime that for more than 12 years has defied the international community and brutalized its own people. Despicable tactics Iraqis are using on the battlefield and the way in which they are treating some of the POWs are further proof of the willingness of this regime to flout international law and the laws of human decency. The coalition is taking great efforts to protect innocent civilians and minimize civilian casualties. Humanitarian assistance—food, water, and medicine—is already being delivered. That will increase in the days ahead hopefully.

Once this regime is removed, the Iraqi people can hopefully look forward to a measure of the freedom they have not experienced these many years, governed by a rule of law of their own design.

I yield the floor.

EXHIBIT 1

EMBASSY OF AUSTRALIA,
Washington, DC, March 21, 2003.

Hon. JOHN WARNER,
U.S. Senator, Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR: I just wanted to thank you very much for your reference in the Senate debate yesterday to the support of Australian armed forces in the current fighting in Iraq. It was greatly appreciated. It is nice to know that our contribution is valued.

You might like to see the Prime Minister's comments about the role of our alliance with the United States in the speech he made to the Australian parliament on our commitment. I also attach his address to the nation in which he set out the reasons why the Government had authorized the engagement of Australian forces in military action.

Yours sincerely,

MICHAEL THAWLEY,
Ambassador.

EXTRACT FROM PRIME MINISTER HOWARD'S STATEMENT TO THE AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENT, 18, MARCH 2003

Our alliance with the United States is unapologetically a factor in the decision that we have taken. The crucial, long-term value of the United States alliance should always be a factor in any major national security decision taken by Australia.

America has given strong leadership to the world on the issue of Iraq. The Security Council would not have been re-energised, the United Nations would not have been re-energised, had it not been for the action of the United States returning the issue to the United Nations in September of last year. We have supported the American position on this issue because we share their concerns and we share their worries about the future if Iraq is left unattended to. Alliances are two-way processes and, where we are in agreement, we should not leave it to the United States to do all of the heavy lifting just because they are the world's superpower. To do so would undermine one of the most important relationships we have and, in an increasingly globalised and borderless world, the relationship between Australia and the United States will become more rather than less important as the years go by.

TRANSCRIPT OF THE PRIME MINISTER, THE HON. JOHN HOWARD, MP, ADDRESS TO THE NATION, MARCH 20, 2003

Good evening: The Government has decided to commit Australian forces to action to disarm Iraq because we believe it is right, it is lawful and it's in Australia's national interest.

We are determined to join other countries to deprive Iraq of its weapons of mass destruction, its chemical and biological weapons, which even in minute quantities are capable of causing death and destruction on a mammoth scale.

Iraq had been an aggressor in the past against its neighbours and even its own people. If Iraq is allowed to keep these weapons not only might she use them again but moreover other rogue countries will copy Iraq knowing that the world will do nothing to stop them.

And the more countries that have these weapons—countries run by despotic regimes—the greater becomes the likelihood that these weapons will fall into the hands of terrorists. If that happens can anyone doubt that the terrorists will use them whatever the cost might be?

The attacks on the 11th of September and in Bali showed that international terrorists have no regard for human life no matter what the nationality of their victims may be.

Iraq had long supported international terrorism. Saddam Hussein pays $25,000 to each family of Palestinian suicide bombers who wreak such murderous havoc in Israel. He has sheltered and sponsored many terrorist groups.

International terrorism knows no borders. We have learnt that to our cost. Australia and Australians anywhere in the world are as much targets as any other western country and its people.

Therefore the possession of chemical, biological, or even worse still, nuclear weapons by a terrorist network would be a direct undeniable and lethal threat to Australia and its people.

That is the reason above all others why I passionately believe that action must be taken to disarm Iraq. Not only will it take dangerous weapons from that country but it will send a clear signal to other rogue states and terrorists groups like Al Qaeda which clearly want such weapons that the world is prepared to take a stand.

There's also another reason and that is our close security alliance with the United States. The Americans have helped us in the past and the United States is very important to Australia's long-term security.

It is critical that we maintain the involvement of the United States in our own region where at present there are real concerns about the dangerous behaviour of North Korea.

The relationship between our two countries will grow more rather than less important as the years go by.

A key element of our close friendship with the United States and indeed with the British is our full and intimate sharing of intelligence material.

In the difficult fight against the new menace of international terrorism there is nothing more crucial than timely and accurate intelligence. This is a priceless component of our relationship with our two very close allies.

There is nothing comparable to be found in any other relationship—nothing more relevant indeed to the challenges of the contemporary world.

I know that some people are saying that what we have done makes it more likely that terrorists will attack Australia.

Australia has been a terrorist target at least since the 11th of September 2001.

Australia is a western country with western values. Nothing will or should change that. That is why we are a target.

Remember that bin Laden specifically targeted Australia because of our intervention to save the people of East Timor.

Does any Australian seriously suggest that if bin Laden's warning had come before the East Timor action we should have caved in and changed our policy. That will never be the Australian way.

We believe that so far from our action in Iraq increasing the terrorist threat it will, by stopping the spread of chemical and biological weapons, make it less likely that a devastating terrorist attack will be carried out against Australia.

I want to assure all of you that the action we are taking is fully legal under international law. Back in the early 1990s resolutions were passed by the Security Council authorizing military action against Iraq.

That action was only suspended on condition that Iraq gave up its weapons of mass destruction. Clearly we all know this has not happened. As a result the authority to take military action under those earlier resolutions has revived.

America's critics both here and abroad have been both opportunistic and inconsistent. They know and admit that weapons inspectors only returned to Iraq because of the pressure of the American military buildup. Yet they have persistently criticized American policy.

Apparently they believe that a quarter of a million American, British and indeed Australian troops should stay in the desert doing nothing indefinitely. We all know that if the troops had been withdrawn Iraq would have immediately stopped its minimal co-operation with the inspectors.

Another point I'd make to you very strongly is that we're not dealing here with a regime of ordinary brutality. There are many dictatorships in the world. But this is a dictatorship of a particularly horrific kind.

His is an appalling regime: its torture, its use of rape as an instrument of intimidation, the cruelty to children to extract confessions from parents. It is a terrible catalogue of inflicting human misery on a people who deserve much better.

This week, the Times of London detailed the use of a human shredding machine as a

vehicle for putting to death critics of Saddam Hussein. This is the man, this is the apparatus of terror we are dealing with.

The removal of Saddam Hussein will lift this immense burden of terror from the Iraqi people.

Our argument is with Saddam Hussein's regime. It is certainly not with Islam.

Australians of an Arab background or of the Islamic faith are a treasured part of our community. Over the weeks ahead and beyond we should all extend to them the hand of Australian mateship.

To those in the community who may not agree with me, please vent your anger against me and towards the government. Remember that our forces are on duty in the Gulf in our name and doing their job in the best traditions of Australia's defence forces.

Can I say something that I know will find an echo from all of you whether or not you agree with the Government. And that is to say to the men and women of the Australian Defence Force in the Gulf—we admire you, we are thinking of you, we want all of you to come back home safe and sound. We care for and we anguish with your loved ones back here in Australia. Our prayers and our hopes are with all of you.

We now live in a world made very different by the scourge of international terrorism.

This has been a very difficult decision for the Government but a decision which is good for Australia's long term security and the cause of a safer world. Good night.

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, DC, March 14, 2003.

PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH,
The White House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I would like to commend you on the step you took today to give new impetus to the Middle East peace process by announcing that it was time to share with Israel and the Palestinians the road map to peace that the United States has developed with its ''Quartet'' partners. This is a welcome and timely initiative, given the complex way in which the Middle East conflict, Iraq and the global war against terrorism are intertwined.

The festering hostilities in the Middle East are an enormous human tragedy. Along with you, and many others, I refuse to accept that this is a conflict without end. You have articulated a vision of an Israeli and a Palestinian state living side by side in peace and security. That is a bold initiative that deserves strong international support. With the Israeli elections concluded, and the imminent confirmation of a Palestinian Prime Minister, you are right to refocus international attention on the Middle East peace process.

Mr. President, in August 2002, I wrote to you to propose an idea concerning the possibility of offering NATO peacekeepers to help implement a cease-fire in the Middle East. I have spoken of this idea numerous times on the Senate Floor. I am now even more convinced that the United States and its NATO partners should consider an additional element for the ''road map'' concept: NATO should offer, and I stress the word ''offer,'' to provide a peacekeeping force, once a cease-fire has been established by the Israeli Government and the Palestinian authority. This NATO force would serve in support of the cease-fire mechanisms agreed to by Israel and the Palestinian Authority. The NATO offer would have to be willingly accepted by both governments, and it in no way should be viewed as a challenge to either side's sovereignty. The acceptance of this offer would have to be coupled with a commitment by Israel and the Palestinian Authority to cooperate in every way possible to permit the peacekeeping mission to succeed.

I fully recognize that this would not be a risk-free operation for the participating NATO forces. But I nonetheless believe that the offer of peacekeepers from NATO would have many benefits. First, it would demonstrate a strong international commitment to peace in the Middle East. Second, it would offer the prospect of a peacekeeping force that is ready today. It is highly capable, rapidly deployable, and has a proven record of success in the Balkans. A NATO peacekeeping force is likely to be acceptable to both parties, given the traditional European sympathy for the Palestinian cause and the traditional United States support of Israel.

Third, this would be a worthy post-Cold War mission for NATO in a region where NATO member countries have legitimate national security interests. It could even be an area of possible collaboration with Russia through the NATO-Russia Council. A NATO peacekeeping mission in the Middle East would be wholly consistent with the Alliance's new Strategic Concept. Approved at the NATO Summit in Washington in April 1999, the new Strategic Concept envisioned so called ''out-of-area'' operations for NATO.

Given the fractious debate in NATO over Iraq and the defense of Turkey, it would be important to show that NATO can work together to make a positive contribution to solving one of the most challenging security issues of our day.

There will be many detractors to the idea of sending NATO peacekeepers to the Middle East to help implement a cease-fire. But I think there is a broad agreement on the imperative of giving new hope to the peace process and redoubling diplomatic efforts to keep Israel and the Palestinians moving on the road to peace. Peacekeepers coming from many NATO nations could give new hope and confidence to the peoples of Israel and Palestine that there could soon be an end to the violence that overhangs their daily lives.

Mr. President, I hope that you will receive this idea in the constructive spirit in which it is offered,

With kind regards, I am
Respectfully,

JOHN WARNER,
Chairman.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Maryland.

TAX CUTS

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I rise in opposition to the budget resolution on which we will be voting later this afternoon. Let me note at the outset that this budget resolution is one of the most important documents we will consider in the Senate. It contains within it thousands of decisions with respect to our national life.

We really set our national priorities by our budget, making fundamental decisions within the budget—how much shall we allot for this spending program, what shall we do on the tax side. In addition, the aggregate budget and the projected deficit can have a profound effect upon our overall economy, not only this year but extending well into future years.

We are considering this budget in the context, first and foremost, of the military conflict in Iraq and, secondly, in the context of a domestic economy which is clearly sputtering.

Last month, we lost over 300,000 private sector jobs. The number of long-term unemployed continues to go up. Now almost 2 million people have been out of work for more than 26 weeks. Consumer confidence is at a nine-year low.

Moreover, our fiscal situation has deteriorated significantly over the course of this administration. In January of 2001, when President Bush took office, the Congressional Budget Office was projecting a budget surplus over 10 years of $5.6 trillion. In fact, the President pointed to that projected surplus as a rationale for doing the 2001 tax cuts. Now the Congressional Budget Office is projecting a $2.1 trillion deficit over the same period, assuming the President's tax proposals are adopted. That is a swing of more than $7.5 trillion in our fiscal position, from a projected surplus of $5.6 trillion to a projected deficit of $2.1 trillion. Despite this severe economic deficit outlook, the fight over this budget resolution has focused primarily on whether to encompass within it sufficient room for another very large tax cut which the President is seeking.

It is asserted by the Administration that this is going to be a growth stimulus package. It is not going to be a growth stimulus package. It is only a flagrant example of discredited trickle-down economics.

Instead, this budget is going to drive us deeper into the deficit and debt hole. It is going to leave us with deficits projected out into the indefinite future. We are really mortgaging away our future. This is bad macroeconomic policy.

In addition, within the budget, our urgent national priorities are not being adequately addressed. There is not enough for homeland defense. We have a pressing health care problem in this country, with regard to both the uninsured and prescription drug benefits for our senior citizens. We have an affordable housing crisis, in which millions of working families cannot afford even a modest apartment in many high-cost cities. We have the question of supporting our first responders. The mayors across the country are saying they are not getting sufficient support from the Federal level in order to meet their responsibilities. Instead of providing fully for education so we leave no child behind, the proposed tax cuts are designed to leave no millionaire behind.

But I want to address a somewhat broader issue dealing with fairness and equity. I first want to note that in every previous instance when we went to war, we didn't cut taxes; we raised taxes to help pay for the war and to meet its costs. The President has now submitted a $75 billion supplemental, and it is very clear that that is a down-payment only. No one asserts that is going to cover the full cost of the war and the reconstruction. So clearly the $75 billion represents the initial down-payment, and there is more to follow.

That further raises the question whether this is the appropriate time to commit away significant resources to a tax cut to benefit the wealthy. Analysis of the tax cut, which the President

is seeking and which his supporters in the Senate are trying to carve out room in the budget resolution to accommodate, shows that almost half of the benefits of the proposed tax cut will go to the top 1 percent of the population. Almost three-quarters of it goes to the top 5 percent of the population. The proposed tax cut is very heavily skewed toward those at the very top of the income and wealth scale in this country; this at the very time when the Nation is being rallied, as it should be, to support our men and women in the Armed Forces. This at the very time when we are talking about sacrifice. And it is appropriate that we should talk about sacrifice at a time like this because one cannot follow the events taking place now in Iraq without some deep appreciation of the sacrifice our fighting men and women are making and the risks they are taking every minute.

What sacrifice are those who are most favored in our society in terms of their economic position making at this critical juncture in our history? Not only are they not making a sacrifice, they are getting a very large tax cut skewed to their benefit which, in turn, will put our economy in a more difficult position into the future. It will build up deficits and debt which the fighting men and women, when they return home, will have to pay off well into the future. They are being called upon to make a double sacrifice, now and in the future.

What is the sacrifice here at home that the beneficiaries of this tax cut will be making? Winston Churchill, at the beginning of World War II, when he became Prime Minister, told his nation, ''I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears, and sweat.''

Our young men and women positioned in the Middle East are called upon to sacrifice even as we debate this budget resolution. There will be sweat. There will be tears. There will be toil. And there will be blood. What sacrifice will be made by those who are the most well off in our society? At a time when we face these critical challenges, should they not be making a contribution instead of reaping a large economic benefit?

Mr. President, I urge the defeat of this budget resolution.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Utah is recognized.

DIPLOMACY

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, we have heard on this floor and in the popular media that the main reason we are at war is because ''diplomacy has failed,'' and there are those who have attacked the President for his ''failure'' in diplomacy. We also hear that polls are running heavily against the war.

My mind goes back to a somewhat similar situation in Great Britain when Neville Chamberlain returned from Munich and said, ''We have established peace in our time.'' He referred to the Czechs, whose country he gave to Adolf Hitler in this fashion:

> Why should we consider people who live in a land far away and with whom we have little or nothing to do?

Winston Churchill opposed the treaty that Neville Chamberlain brought home from Munich. He offered stirring rhetoric, saying, ''We have suffered a defeat of the first magnitude.'' That stirred my soul as a young schoolchild reading about it. What I didn't realize until I became an adult is that Winston Churchill got only three votes, as Parliament overwhelmingly endorsed Chamberlain. And the popular polls, as I say, made Chamberlain the most popular politician in Great Britain, and maybe in all of Europe. Of course, within 2 years, we found that Winston Churchill was right and Chamberlain went off to historical disgrace.

The Munich example is not exactly analogous to this situation. No historical situation is exactly analogous to a current circumstance, but it is one we should keep in mind as we hear rhetoric saying that diplomacy has failed. Diplomacy in Munich is what failed and the war followed.

The Senator from North Carolina has a resolution she wishes to offer with respect to the current British Prime Minister. I yield to her the remainder of my time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mrs. DOLE. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mrs. DOLE pertaining to the introduction of S. 709 are located in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

Mrs. DOLE. I thank the Chair. I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator's time has expired. The Senator from North Dakota.

THE BUDGET

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I thank the Chair for this opportunity this morning to bring to my colleagues' attention where we stand with respect to the budget resolution that we will be completing today.

A very important report came out late yesterday from the Congressional Budget Office, which is nonpartisan, which is in charge of estimating the effects of what we do here. I might add, while the CBO is nonpartisan, because the Republicans control the House and the Senate, they were able to choose the new CBO Director. One of the tests they had was the use of so-called dynamic scoring. The gentleman who now heads CBO is committed to dynamic scoring, and he has now released an analysis of the budget before us based on dynamic scoring. His conclusion is exactly what I have been reporting to my colleagues day after day on the floor: Tax cuts will make the deficit soar.

I hope we can put this old canard to rest once and for all that somehow you can tax cut your way to prosperity when at the same time you are increasing spending. When you start from a base of record budget deficits, there can only be one result. When you start with record budget deficits and then cut your revenue stream, as the President has proposed, by nearly $2 trillion and increase spending, the deficits and the debt are going to get bigger. The Congressional Budget Office is telling us that is exactly what we face.

There was another article in the Washington Post on this same story. They point out:

> The CBO report also said the president's tax and spending proposals ''imply a deficit in every year over the next decade,'' thus adding to the national debt and to the annual interest payments on that debt beyond 2013.
>
> ''For some time, that added need could be met by running higher deficits. However, the federal government could not follow such an approach indefinitely. At some point in the future under the president's proposals, either taxes would have to be higher than they otherwise would have been, or spending would have to be lower,'' the report said.

It is time we sober up around here. I do not know what happened to our friends on the other side who used to be fiscal conservatives, who used to believe in balanced budgets and now endorse tax cuts that are going to plunge us into deep deficit and debt.

This is the analysis again from the Congressional Budget Office of what the plan before us will do. This is the President's budget plan: a deficit next year of $512 billion. That does not count the war costs. Add in the $75 billion the President wants for the war, and the deficit next year will be $587 billion. Does anybody have sticker shock around here yet? That is getting close to being twice as big as the previous record deficit.

The analysis shows we will not be out of deficit any year for the next 10 years. But that is not the most sobering effect. None of the deficits will be less than $400 billion.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, will the Senator yield for one quick question?

Mr. CONRAD. I will.

Mr. SARBANES. I want to be very clear. The Senator is saying the budget deficit for the next year will be close to $600 billion, more than double the highest deficit we have ever run previously; is that correct?

Mr. CONRAD. That is exactly what we are being told by the Congressional Budget Office. We now face, if we adopt the President's plans for massive tax cuts on top of the spending increases for defense and homeland security, which we all endorse—we endorse the increased funds for defense and homeland security—that we are going to have budget deficits as far as the eye can see, and they are not going to be small deficits. They are going to be massive deficits.

This chart shows that, in fact, we are in the sweet spot now. This is not my

chart. This comes from the President's own document. It shows in the period we are in now that the deficits, although they are record levels, are going to get much bigger. As we approach the retirement of the baby boom generation and as we approach the full phasing in of the President's proposed tax cuts, at the very time the cost of the Federal Government explodes, the retirement of the baby boom generation, the cost of the President's tax cuts explode, sending us right off the cliff into deficits and debt that are totally unsustainable.

The other day one of our colleagues on the other side said Democrats were proposing spending that he suggested was just out of control. This chart shows the Democratic alternative we offered. This is a comparison of spending with the Republican plan, which is the green line, 18.8 percent of GDP; the blue line is our spending, 19.3 percent. One of the big reasons there is a difference is because we put the money in to pay for the war. We put the money in to pay for increased homeland security. So certainly we have more spending. We have more spending because we have responded to the President's call to put the spending in for the war. Our friends on the other side did not.

Let me go to the next chart quickly. He also showed what he called the Democrat spend-o-meter. We can look at the Republican debt-o-meter because what they are doing is running up the debt.

When the President took office, he told us that by 2008, there would only be $36 billion of debt left. In his 2002 budget, he said—

Mr. SARBANES. Will the Senator yield on that point?

Mr. CONRAD. Let me complete this thought first, and then I will be happy to yield.

He had the debt run up to $1.2 trillion after adopting his plans; in August of 2001, $1.6 trillion. In February of 2002, with the President's 2003 budget, the debt is up to $3.2 trillion. And if we adopt his budget for 2004, the debt by 2008 will be $5 trillion.

I conclude by saying when we proposed additional spending to fund the war, to fund homeland security, and to improve education, we did it in a controlled way, every bit of it paid for, but we added deficit reduction so that we would have less deficit, less debt, a stronger economy, and more opportunity for the American people.

When I see in the newspapers the President in his plan is down to $350 billion of tax cuts, oh, no, they are only looking at half the proposal. Right now the budget resolution that is before us has $852 billion in tax cuts, not the $350 billion that has been widely reported. When they are talking about the $350 billion, they are talking about the reconciled tax cuts, those that will be given special consideration which cannot be filibustered. So the total tax cuts in this plan are $852 billion.

I am happy to yield to the Senator from Maryland for a question.

Mr. SARBANES. I ask the ranking member of the Budget Committee, with these record deficits and this incredible buildup of debt which would flow out of the administration's policy, who is going to carry the burden of that debt? Will not the same men and women who are now fighting out in the Middle East, when they come home, have that debt settle upon them? And in the meantime, very big tax cuts are being given to very wealthy people. What sacrifice are the people who have been most favored in our society economically making in order to meet this economic crisis? There is no sacrifice on their part.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator's time has expired.

The Senator from New Mexico.

TRIBUTE TO THE BRAVE

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to the brave men and women who are serving our country in both Iraq and Afghanistan, three individuals in particular. First, I will speak briefly about SP Joseph Hudson. He is a 1998 graduate of Alamogordo High School in my State. He is a member of the 507th Maintenance Company out of Fort Bliss, TX, who was captured this past Sunday. His image was seen on a videotape by his wife and high school sweetheart, Natalie, and young daughter Cameron, and his mother Anecita, also of Alamogordo, as well as everyone around the world watching the television coverage of this war. Like them, we wait anxiously for any word about his well-being, and pray for his safe return.

While our attention is focused on the fierce conflict in Iraq, it is important to remember that there are also young men and women putting their lives on the line every day in the conflict in Afghanistan as well. Many of us in New Mexico got a terrible reminder of that on Sunday, when two young people with strong ties to New Mexico were killed attempting to help two Afghan children.

Air Force 1LT Tamara Long Archuleta was the copilot of the helicopter that crashed while on a rescue mission, killing all six aboard. Tammy was from Adelino, near Belen, NM, and her life was a shining example of the power of discipline, drive, and determination. Tammy was valedictorian of her class and a world karate champion. She graduated from the University of New Mexico with honors, and while there became involved with Air Force ROTC. She had wanted to become a fighter pilot, but instead decided to do rescue work. Her grandfather was a Navy pilot and her uncle a pararescue man, and Tammy had been strongly influenced by her family's dedication to service.

Tammy had a 3-year-old son and was to marry a fellow Air Force pilot soon. Sadly, she was scheduled to return home in a mere 2 weeks. Words cannot express the grief many New Mexicans are feeling about the loss of this extraordinary young woman.

I would also add that New Mexico was twice touched by this tragedy, the loss of this helicopter. Another young man killed in the crash, SSG Jason Hicks, met his future wife, Cristy Nolan of Rio Rancho, NM, when he was in training at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque. We honor his memory as well as Tamara's.

We hope this is the end of the casualties and problems we see for the young men and women of our State.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Illinois.

IMMINENT DANGER PAY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, it is the nature of our debate on the budget resolution that there is a very limited amount of time available to discuss amendments which we will be offering. I am taking this opportunity this morning to describe to my colleagues and those following the debate an amendment which I plan to offer this morning to the budget resolution.

All of us are transfixed by images that come over the television, as we listen to the radio, and as we read the newspaper about the war in Iraq. We are reminded on a minute-by-minute basis of the heroism, bravery, and determination of our Armed Forces.

Last week, there was a resolution commending the Armed Forces for their efforts, as well as standing, by the President as Commander in Chief as he leads these forces into battle. That resolution was enacted by a vote of 99 to 0, with all Senators present voting in favor of it—all Democrats, Republicans, and Independents. It is an indication of the solidarity in this Chamber behind the men and women in uniform.

The amendment which I will offer during the course of the budget resolution debate today will be further evidence of our solidarity behind the men and women in uniform. My colleagues may be surprised to learn that those who are serving in the military in Iraq are eligible for what is known as imminent danger pay, combat pay. It is one of those rare moments in military life when we know these men and women put their lives on the line and we give them a bonus, an imminent danger pay bonus, above their ordinary compensation. One might ask themselves, well, how much is combat pay for those who are serving? Combat pay today is $150 a month, $5 a day. Combat pay to our soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, and Coast Guard is less than the minimum wage for one hour in America for each day they are in battle in harm's way. That was last changed in 1991, when it was raised to $150.

The amendment I will propose, the imminent danger pay increase amendment, will raise the monthly amount to $500 a month. Make no mistake,

there is no compensation in dollar amounts we can give these men and women for their heroism and sacrifice, but I think it is important that we step forward with this increase so that combat pay is $500 a month.

There is a second part to the amendment. We also say when we activate someone into a war theater that we help their family at home. That is known as family separation allowance. How much do we give the family of these service men and women back home during the period of time their loved ones are in combat? The family separation allowance is $100 a month. I met with some of those families at the Rock Island Arsenal in my State last Saturday. They are facing extraordinary challenges for child care, for the expenses of their families they had not anticipated. We should do better for them. I am suggesting as part of my amendment that $500 should be the monthly compensation for the family separation allowance. That is the nature of my amendment.

I ask all my colleagues in the Senate who stood shoulder to shoulder, 99 to nothing behind the men and women in uniform, to do the same now when we raise combat pay to $500 a month and the family separation allowance to $500 a month as well. That will be a clear demonstration that our commitment to these troops goes beyond words and goes to the budget, so we can provide them and their families the resources they need to not only come home safely but without the hardships that would be part of this service if we did not do our part to help them.

I hope my colleagues on a bipartisan basis will join as we did on the resolution.

I might add, there are some procedural hurdles being thrown in my path. People are saying the procedures may not allow you to offer this amendment. I beg my colleagues on both sides, as our men and women in uniform cannot hide in the deserts of Iraq, we should not hide on the floor of the Senate behind procedural niceties when it comes to fair compensation for our men and women in uniform and their families waiting dutifully at home.

I urge my colleagues to reconsider their opposition to this amendment. This is the right thing to do, and we should do it today.

I yield the floor.

THE GUARD AND RESERVE

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, in just a few moments as we get underway to debate a series of amendments to the budget bill, I am going to be offering an amendment. Under the rules, I will have just a minute to speak on it, so I thought I would take this time while we are getting organized to describe a little more detail about the Landrieu amendment regarding the Guard and Reserve.

There have been any number of articles—I see the chairman of the Armed Services Committee here, and he is well aware of this—there have been any number of articles written as of late about the tremendous weight the National Guard and Reserve are carrying in our current war against terror, whether it be the campaign underway in Iraq, the supporting of a civilian government in Afghanistan, the carrying out of our missions in Bosnia and Kosovo, or guarding the homefront right here; whether it is in New Orleans or Baton Rouge or sites in Maryland or Virginia or your home State, Mr. President, or overseas.

The Guard and Reserve are doing a magnificent job. These are men and women who maybe served part of their time in the military for a few years and then, because of other family commitments or other calls on their talents, went into the private sector. Some of them started their own businesses. They come from a wide range of backgrounds. You yourself, Mr. President, served in the National Guard and Reserve. There are several Members of Congress who have not only carried out their job here, serving as Member of Congress, but also serve in this capacity.

You are to be commended. I know you have spoken out, Mr. President, on many instances about the problems that are arising in the sense that we are calling on the National Guard and Reserve over and over again. Their deployments are longer and our compensation to them, our benefit package to them, the way we supply them equipment, in my opinion—and an opinion that I think you share and is shared on both the Republican and Democratic sides—is not supportive to the degree that they, basically, are supporting us. I guess I could put it that way.

We ask these men and women to go for longer deployments, more frequent deployments, and not only put their life on the line but their livelihood on the line. We need to keep up our commitment on the benefit compensation end, on the financing side. In a moment—I know I only have a minute or so—whenever the leadership feels it appropriate for my amendment to be taken up, I am going to suggest we make a very modest change in the budget submitted to us by the President. Of course, there are parts of that budget I support. There are some parts that I think could be improved. That is what the amendment process is all about.

This is one of those areas that I think can be improved, to take $10 billion out of the tax cut portion that is not the stimulative part but the unreconciled portion of the tax cut, and add basically $1 billion a year over 10 years to provide critically needed equipment for our Guard and Reserve units.

There are two units now that are being forward deployed to Iraq that, under the President's budget as submitted—and I believe one unit is from Georgia and one unit, I say to the chairman of the Armed Services Committee, is from Virginia—those units will be decommissioned. There is not even enough money in the current budget we are debating to keep those units fighting and forward.

That is what my amendment attempts to do. It adds money. I would like to get more, but we are trying to be reasonable in this request because the Guard is really carrying a tremendous weight. They are happy to do it. They are proud to serve. They are not whining and complaining. But we should be supporting them. I think that is what we should be about today.

I thank you for letting me explain the Landrieu amendment. At the appropriate time, it will come up in the list of amendments. But now, more than ever, we are depending on them. Let us let them know they can depend on us.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET FOR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. Con. Res. 23, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 23) setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2003 and for fiscal years 2005 through 2013.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the managers of the bill are working with Senators DURBIN and LANDRIEU to try to get something resolved there.

We know Senator WARNER wants to speak. He should be given whatever time he needs to respond to the Senator from Louisiana. But I would indicate that as soon as we get this resolved, and Senator WARNER has a chance to talk, rather than going directly to the Landrieu amendment, I think we should go to Dayton and get that out of the way.

In the meantime, I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from Virginia be recognized to speak for up to 6 minutes to speak on the Landrieu amendment, which will be offered.

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

The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I commend our distinguished colleague from

Louisiana for bringing to the attention of the Senate the need for greater attention to the Guard and Reserve forces. It has been absolutely magnificent how they have been, in many instances, abruptly called from their families and their jobs and within days they are side by side with an active force member performing duties with commensurate skills and commensurate risks.

That is the concept of the total force. It has been in place for some time. But, today, in this situation involving Iraq, we have seen the magnificence of how this total force concept is working.

The Senator is correct; there are needs to increase the equipment, pay in benefits. But the amendment, as written, only goes to equipment. But I am glad you mentioned pay in benefits because the Armed Services Committee will be taking this up, first, in the context of the supplemental, where there will be some provisions therein to provide for the needs the Senator points out, and, secondly, in the annual review of the 2004 Presidential budget we will make corrections.

But as the Senator knows, having served with great distinction on the Armed Services Committee for several years—and you are always welcome back, I say to the Senator—there is a fine balance between allocating the funds between the active and Reserve and Guard forces. And with all due respect to our distinguished colleague, I do not believe this approach you suggest at this time enables us to do the fine balance that we must do, first in the supplemental, and then subsequently in the 2004 review.

The distinguished Senator from Georgia is our chairman of the Personnel Subcommittee; he will have a good deal to say about this as our committee reviews both. So I yield such time as I have remaining to my colleague from Georgia.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I thank the chairman very much for yielding time.

To the Senator from Louisiana, let me say, I do not think there is anybody in this body who disagrees with you with respect to our need to look at some sort of modernization package—that is the way I refer to it—for our Guard and Reserve.

I think when the Guard and Reserve were created decades ago, nobody ever anticipated they would be called to active duty as many times as they have been called over the last 10 years. We do need a modernization package.

Now, the Senator from Louisiana has this amendment which applies to increasing hardware purchases for our Guard and Reserve. That is great. We need that, certainly. But there are some additional things I think we need to do immediately.

We are not going to send anybody into harm's way—Active-Duty, Guard, or Reserve—who is not properly equipped. But we have families of those guardsmen and reservists who are at home now who need to be taken care of.

For the Senator's information, I will tell you, we have a series of bills, some of which I think will reach the floor at the end of this week, in which we are going to be dealing with benefits, both from the standpoint of pay and additional benefits, such as commissary use, and any number of other benefits for the families of those individuals.

Over the next several weeks, we are going to have, through the normal process, an additional benefits package, that is a modernization package, where we look at health care benefits, and where we look at long-term retirement benefits for our Guard and Reserve. Because, in my home State, we now have the 116th Guard Wing, the Air Control Wings at Robbins Air Force Base, where the Guard has been blended into the active force.

Our Guard folks, today, as we sit here and speak, are flying the Joint Stars Airplane weapon system in Iraq. It is critically important that we continue to look after our Guard and Reserve. And I think there is an ongoing series of packages that are going to be coming forward that are more necessary at the present time than what the Senator from Louisiana is asking for here.

But I look forward to working with the Senator to try to do that long term.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, how much time do I have remaining?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Virginia has 1½ minutes.

Mr. WARNER. Fine. I thank my colleague from Georgia.

I say to our colleagues from Louisiana and Georgia, those Guard and Reserve that are now reporting for duty and are integrating with our active forces are, by and large, using that equipment which is in the regular force structure, the equipment which they use having been left at home at their various training centers in the several States. So at this time I believe the equipment to which you refer is that which will be kept in the respective States for the purpose of training.

So I wish to point out that our Guard and Reserve do have the best of equipment. It is available; namely, that of our active forces today.

Will the Senator not concur?

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Without question. Nobody is going to be sent into harm's way without being properly equipped.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Will the Senator yield for a moment?

Mr. WARNER. I will leave it to the managers.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, Parliamentary inquiry: How much time remains?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Twenty-five seconds.

Ms. LANDRIEU. I will take those 25 seconds, if I could.

Mr. President, I thank the leadership for this discussion. I think it has been helpful. I look forward to working with my colleagues to fashion a remedy. But at the appropriate time, I will insist on a vote on this amendment because in order for us to put a budget together, we have to have some money reserved for all of these changes that we are talking about.

I hope, over the course of the day, we can come to some resolution so that the Guard and Reserve can depend on something in this budget.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The time has expired.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. MURKOWSKI). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CONRAD. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. CONRAD. I yield to the Senator from Minnesota, Mr. DAYTON, for the purpose of offering an amendment.

AMENDMENT NO. 409

Mr. DAYTON. Madam President, I call up amendment No. 409.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Minnesota [Mr. DAYTON] proposes an amendment numbered 409.

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

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To provide full and mandatory funding for IDEA beginning in FY 2004)

SEC. 1. FINDINGS.

The Senate finds that: Twenty-eight years ago, the Federal Government promised to pay for 40 percent of the additional cost of special education. Presently, the Federal share is only 17.6 percent. The Nation's school districts cannot afford such a large unfunded mandate. Thus, it is imperative that Congress increase IDEA funding to the long-promised 40 percent share.

SEC. 2.

On page 3 line 10, increase the amount by $792,000,000.

On page 3, line 11, increase the amount by $25,771,000,000.

On page 3, line 12, increase the amount by $38,503,000,000.

On page 3, line 13, increase the amount by $41,764,000,000.

On page 3, line 14, increase the amount by $43,121,000,000.

On page 3, line 15, increase the amount by $44,515,000,000.

On page 3, line 16, increase the amount by $45,912,000,000.

On page 3, line 17, increase the amount by $47,316,000,000.

On page 3, line 18, increase the amount by $48,731,000,000.

On page 3, line 19, increase the amount by $50,129,000,000.

On page 4, line 1, increase the amount by $792,000,000.

On page 4, line 2, increase the amount by $25,771,000,000.
On page 4, line 3, increase the amount by $38,503,000,000.
On page 4, line 4, increase the amount by $41,764,000,000.
On page 4, line 5, increase the amount by $43,121,000,000.
On page 4, line 6, increase the amount by $44,515,000,000.
On page 4, line 7, increase the amount by $45,912,000,000.
On page 4, line 8, increase the amount by $47,316,000,000.
On page 4, line 9, increase the amount by $48,731,000,000.
On page 4, line 10, increase the amount by $50,129,000,000.
On page 4, line 15, increase the amount by $19,797,000,000.
On page 4, line 16, increase the amount by $20,103,000,000.
On page 4, line 17, increase the amount by $19,903,000,000.
On page 4, line 18, increase the amount by $19,417,000,000.
On page 4, line 19, increase the amount by $18,837,000,000.
On page 4, line 20, increase the amount by $18,416,000,000.
On page 4, line 21, increase the amount by $17,347,000,000.
On page 4, line 22, increase the amount by $16,435,000,000.
On page 4, line 23, increase the amount by $15,382,000,000.
On page 4, line 24, increase the amount by $14,179,000,000.
On page 5, line 5, increase the amount by $389,000,000.
On page 5, line 6, increase the amount by $12,533,000,000.
On page 5, line 7, increase the amount by $18,013,000,000.
On page 5, line 8, increase the amount by $18,482,000,000.
On page 5, line 9, increase the amount by $17,873,000,000.
On page 5, line 10, increase the amount by $17,182,000,000.
On page 5, line 11, increase the amount by $16,377,000,000.
On page 5, line 12, increase the amount by $15,457,000,000.
On page 5, line 13, increase the amount by $14,418,000,000.
On page 5 line 14, increase the amount by $13,239,000,000.
On page 5, line 18, increase the amount by $403,000,000.
On page 5, line 19, increase the amount by $13,239,000,000.
On page 5, line 20, increase the amount by $20,489,000,000.
On page 5, line 21, increase the amount by $23,283,000,000.
On page 5, line 22, increase the amount by $25,248,000,000.
On page 5, line 23, increase the amount by $27,333,000,000.
On page 5, line 24, increase the amount by $29,535,000,000.
On page 5, line 25, increase the amount by $31,859,000,000.
On page 6, line 1, increase the amount by $34,313,000,000.
On page 6, line 2, increase the amount by $36,890,000,000.
On page 6, line 6, decrease the amount by $403,000,000.
On page 6, line 7, decrease the amount by $13,642,000,000.
On page 6, line 8, decrease the amount by $34,131,000,000.
On page 6, line 8, decrease the amount by $57,414,000,000.
On page 6, line 10, decrease the amount by $82,662,000,000.
On page 6, line 11, decrease the amount by $109,995,000,000.
On page 6, line 12, decrease the amount by $139,529,000,000.
On page 6, line 13, decrease the amount by $171,388,000,000.
On page 6, line 14, decrease the amount by $205,701,000,000.
On page 6, line 15, decrease the amount by $242,591,000,000.
On page 6, line 19, decrease the amount by $403,000,000.
On page 6, line 20, decrease the amount by $13,642,000,000.
On page 6, line 21, decrease the amount by $34,131,000,000.
On page 6, line 22, decrease the amount by $57,414,000,000.
On page 6, line 23, decrease the amount by $82,662,000,000.
On page 6, line 24, decrease the amount by $109,995,000,000.
On page 6, line 25, decrease the amount by $139,529,000,000.
On page 7, line 1, decrease the amount by $171,388,000,000.
On page 7, line 2, decrease the amount by $205,701,000,000.
On page 7, line 3, decrease the amount by $242,591,000,000.
On page 25, line 16, increase the amount by $19,804,000,000.
On page 25, line 17, increase the amount by $396,000,000.
On page 25, line 20, increase the amount by $20,456,000,000.
On page 25, line 21, increase the amount by $12,886,000,000.
On page 25, line 24, increase the amount by $21,141,000,000.
On page 25, line 25, increase the amount by $19,251,000,000.
On page 26, line 3, increase the amount by $21,817,000,000.
On page 26, line 4, increase the amount by $20,882,000,000.
On page 26, line 7, increase the amount by $22,525,000,000.
On page 26, line 8, increase the amount by $21,560,000,000.
On page 26, line 11, increase the amount by $23,221,000,000.
On page 26, line 12, increase the amount by $22,257,000,000.
On page 26, line 15, increase the amount by $23,925,000,000.
On page 26, line 16, increase the amount by $22,956,000,000.
On page 26, line 19, increase the amount by $24,635,000,000.
On page 26, line 20, increase the amount by $23,658,000,000.
On page 26, line 23, increase the amount by $25,329,000,000.
On page 26, line 24, increase the amount by $24,366,000,000.
On page 27, line 2, increase the amount by $26,005,000,000.
On page 27, line 3, increase the amount by $25,064,000,000.
On page 40, line 6, decrease the amount by $7,000,000.
On page 40, line 7, decrease the amount by $7,000,000.
On page 40, line 10, decrease the amount by $353,000,000.
On page 40, line 11, decrease the amount by $353,000,000.
On page 40, line 14, decrease the amount by $1,238,000,000.
On page 40, line 15, decrease the amount by $1,238,000,000.
On page 40, line 18, decrease the amount by $2,400,000,000.
On page 40, line 19, decrease the amount by $2,400,000,000.
On page 40, line 22, decrease the amount by $3,687,000,000.
On page 40, line 23, decrease the amount by $3,687,000,000.
On page 41, line 2, decrease the amount by $5,076,000,000.
On page 41, line 3, decrease the amount by $5,076,000,000.
On page 41, line 6, decrease the amount by $6,579,000,000.
On page 41, line 7, decrease the amount by $6,579,000,000.
On page 41, line 10, decrease the amount by $8,201,000,000.
On page 41, line 11, decrease the amount by $8,201,000,000.
On page 41, line 14, decrease the amount by $9,947,000,000.
On page 41, line 15, decrease the amount by $9,947,000,000.
On page 41, line 18, decrease the amount by $11,826,000,000.
On page 41, line 19, decrease the amount by $11,826,000,000.
Strike Section 211.

Mr. DAYTON. Madam President, this amendment increases spending for America's schoolchildren and reduces the tax cut for millionaires. That should not be controversial. It finally fulfills the promise Congress made 28 years ago that we would pay for 40 percent of special education costs and would do so starting in fiscal year 2004.

The President deserves great credit for proposing, and Congress for passing, increased special education funding. We have raised the Federal share to 17 percent nationwide, but that is still less than half of what we promised. It is good, but it is not enough.

We have increased spending for defense and homeland security in the last couple years, and when that wasn't enough, we increased it more. We responded to urgent needs. For once, let's meet an urgent need that isn't military. Last year's increase for special education was only 2 percent of that for the Department of Defense. We can afford to do more.

The need is so urgent that surely we can postpone half of the tax cut going to the richest Americans. The President's proposal would give people whose annual incomes exceed $1 million tax cuts averaging $85,000 every year. That is in addition to the $45,000 they are already getting each year from the 2001 tax bill.

So who comes first, schoolchildren or millionaires? Yes, it is a vote for our children.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire is recognized.

Mr. GREGG. Madam President, I rise in opposition to the amendment. We seem to have had an intermission on the issue of spending, but the curtain has risen again. This amendment sets a new standard, quite honestly.

We increased IDEA spending by 24 percent in this bill in 1 year, and 380 percent since 1996. What this amendment would do is increase IDEA spending by 250 percent in 1 year, $229 billion over 10 years. In fact, the way the amendment is drafted, the Federal Government would now be paying not 40 percent of the cost of IDEA; it is on

a glidepath—under the amendments that were already accepted, the Federal Government would be paying 60 percent of the cost of IDEA, which is 20 percent over what we committed to as a government. Now, that is absurd.

At some point, this spending simply has to be brought under control. At some point, we have to recognize that what is happening here is not an attempt to have fiscal responsibility or proper budgeting but simply to put forward a show.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota is recognized.

Mr. CONRAD. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 409.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER), is necessarily absent.

I also announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN), is absent attending a funeral.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there are other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 28, nays 70, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 103 Leg.]

YEAS—28

Akaka	Edwards	Lieberman
Boxer	Feingold	Mikulski
Byrd	Harkin	Murray
Cantwell	Inouye	Pryor
Clinton	Jeffords	Reed
Corzine	Johnson	Rockefeller
Daschle	Kennedy	Sarbanes
Dayton	Kerry	Stabenow
Dodd	Leahy	
Durbin	Levin	

NAYS—70

Alexander	Dole	McCain
Allard	Domenici	McConnell
Allen	Dorgan	Murkowski
Baucus	Ensign	Nelson (FL)
Bayh	Enzi	Nelson (NE)
Bennett	Feinstein	Nickles
Bingaman	Fitzgerald	Reid
Bond	Frist	Roberts
Breaux	Graham (FL)	Santorum
Brownback	Graham (SC)	Schumer
Bunning	Grassley	Sessions
Burns	Gregg	Shelby
Campbell	Hagel	Smith
Carper	Hatch	Snowe
Chafee	Hollings	Specter
Chambliss	Hutchison	Stevens
Cochran	Inhofe	Sununu
Coleman	Kohl	Talent
Collins	Kyl	Thomas
Conrad	Landrieu	Voinovich
Cornyn	Lautenberg	Warner
Craig	Lincoln	Wyden
Crapo	Lott	
DeWine	Lugar	

NOT VOTING—2

Biden	Miller

The amendment (No. 409) was rejected.

CHANGE OF VOTE

Mrs. CLINTON. Madam President, on rollcall vote No. 103, I voted no. It was my intention to vote aye. Therefore, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to change my vote since it will not affect the outcome.

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

(The foregoing tally has been changed to reflect the above order.)

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, for the information of our colleagues, we are making progress a little slower today than we would like. But yesterday we had 23 rollcall votes. We had 13 voice votes. So we disposed of a lot of amendments, a lot of resolutions yesterday. We only have a few remaining for today.

I thank a couple of my colleagues, particularly Senator WARNER, Senator DURBIN, and Senator LANDRIEU, because they have been able to work out a couple of amendments, probably saving us two or three rollcall votes. So I appreciate their cooperation. Shortly we will be accepting a couple of other amendments that I believe will be offered by the Senator from California and the Senator from Michigan. So we are making progress and we will make our 4 o'clock final vote. I just wanted to mention that to our colleagues.

We will shortly be voting on the amendment of the Senator from Massachusetts, dealing with AIDS.

Mr. REID. Madam President, Senator BIDEN was necessarily absent on the last vote as a result of attending a funeral. I want the RECORD to reflect that.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

CHANGE OF VOTE

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, on rollcall vote No. 94, amendment 413, I voted yea. It was my intention to vote nay. I ask unanimous consent I be permitted to change my vote, since it will not affect the outcome of the vote.

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

AMENDMENT NO. 383, AS MODIFIED

Mr. CONRAD. Madam President, I now yield to the Senator from California, Senator BOXER, for the purpose of presenting an amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I call up amendment No. 383. I ask unanimous consent to modify it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will be in order, please.

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I call up amendment No. 383 having to do with afterschool activities and ask unanimous consent to modify my amendment, deleting finding No. 5 in the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 383) as modified, is as follows:

(Purpose: To ensure that the number of children in after-school programs does not decrease)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. FUNDING FOR AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) Studies show that organized extracurricular activities, such as after-school programs, reduce crime, drug use, and teenage pregnancy.

(2) According to the FBI, youth are most at risk for committing violent acts and being victims of violent crimes between 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.—after school is out and before parents arrive home.

(3) There remains a great need for after-school programs. The Census Bureau reported that at least 8 to 15 million children have no place to go after school is out.

(4) Current funding for after-school programs provide almost 1.4 million children across the country a safe and enriching place to go after school instead of being home alone.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the levels in this resolution assume that funding for 21st Century Community Learning Centers is at least enough to ensure the number of children participating in after-school programs does not decrease.

Mrs. BOXER. I thank my colleagues on the other side of the aisle for agreeing to this sense-of-the-Senate amendment. I will be very brief in explaining it.

The budget before us assumes a cut of 40 percent in afterschool programs. This is a program that both sides of the aisle have been very involved in crafting, watching the number of children grow in the program.

We know from the FBI the greatest number of juvenile crimes occur after school. We also know mentoring is working in these afterschool programs. We do not want to see 570,000 kids kicked out of the valuable program, so this sense of the Senate simply is actually a plea that it not occur, and at the minimum we provide afterschool slots for the current number of children who are in those programs right now, 1.4 million children.

I ask at this time the amendment be unanimously agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I thank our colleague from California. We have no objection to her sense-of-the-Senate amendment.

Mrs. BOXER. I ask for a vote on the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 383), as modified, was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. CONRAD. Madam President, I yield to the Senator from Massachusetts, Senator KERRY, to address amendment No. 281.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

AMENDMENT NO. 281

Mr. KERRY. I call up amendment No. 281.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Massachusetts [Mr. KERRY], for himself, Mr. KOHL, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. DASCHLE, proposes an amendment numbered 281.

Mr. KERRY. I ask unanimous consent that Senators KOHL, LAUTENBERG,

DASCHLE, and BOXER be added as cosponsors and the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

(The amendment is printed in the RECORD of Wednesday, March 19, 2003, under ''Text of Amendments.'')

Mr. KERRY. As all of us know, there are 42 million people living with AIDS worldwide. The Senate has addressed this issue previously, but the amount of money annually allocated falls short of the promises almost every single year. We have been working in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to develop bipartisan legislation. What I ask our colleagues to do today is to provide the amount of money that we will authorize in that legislation, in order to combat the AIDS epidemic. It simply increases the funding level included in the budget resolution to match the spending levels that will be in the authorization bill by $800 million.

In addition, I tell all my colleagues, this is completely in line with the legislation Senator FRIST and I wrote and put together and that the Senate passed last year. So it is not a change; it is what we did before, but it meets the promise of the Senate and does not fall short. It also dedicates $800 million for deficit reduction.

I ask my colleagues to help us fulfill a promise that has been too long in coming.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, we adopted an amendment yesterday, offered by the distinguished chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, Senator LUGAR, to restore spending to international affairs programs next year by over $1.1 billion, from the committee's level. The bipartisan Lugar-Biden level would fund the President's proposal next year for global AIDS prevention. The resolution now accommodates $15 billion in spending over the next 5 years for those countries hardest hit by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. This is the largest commitment made by any country in the world to address this specific problem.

This administration is taking a very bold step, which we support, to combat HIV/AIDS. I therefore rise in opposition to the Kerry amendment which would increase by nearly 80 percent the amount of money provided by this function of the budget. It would also increase taxes by nearly $1.6 billion, further undermining the growth package now assumed in the resolution.

I have been working with Senator LUGAR and others on this important issue and will devote my full resources to the effort to combat the scourge of HIV/AIDS.

Mr. NICKLES. I ask for the yeas and nays.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to be added to the amendment as a cosponsor.

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

Mr. NICKLES. I ask for the yeas and nays on the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 281. The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I ask unanimous consent this vote be limited to 10 minutes.

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

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. REID: I announce that the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER), is necessarily absent.

I also announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN), is attending a family funeral.

The result was announced—yeas 47, nays 51, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 104 Leg.]

YEAS—47

Akaka	Durbin	Levin
Baucus	Edwards	Lieberman
Bayh	Feingold	Lincoln
Bingaman	Feinstein	Mikulski
Boxer	Graham (FL)	Murray
Breaux	Harkin	Nelson (FL)
Byrd	Hollings	Nelson (NE)
Cantwell	Inouye	Pryor
Carper	Jeffords	Reed
Clinton	Johnson	Reid
Conrad	Kennedy	Rockefeller
Corzine	Kerry	Sarbanes
Daschle	Kohl	Schumer
Dayton	Landrieu	Stabenow
Dodd	Lautenberg	Wyden
Dorgan	Leahy	

NAYS—51

Alexander	DeWine	McCain
Allard	Dole	McConnell
Allen	Domenici	Murkowski
Bennett	Ensign	Nickles
Bond	Enzi	Roberts
Brownback	Fitzgerald	Santorum
Bunning	Frist	Sessions
Burns	Graham (SC)	Shelby
Campbell	Grassley	Smith
Chafee	Gregg	Snowe
Chambliss	Hagel	Specter
Cochran	Hatch	Stevens
Coleman	Hutchison	Sununu
Collins	Inhofe	Talent
Cornyn	Kyl	Thomas
Craig	Lott	Voinovich
Crapo	Lugar	Warner

NOT VOTING—2

Biden	Miller

The amendment (No. 281) was rejected.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. CONRAD. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HAGEL). The Senator from Oklahoma.

RECESS

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, for the information of our colleagues, we are making good progress. We only have a few amendments left. To give staff a chance to work out a couple of amendments—I thank my colleagues for working together with us on the amendments—I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess until 1:40.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 1:04 p.m., recessed until 1:45 p.m., and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. HAGEL).

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mrs. CLINTON. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. DOLE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 403

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I call up amendment No. 403, offered by our colleague from Oklahoma, Senator INHOFE.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. INHOFE] proposes an amendment numbered 403.

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

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

(The amendment is printed in the RECORD of Friday, March 21, 2003, under ''Text of Amendments.'')

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. INHOFE. Madam President, this is something we are all familiar with, except perhaps new Members. Back in the fifties, we had a program to replace some of the money that was taken away when land was taken off the tax rolls. It is called impact aid.

Over the years, people started taking money out of this program. It is an easy place to grab money. It has gotten down to 40 percent funding. We are now up to 70 percent. The current legislation would leave it at 70 percent. This amendment will increase it by $112 billion, bringing it up to $1.3 billion, 76 percent. That keeps us on track to have it fully funded 5 more years.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. CONRAD. Madam President, maybe my ears deceived me. I heard the Senator say $112 billion. My reading on the amendment is $112 million.

Mr. INHOFE. That is what I said.

Mr. CONRAD. I heard the Senator say $112 billion.

Mr. INHOFE. We are used to using the B's around here. It is $112 million.

Mr. CONRAD. I thank the Senator. My further understanding is this is

funded by an across-the-board cut in all other functions.

Mr. INHOFE. That is right.

Mr. CONRAD. So there are no new discretionary funds available through this amendment. With that understanding, there is no objection on this side to the Senator's amendment. He is quite correct that impact aid is underfunded, and it is important to virtually all our States and all our communities.

Mr. INHOFE. I appreciate that. I ask for the adoption of this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I encourage our colleagues to support the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 403) was agreed to.

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

Mr. CONRAD. Madam President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The senior assistant bill clerk continued with the call of the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I believe the Senator from Alaska has an amendment to send to the desk.

Mr. CONRAD. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, we have been negotiating for some time, trying to resolve two or three amendments. I think we have done that.

I thank Senator WARNER, Senator CHAMBLISS, Senator DURBIN, and Senator LANDRIEU because I think they have cooperated. They came up with amendments I think all of us can be supportive of.

I ask on this amendment, and this amendment alone, there be 4 minutes equally divided so all the principal players can have a moment to speak on this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Louisiana.

AMENDMENT NO. 429

Ms. LANDRIEU. I send an amendment to the desk on behalf of myself, Senator DURBIN, Senator WARNER, and Senator CHAMBLISS, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Louisiana [Ms. LANDRIEU], for herself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. CHAMBLISS, proposes an amendment numbered 429.

Ms. LANDRIEU. I ask unanimous consent the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: Provide additional pay and benefits for active duty, guard, and reserve forces, such as augmenting Imminent Danger Pay and Family Separation Allowance, and for modernization of equipment, weapons, and technology needs of the National Guard and Reserves in recognition of those currently involved in conflict operations and the need of their family members left behind)

On page 8, line 23, increase the amount by $3,000,000,000.

On page 8, line 24, increase the amount by $3,000,000,000.

On page 46, line 20, increase the amount by $3,000,000,000.

On page 46, line 21, increase the amount by $3,000,000,000.

On page 4, line 14, increase the amount by $3,000,000,000.

On page 5, line 4, increase the amount by $3,000,000,000.

On page 5, line 17, decrease the amount by $3,000,000,000.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator STABENOW and Senator LINCOLN be added as original cosponsors.

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

Ms. LANDRIEU. Madam President, I thank my colleagues and particularly Senator DURBIN for his work in working out this amendment. It is for the Guard and Reserve units that have been called up.

This amendment is crucial. It is important that we adopt it for a number of reasons. No. 1, from 1945 to 1990, a period of 45 years, our Guard and Reserve units were called up four times. In the last 13 years they have been called up eight times. They represent a growing and necessary component of our force protection for our Nation, both abroad and at home.

Unfortunately, our commitment to their budget has not kept up with the contributions they are making. This amendment attempts to begin to fill that gap.

I submit for the RECORD, because this is a $1 billion amendment, a list of equipment needs that could be provided by this amendment. I suggest the $1 billion could be for this or something comparable to it. I ask unanimous consent that be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

STRATEGIC EQUIPMENT, WEAPONS, AND TECHNOLOGY NEEDS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE

Service	System	Cost
Air Force Reserve	WC–130J Radar—Upgrades Reserve Radar to specifications needed by Active forces	$50,000,000.
Air Force Reserve	F–16 LITENING II AT Upgrade Modification—Provides Reserve Tactical Fighters with same radar upgrades as active forces; reserve fighters flying same missions.	$16,200,000.
Air Force Reserve	F–16 LITENING II AT Pod Procurement—Provides Reserve Tactical Fighters with same radar upgrades as active forces; reserve fighters flying same missions.	$14,400,000.
Air Force Reserve	A–10 TARGETING PODS—Provides Reserve Tactical Fighters with same radar upgrades as active forces; reserve fighters flying same missions.	$48,000,000.
Air Force Reserve	B–52 TARGETING PODS—Provides Reserve B–52s with same radar upgrades as active B–52s; performing same missions	$4,800,000.
Air Force Reserve	TACTICAL RADIOS—Provides radio upgrades for interoperability with active forces	$14,900,000.
Air Force Reserve	LAND MOBILE RADIO INFRASTRUCTURE	$12,000,000.
Total		$160,300,000.
Navy Reserve	VAW–78; EC–2 Squadron—Funding Prohibits decommissioning in FY05 of this currently deployed unit	$10,160,000; Allen/Warner.
Navy Reserve	VFA–203; F/A–18 Squadron—Funding Prohibits decommissioning in FY04 of this currently deployed unit	$20,110,000; Chambliss/Miller.
Navy Reserve	Littoral Surveillance System—Procures one additional system to upgrade port surveillance by Navy Reserve	$14,500,000; Lott/Cochran/Specter/Santorum.
Navy Reserve	F/A 18 Advanced Targeting FLIR—Procures radars for 5 squadrons to make compatible with Active Navy	$14,700,000; Bond/Talent.
Navy Reserve	P–3 Aircraft Improvement Program (AIP)—Would upgrade 28 of 42 Reserve P3s to have same capabilities as Actives; AIP allows P–3s to better operate against surface combatants and improve surveillance and targeting.	$29,700,000; Snowe/Collins.
Navy Reserve	P–3 Block Modification Upgrade Program (BMUP)—Brings all Reserve P–3s into compliance with each other, not Actives—gives all Reserve P–3s similar computers and acoustics sensors.	$33,000,000; Snowe/Collins.
Navy Reserve	F/A 18 ECP 560 Precision Guided Munitions Upgrade—Provides 1 Reserve F/A Squadron with precision guided munitions similar to Active F–18s.	$33,240,000; Kyl; McCain.
Navy Reserve	CBR–D Equipment Storage and Logistics—Funds shortfall of 10,000 bio-chem suits for Navy Reservists	$8,000,000.
Total		$163,410,000.
Army Reserve	High Frequency Radios (Interoperability for Special Ops Reservists)	$57,138,816.
Army Reserve	M–4 Rifles	$1,200,000.
Army Reserve	M–16 Rifles	$1,200,000.
Army Reserve	Tactical Electrical Power (5–60KW) TQG	$5,404,000.
Army Reserve	Tactical Electrical Power (3KW) TQG	$3,000,000.
Army Reserve	Truck Tractor Line Haul	$12,420,000.
Army Reserve	Improved Ribbon Bridge	$22,400,000.
Army Reserve	Truck Cargo PLS 10X10 M1075 (T40999)	$6,936,000.
Army Reserve	Trailer PLS 8X20 M1075 (T93761)	$1,320,000.

STRATEGIC EQUIPMENT, WEAPONS, AND TECHNOLOGY NEEDS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE—Continued

Service	System	Cost
Army Reserve	Spreader Bituminous Module PLS 2500 Gal. (S13546)	$2,080,000.
Army Reserve	Mixer Concrete	$1,375,000
Army Reserve	Dump Body Module	$3,496,000
Army Reserve	Engineer Mission Module Water Distributor	$9,630,000
Army Reserve	Airborne/Air Assault Scraper (S30039)	$7,575,000
Army Reserve	Distributor Water Self-Propelled 2500 Gal.	$2,970,000
Army Reserve	Truck Transporter Common Bridge (CBT) (T91308)	$8,360,000
Army Reserve	Truck Dump 20 Ton	$7,215,000
Army Reserve	Generator Smoke Mechanical	$11,667,600
Army Reserve	Tent Expandable Modular (Surgical)	$729,000
Total		$166,116,416.
Army Nat'l Guard	Black Hawk Helicopters	$223,200,000; Santorum, Specter, Chambliss, Ensign, Frist, Alexander.
Army Nat'l Guard	SINCGARS (Radio Systems)	$34,900,000.
Air Nat'l Guard	F–16 Targeting Pods	$35,100,000; Talent/Bond.
Air Nat'l Guard	A–10 Targeting Pods	$70,200,000.
Air Nat'l Guard	C–130H2 AN/APN–241 Radar	$24,500,000.
Air Nat'l Guard	F–15 AIFF/IFF (Data Link Systems)	$31,300,000; Smith (OR), Talent, Bond.
Air Nat'l Guard	F–15 220E Engine Kits	$98,000,000 Smith, Talent, Bond.
Total		$517,200,000.
Marine Corps Reserve	Reserve Training Center Vehicle Maintenance Facility, Mobile, AL	$8,000,000; Sessions/Shelby.
Marine Corps Reserve	Reserve Tank Maintenance Facility, Columbia, South Carolina	$3,800,000; Graham (SC).
Marine Corps Reserve	Reserve Training Center Vehicle Maintenance Facility, Camp Lejeune, NC	$8,100,000; Dole.
Marine Corps Reserve	Uniform and Equipment needs	$13,200,000.
Marine Corps Reserve	Weapons System Repairs	$7,300,000.
Total		$40,400,000.
Grand Total		$1,047,426,416.

Ms. LANDRIEU. This amendment is supporting the Guard and Reserve for equipment, as well as for pay and compensation, and Senator DURBIN will explain the second part of this amendment.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, how much time is remaining?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Forty seconds.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I thank my cosponsors, Senators MIKULSKI, DAYTON, BOXER, SCHUMER, CLINTON, and FEINGOLD.

What we are seeking to do here is to raise combat pay, the imminent danger pay for those who are serving overseas. It will be raised from $150 a month to at least $250 a month, and to increase the family separation allowance from currently $100 a month to at least $250 a month.

Senator WARNER was generous enough to talk about $3 billion here, which will accommodate the needs for the Guard and Reserve that Senator LANDRIEU has raised and also bring the combat pay and separation allowance figures up to where they should be. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The time of the Senator has expired.

Who yields time?

The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. I thank the distinguished managers of the bill and our two colleagues on the other side of the aisle. I think this is an amendment each Senator not only can but should vote for. I hope we get 100 votes because it is a consensus across the aisle about the imminent needs of the men and women of the Armed Forces, indeed the Guard and Reserve which in historic numbers have rallied to the call to serve side by side with the Active Force in the conflict, not only in Iraq but also elsewhere in the world.

I strongly support it and yield the remainder of my time to my colleague from Georgia.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Madam President, I, too, thank my colleagues, Senators WARNER, LANDRIEU, and DURBIN for their strong leadership on this issue. We now have a significant number of Guard and Reserve personnel who are in harm's way, protecting freedom and democracy. It is only right that we address some shortfalls in the way in which these folks are compensated.

In addition to that, we have provided within this budget number for the ability of the authorizing committees to come back and purchase needed equipment from a hardware perspective, as well as to look after the families of our brave guardsmen and reservists.

I think this is a good amendment. I echo what Senator WARNER said. I hope we get 100 votes so we can send the right message to all our Guard and Reserve and Active duty personnel that we are concerned about them and we want to make sure we treat them fairly and equitably. This does so.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent to add Senator KENNEDY as an original cosponsor.

Mr. CONRAD. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There is a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 429.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 100, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 105 Leg.]

YEAS—100

Akaka	Carper	Dorgan
Alexander	Chafee	Durbin
Allard	Chambliss	Edwards
Allen	Clinton	Ensign
Baucus	Cochran	Enzi
Bayh	Coleman	Feingold
Bennett	Collins	Feinstein
Biden	Conrad	Fitzgerald
Bingaman	Cornyn	Frist
Bond	Corzine	Graham (FL)
Boxer	Craig	Graham (SC)
Breaux	Crapo	Grassley
Brownback	Daschle	Gregg
Bunning	Dayton	Hagel
Burns	DeWine	Harkin
Byrd	Dodd	Hatch
Campbell	Dole	Hollings
Cantwell	Domenici	Hutchison
Inhofe	McCain	Schumer
Inouye	McConnell	Sessions
Jeffords	Mikulski	Shelby
Johnson	Miller	Smith
Kennedy	Murkowski	Snowe
Kerry	Murray	Specter
Kohl	Nelson (FL)	Stabenow
Kyl	Nelson (NE)	Stevens
Landrieu	Nickles	Sununu
Lautenberg	Pryor	Talent
Leahy	Reed	Thomas
Levin	Reid	Voinovich
Lieberman	Roberts	Warner
Lincoln	Rockefeller	Wyden
Lott	Santorum	
Lugar	Sarbanes	

The amendment (No. 429) was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, for the information of our colleagues, we are making good progress. I again thank my colleagues for their cooperation in working out the last two or three amendments.

I now call upon the Senator from Alaska to introduce an amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

AMENDMENT NO. 430

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, I send an amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Alaska [Ms. MURKOWSKI] proposes an amendment numbered 430.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam 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 45, line 24, increase the amount by $47,904,000,000.

On page 46, line 1, increase the amount by $18,768,000,000.

Mr. CONRAD. Will the Senator withhold for a moment.

I think it would be wise for us to get in place an agreement on the amendment that would either be in the second degree or be side by side at this moment so that that is prepared at the end of the presentation of the Senator

from Alaska. Otherwise, the second-degree amendment would be offered. I think it would be better if we did not do it that way.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that following disposition of the Murkowski amendment, Senator CONRAD or his designee be allowed to introduce a sense of the Senate relative to the Murkowski amendment.

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

The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, the current budget resolution assumes the growth package will immediately raise the $600 child tax credit to $1,000. My amendment is going to require that the growth package extend that $1,000 child credit until the year 2013. The child credit is currently $600, and it is scheduled to go up to $1,000 in 2010. The problem we have with this, however, is that in the year 2011, you are going to have a child credit of $1,000. But the following year, that is going to drop in half to $500. In other words, families with two children will face a $1,000 tax increase in the year 2011. A family of three is going to face a tax increase of $1,500. I don't think any of us would suggest that is fair. This is to help the families, particularly in times when we have some economic difficulties. This is an amendment that will help America's families.

I urge Members' support.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

The Senator from North Dakota is recognized.

Mr. CONRAD. Madam President, let me just say to my colleagues, the amendment of the Senator from Alaska has nothing to do with the child tax credit—zero. The amendment increases the tax cut by $47.9 billion and increases the instruction to the Finance Committee for outlays of $18.8 billion. It has nothing whatever to do with the child tax credit because the budget resolution does not make those decisions, as the chairman has indicated over and over.

There will be a subsequent amendment by the Senator from Arkansas that will make clear there is plenty of room in the underlying tax cut to accommodate the child tax credit the Senator from Alaska is advocating. I urge my colleagues to vote no on this increase to the tax cut.

Mr. NICKLES. I ask for the yeas and nays on the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. NICKLES. I ask unanimous consent that the vote on this amendment and subsequent amendments be limited to 10 minutes.

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

The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 430.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GREGG). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 48, nays 52, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 106 Leg.]

YEAS—48

Alexander	DeWine	Lugar
Allard	Dole	McConnell
Allen	Domenici	Miller
Bennett	Ensign	Murkowski
Bond	Enzi	Nickles
Brownback	Fitzgerald	Roberts
Bunning	Frist	Santorum
Burns	Graham (SC)	Sessions
Campbell	Grassley	Shelby
Chambliss	Gregg	Smith
Cochran	Hagel	Specter
Coleman	Hatch	Stevens
Collins	Hutchison	Sununu
Cornyn	Inhofe	Talent
Craig	Kyl	Thomas
Crapo	Lott	Warner

NAYS—52

Akaka	Durbin	Lincoln
Baucus	Edwards	McCain
Bayh	Feingold	Mikulski
Biden	Feinstein	Murray
Bingaman	Graham (FL)	Nelson (FL)
Boxer	Harkin	Nelson (NE)
Breaux	Hollings	Pryor
Byrd	Inouye	Reed
Cantwell	Jeffords	Reid
Carper	Johnson	Rockefeller
Chafee	Kennedy	Sarbanes
Clinton	Kerry	Schumer
Conrad	Kohl	Snowe
Corzine	Landrieu	Stabenow
Daschle	Lautenberg	Voinovich
Dayton	Leahy	Wyden
Dodd	Levin	
Dorgan	Lieberman	

The amendment (No. 430) was rejected.

Mr. NICKLES. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. DASCHLE. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I believe there is a sense-of-the-Senate amendment that is going to be offered.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I yield time to the distinguished Senator from Arkansas for the purpose of offering another amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

AMENDMENT NO. 431

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Arkansas [Mrs. LINCOLN] proposes an amendment numbered 431.

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

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To express the sense of the Senate regarding extending the $1,000 child credit for three additional years (2011–2013))

At the appropriate place insert the following:

SEC. . SENSE OF THE SENATE ON THE $1,000 CHILD CREDIT.

It is the sense of the Senate that extending the $1,000 child credit for three additional years (2011–2013) can be accommodated within the revenue totals and instructions of this resolution.

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, I compliment my colleague from Alaska for the intent of the previous amendment. Many of us in this body have children. We understand what it takes to raise our children. Across this country, we want to provide all families, all parents the ability to do as much as they possibly can for their children. I again compliment the Senator from Alaska for the intent of her amendment.

My amendment expresses that it is the sense of the Senate that we should extend the refundable child credit for 3 years and that this can be accommodated within the revenue totals in the resolution as it currently exists.

As the Senator from Oklahoma has said several times during this debate, we cannot write the tax cut on the budget resolution. The previous amendment was simply an attempt to increase the size of the tax cut, nothing more, nothing less.

Although the intent of the amendment of the Senator from Alaska I think was good, I do think it is important that we make sure this tax cut actually goes in the child credit and we understand that the money already exists to do it. I ask for my colleagues' support of this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Who yields time?

The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, this amendment is a sense of the Senate. It may provide political cover—I compliment my colleague from Alaska for her effort to help American families—but this is a sense of the Senate, so it does not change any revenue numbers. It may give political cover.

I have no objection to this amendment. I hope we accept it by a voice vote. Almost all of the sense-of-the-Senate amendments have been accepted by voice vote. Regardless, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and provide ample political cover for our colleagues on the other side of the aisle.

Mr. DASCHLE. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 431. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 99, nays 1, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 107 Leg.]

YEAS—99

Akaka	Baucus	Bingaman
Alexander	Bayh	Bond
Allard	Bennett	Boxer
Allen	Biden	Breaux

Brownback	Feingold	McCain
Bunning	Feinstein	McConnell
Burns	Fitzgerald	Mikulski
Byrd	Frist	Miller
Campbell	Graham (FL)	Murkowski
Cantwell	Graham (SC)	Murray
Carper	Grassley	Nelson (FL)
Chafee	Gregg	Nelson (NE)
Chambliss	Hagel	Nickles
Clinton	Harkin	Pryor
Cochran	Hatch	Reed
Coleman	Hollings	Reid
Collins	Hutchison	Roberts
Conrad	Inhofe	Rockefeller
Cornyn	Inouye	Sarbanes
Corzine	Jeffords	Schumer
Craig	Johnson	Sessions
Crapo	Kennedy	Shelby
Daschle	Kerry	Smith
Dayton	Kohl	Snowe
DeWine	Kyl	Specter
Dodd	Landrieu	Stabenow
Dole	Lautenberg	Stevens
Domenici	Leahy	Sununu
Dorgan	Levin	Talent
Durbin	Lieberman	Thomas
Edwards	Lincoln	Voinovich
Ensign	Lott	Warner
Enzi	Lugar	Wyden

NAYS—1

Santorum

The amendment (No. 431) was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, for the information of our colleagues, we are very close to finishing. I expect we will have a vote on final passage in probably about 10 minutes.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I believe the Senator from Michigan has a sense-of-the-Senate amendment to be called up.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

AMENDMENT NO. 407

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I call up amendment No. 407.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Michigan [Ms. STABENOW], for herself, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. JOHNSON, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. KOHL, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. REED, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. DODD, Mr. FITZGERALD, and Mr. WYDEN, proposes an amendment numbered 407.

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

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To express the sense of the Senate that the final budget conference agreement should not take or propose any actions that reduce the level of funding provided for domestic nutrition assistance programs administered by the Secretary of Agriculture below current baseline spending levels for the programs)

At the end of title III, add the following:

SEC. 3___. SENSE OF THE SENATE CONCERNING FUNDING FOR DOMESTIC NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds that—

(1) domestic nutrition assistance programs administered by the Secretary of Agriculture—

(A) have a long history of bipartisan support;

(B) have an accomplished record of preventing health problems for children and promoting the health, growth, and development of children;

(C) provide United States agricultural producers and food manufacturers with important and substantial markets through which they can obtain and sustain livelihoods; and

(D) are due to be reauthorized and improved during the 108th Congress; and

(2) the budget proposed by the President for fiscal year 2004—

(A) maintains current levels of funding for child nutrition;

(B) extends and improves nutrition assistance programs, including—

(i) the school breakfast program established by section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773);

(ii) the school lunch program established under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.); and

(iii) the child and adult care food program established under the section 17 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1766); and

(C) renews and fully funds the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children established by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786).

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the final budget conference agreement should not take or propose any actions that reduce the level of funding provided for domestic nutrition assistance programs administered by the Secretary of Agriculture below current baseline spending levels for the programs.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, this amendment is a sense of the Senate declaring that there will be no cuts to important domestic nutrition programs in this year's budget. I am very pleased to have letters of support from the American School Food Services Association and a number of other nutrition organizations. This is a bipartisan amendment cosponsored by Senators FITZGERALD, HARKIN, LEAHY, JOHNSON, MURRAY, DAYTON, KOHL, CORZINE, JACK REED, CLINTON, BINGAMAN, DODD, and WYDEN.

Our concern is that the House budget resolution will cut child nutrition funding by an estimated $5.9 billion. These cuts would have a devastating impact on important child nutrition programs such as the School Lunch Program, breakfast programs, child and adult care feeding programs, and WIC.

We, in the Senate, have a long tradition of working together in a bipartisan way on nutrition programs. I hope we can adopt this sense of the Senate and, once more, show that we are very supportive that reauthorization of child nutrition programs is one of the Agriculture Committee's top priorities this year.

Frankly, Mr. President, we need more funding for child nutrition, not less. I ask for the Senate's support.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am pleased to join Ms. STABENOW and my other colleagues today in offering this amendment to express the sense of the Senate that the final conference agreement on the budget resolution should not reduce funding for domestic nutrition programs below the current baseline levels. The reconciliation instructions included in the House Budget Resolution to cut mandatory funding in the areas of domestic nutrition assistance would be devastating to the children and families who count on these programs to meet their daily food needs. In these difficult economic times, we must not put the basic needs of low-income Americans—particularly children—on the chopping block in order to make room for an ill-advised tax cut package this country cannot afford. I strongly urge my colleagues to vote in support of the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I believe we adequately take care of many of the functions that our colleague from Michigan mentioned in her statement. We have no objection to accepting her amendment by a voice vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 407) was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I am happy to yield to the majority leader for comments about the former chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, who did such a superb job over so many years.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I take this opportunity, before we enter into the final vote on the resolution, to congratulate the chairman of the Budget Committee, Senator NICKLES, first, on bringing before this Chamber a budget resolution, and for the last 7 days of his very diligent work. My thanks to him and his staff for the long hours of hard work and their dedication.

I also thank the ranking member, Senator KENT CONRAD, for his cooperation here on the floor, as well as that of the Democratic assistant minority leader and the minority leader. We have not agreed on many issues over the last several days, but it has, nonetheless, been a respectful debate. And I think the will of the Senate will have spoken in a sound way when we adopt this resolution today.

I will have more to say about the resolution after adoption, but I did want to take just a few moments to pay tribute to the former chairman and former ranking member of the Senate Budget Committee, Senator PETE DOMENICI.

For many in this Chamber who have been through the budget wars over the last nearly three decades, it has been a little strange over the last 7 days not to see the senior Senator from New Mexico right here and down in the well managing this resolution. But I also know he trained his successor—and all of us—well, and we have all benefited from his counsel and guidance.

With the start of this Congress, Senator DOMENICI stepped down as the longest serving chairman of the Senate Budget Committee. I should note, under our conference rules, he could have served as chairman of the Budget Committee but chose, rather, to pursue

another of his passions, energy policy. He gave up the chairmanship of Budget to take on another with the Energy Committee. I know he will devote his extensive talents and energies to help the country craft a sensible and reliable energy policy, as much as he devoted them to the process over the last 28 years in the field of the budget. Both remain major challenges.

Senator DOMENICI has been a member of the Budget Committee since 1975—1 year after it was created with the enactment of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act. History will also show that shortly after his first coming to this Chamber in 1972, he and a group of other Senators, including the very distinguished Senator BOB BYRD of West Virginia, saw a need to put some order into what was then an even more chaotic budget and appropriations process. Indeed, it was through this freshman Senator PETE DOMENICI's efforts and prodding that the Budget Act became a reality.

Until Senator NICKLES took over the reins in January, Senator DOMENICI had been the only Republican chairman in the committee's history, holding that position for 12½ years, and the ranking member position for 9 years. Over 21 years—three-quarters of the committee's history—Senator DOMENICI has been at the forefront of setting and guiding fiscal policy in this country.

I am proud to say, in my first 8 years in this body, I had the honor to call Senator DOMENICI my chairman, as I served on that committee, learning the complexities of the Federal budget.

Senator DOMENICI has always been known for his tireless devotion to the budget process, his ability to patch together coalitions, and even a moodiness on fiscal policy that led another majority leader from Tennessee, Howard Baker, to dub his good friend Senator DOMENICI as the ''Hamlet of the Senate'' in the 1980s.

What has been accomplished under his leadership? Over the period, Senator DOMENICI has participated in the adoption of 26 concurrent budget resolutions, 27 Senate-passed budget resolutions, 26 committee-reported budget resolutions, and 17 major budget reconciliation bills. Conservatively, we estimate that he has taken over 1,000 votes on the Senate floor during the budget debates, and countless additional votes on motions to waive the Budget Act when enforcing the budgets he helped to craft.

He has been at the center of all debates and legislation to modify the Budget Act over the years, with the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, better known as the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Act. When differences between the Senate, House, and President seemed to doom the budget process, he took the Senate lead in putting it back on track with its major budget summits in 1987, 1990, and, of course, the 1997 historic bipartisan balanced budget agreement.

Many of these agreements were not always popular, even with some of his fellow Republicans. But he has always—always—stood on principle and what he thought was best for the country at the time. Those principles and convictions to sound public policy have been evident in this debate on this resolution, specifically related to ANWR and the Federal energy policy in this country.

Despite the impressive record on the budget, the one statistic no one will ever challenge in the Senate's entire history, and the one statistic he is probably most proud of, is the fact that in 1986, while serving as a Senator, Senator DOMENICI had seven children in college and graduate school at one time. This son of an Italian immigrant grocer has always been devoted to his family through the good and the tough times. His wife Nancy has been loving support and inspiration to her husband throughout their 45 years of marriage. But I also know that Nancy, in her own right, has been a dedicated public servant, working to improve health care throughout the country, and particularly in New Mexico.

So, Mr. President, I did not want this occasion to pass, as we are about to complete another budget resolution, without paying tribute to the former chairman and ranking member of the Budget Committee for his years of service and devotion to this process, to his family, to his State, and to his country.

Thank you, Senator DOMENICI.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

Mr. DOMENICI. Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, momentarily we will be voting on final passage. We have a couple of additional things to do.

I believe we are trying to work out a McConnell sense of the Senate. That will take just a moment. And then we will be voting in just a few minutes.

I also wish to join the majority leader in complimenting Senator DOMENICI for his many years of service, either as chairman or ranking member of this committee. I have a much greater appreciation for its challenges. He passed resolutions when we had a majority and minority, even when we were 50–50. My compliments to him. He is ''Mr. Budget'' as far as I am concerned. Plus, as evidenced in some of the debates, he proved that he knows this act unlike any other on the floor.

So I thank our friend and colleague.

Mr. DOMENICI. Thank you.

Mr. NICKLES. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

AMENDMENT NO. 432

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I send a sense-of-the-Senate resolution on behalf of Senator MCCONNELL to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. NICKLES], for Mr. MCCONNELL, proposes an amendment numbered 432:

(Purpose: To provide for future consideration of a possible free trade agreement with the United Kingdom)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

''It is the Sense of the Senate that the President should negotiate a free trade agreement with the United Kingdom.''

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, it has been said that the United States and the United Kingdom are a common people separated by a common language. But we also share a unique cause for freedom, and to preserve that we should also share a common market.

Today I am offering an amendment that ensures that our economies become as integrated as the other common causes that we share. The amendment will provide for a Free Trade Agreement to be negotiated between the United States and United Kingdom similar to the North America Free Trade Agreement.

Specifically, this amendment will create room in the budget for Congress to consider, and the President to successfully negotiate with, the United Kingdom for a Free Trade Agreement with the United States.

The world is witnessing once again the unique brotherhood of freedom and the special bond between America and United Kingdom. Those who know and enjoy the benefits of freedom are willing to join together and pay freedom's price. With so much at stake, America and United Kingdom should do all we can to ensure our common cause stays strong for the benefit of generations to come. With this United Kingdom—United States Free Trade amendment, our mutual bond will only become stronger.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I hope our colleagues will agree with this. We can agree with it by voice vote. It is a sense of the Senate that we should negotiate a free trade agreement with the United Kingdom. The United Kingdom has proved to be a very valuable ally, certainly in this latest conflict, but they have been for a long time. I compliment Prime Minister Blair and his leadership team and compliment Senator MCCONNELL for his amendment and also thank the cooperation of the staff of the Finance Committee for working with us to make this an acceptable resolution. I urge its adoption.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. CONRAD. We have no objection on this side.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 432) was agreed to.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise today to explain why I had to oppose Senator CORZINE's amendment to increase funding for environmental and natural resource programs in the budget resolution.

Let me be clear that I fully support the goals of Senator CORZINE's amendment. While it is true that we are facing a tight budget situation, protecting our environment and the health and well-being of our citizens should remain a top priority. That includes setting aside adequate funding for programs such as the Superfund and Brownfields programs.

But I was forced to vote against Senator CORZINE's amendment because of another concern. My concern with mounting deficits. The budget resolution brought before us includes tax cuts that total $1.3 trillion. The budget also proposes that $725 billion of these tax cuts be enacted immediately, under the reconciliation process.

Two years ago, we passed a $1.3 trillion tax cut. I supported that tax cut. But those were different times. We had a surplus. We did not foresee the significant decline in revenues. Or the deficits that followed.

This is not the time to reduce revenues by $725 billion. It would hurt our budget and our economy.

Why is $725 billion in tax cuts inappropriate at this time? The most crucial problem is that it is not paid for. The budget resolution brought before us forecasts enormous deficits for almost the next decade. Reducing revenues by $725 billion adds to the already mounting deficits. In order to prevent the passage of tax cuts that would drive up the deficit and hurt our economy, I believe that we must reduce the size of this tax cut.

I joined three of my colleagues in a letter that laid out these concerns—we pledged that we would not agree to tax cuts above $350 billion. This is crucial. The Budget Committee approved $725 billion in tax cuts, and brought it to the Senate floor. Along with my colleagues, I promised to vote to bring this number down by $375 billion.

In a narrowly divided Senate, it is important that both parties work together to come up with the appropriate spending and revenue targets for the budget. That is why I worked with both Democrats and Republicans. Together, we came up with a target of $350 billion for this tax cut, and we agreed that we would all stick to that number.

As part of our commitment to try to reduce the size of the tax cut approved by the Budget Committee, we also agreed that we would not try to reduce the size of the tax cut below $350 billion. That means I am forced to make difficult decisions. In order to keep my commitment to a more responsible tax cut, I have to vote against funding priorities.

During tough times, we must make tough choices. I chose to commit to a responsible tax cut. A tax cut that will prevent worsening deficits that would hurt our economy.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise in opposition to the fiscal year 2004 budget resolution, S. Con. Res. 23.

Although I believe this budget, as amended on the floor of the Senate, is better than the resolution passed by the Budget Committee, it is still fiscally irresponsible, and I cannot support it at this time.

This budget, if passed, would increase the fiscal year 2004 budget deficit by $138 billion above the Congressional Budget Office, CBO, baseline, to $338 billion. This does not include the cost of the war or the reconstruction of Iraq, which is likely to push the budget deficit above $400 billion.

The resolution contains a $350 billion tax cut which we cannot afford, and which would be financed entirely through deficit spending.

The resolution does not adequately address numerous domestic spending priorities, such as education and homeland security.

Despite having been amended to reduce the size of the tax cut from $726 billion to $350 billion, this budget would still add more than $1.3 trillion to our national debt over the next 10 years when interest costs are included.

Our budget deficit this year alone is likely to surpass $400 billion, even before the new tax cuts proposed in this budget go into effect. While the administration pushes for new tax cuts, our fiscal situation continues to deteriorate.

Just last night, CBO released a report that indicates that even with no changes in tax law, the Government will take in $30 billion less in 2003, and $60 billion less between 2004 and 2008.

In the same report, CBO estimated that the President's tax cut package would have at most a small stimulative effect on economic growth, and might not increase growth at all.

While the effect this budget will have on the economy is uncertain, we can be certain that it will increase our debt. In fact, net public debt will exceed $5 trillion by the end of the decade, and interest payments on the debt will double over the next 10 years, from $155 billion this year to $310 billion in 2013.

Only at the very end of the 10-year budget period, and under the most optimistic scenario, would we return to surplus.

There is an urgent need to fund many priorities which are not dealt with in this budget, and those needs are not likely to disappear over the next decade.

Those priorities include, among others: The war in Iraq and the subsequent reconstruction of Iraq, the President's No Child Left Behind education initiative, homeland security, and a full prescription drug benefit in Medicare.

Thanks to the success of an amendment offered by Senator FEINGOLD, the budget does include a $100 billion war reserve fund to be used to cover the cost of the war in Iraq. The reserve fund is not paid for, however, and will increase the deficit substantially in fiscal years 2003 and 2004.

Moreover, the ultimate costs of the war and postwar reconstruction are still unknown, and could be substantially higher than $100 billion.

With regard to domestic spending, the limits set out in this budget are extremely low. The President's No Child Left Behind initiative would go largely unfunded, and funding for homeland security is not adequate to meet the security needs of cities, towns, and counties across the country.

Many priorities that are important to Californians are either cut or eliminated altogether, most notably funding for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program. If that program is eliminated, the burden of processing and incarcerating criminal aliens will fall entirely on thinly stretched State law enforcement budgets.

I believe that bipartisan cooperation is crucial to the Federal budget process, and such cooperation requires both sides to forgo certain new spending initiatives and new tax cuts.

In an attempt to bridge the gap, I cosponsored a bipartisan amendment offered with Senators CARPER, CHAFEE, LINCOLN, and LANDRIEU.

Unlike the final resolution being voted on today, our substitute budget included significant tax relief for low- and middle-income families that is paid for over a 10-year period by freezing future tax cuts for taxpayers in the two highest income tax brackets.

That budget would have balanced the budget in 2009, 3 years before the underlying resolution.

That budget would have required tough choices with regard to discretionary spending, but it would have been entirely revenue neutral over the 10-year budget period and would not have added any new debt whatsoever.

When faced with the choice between supporting a bad budget and no budget at all, I must choose the latter.

I support a budget which faces our fiscal needs head on, even when an economic downturn forces us to make tough choices, and which resists the temptation to further increase the debt burden on future generations of taxpayers. Mr. President, this is not that budget.

I urge my colleagues to vote against the fiscal year 2004 budget resolution.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, it is sadly ironic that at the same time we are asking our young people to fight a war for our security, Republicans are passing a budget that will force those same young people to pay the bill for the reckless fiscal policies of this administration and the Republican Congress. Democrats are proud that we were able to make an irresponsible budget a little less irresponsible. But by showering the most privileged among us with hundreds of billions of

dollars in tax breaks and running up more than a trillion dollars in debt, this amended budget still poses a serious threat to the long-term economic well-being of the Nation.

Month after month, more American families are suffering from the failure of this administration's irresponsible economic strategy. With the economy hemorrhaging jobs from every sector, an increasing number of Americans are losing faith that they will ever find a job. With this budget, Republicans have turned their backs on the problems of American families. Instead of offering new ideas and fresh solutions, the administration continues to push a tired ideology that has turned our economy into a job-destroying machine. This budget will hang more than a trillion dollars of debt around the necks of our children and grandchildren. They will be paying for this mistake for decades to come. The President's own chief economist, in his academic writings, agrees that the chronic deficits perpetuated by this budget will raise interest rates and cut off economic growth for the future.

And though all Americans' thoughts are with our armed forces today, I would ask that they take a moment to ask, why is this Republican Congress saddling our children with record-breaking deficits and massive debt? It's not to fund the war or the rebuilding of Iraq that will follow.

It is not to honor our men and women in uniform. Republicans voted against funding for health care for reservists.

It is not to strengthen our homeland defense. Republicans continue to short-change the police and firefighters who need our help to prevent or respond to a terrorist attack in their own communities, and continue to oppose funding to better secure our borders, ports, and vulnerable infrastructure.

It is not to get our economy moving again. Like the President's budget, the Republican resolution before us contains very little to stimulate the economy now.

This budget is not about meeting the challenges of the moment or the future. Its focus is on more new tax breaks for the very wealthy at the expense of everyone else. At the expense of deep cuts in domestic priorities. At the expense of record deficits that will be imposed on our children and grandchildren.

Democrats have been able to restore a small measure of sanity to this budget. And we are going to keep fighting to make sure that government's resources are used responsibly to meet the fundamental needs of our country. We are going to keep fighting to get our economy moving today with a broad-based tax cut that stimulates job creation; to fund homeland security; to provide a real Medicare prescription drug benefit, and to honor our commitment to our students and teachers. This is not a time to shrink from our responsibilities to one another.

We need to meet the test of this demanding moment in our history. This Congress should be producing a fiscally responsible budget that reflects the very best of our Nation, the spirit that our soldiers exemplify, the spirit of honor, community and duty in the service of a better future for us all.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, we are now coming to an end in our debate on this year's budget resolution.

I congratulate the chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, Senator NICKLES for producing this resolution and reporting it from his committee in an expedited manner. We are doing the Nation's business on time.

I know that this resolution has put extraordinary pressure on the committee and floor staff, and I want them to all know my appreciation for their long hours of work. We are not done, but we will take a major step forward with the passage of this resolution today.

I also want to thank the ranking member, Senator CONRAD, who, while certainly not supporting this resolution, did cooperate in the scheduling of this resolution both in the committee and here on the floor.

Having been a member of the Budget Committee my first 8 years here in the Senate, I know how difficult it is to craft a budget resolution.

These are challenging times for our great country—certainly challenging on the international front and equally as challenging in setting a fiscal path for the future. Clearly how the war unfolds with Iraq can impact our economic outlook. But as we move forward on this budget resolution, we are also confronted with longer-term challenges of slow economic growth and the increasing demands of an aging population.

In the near term we will provide whatever resources are necessary to our troops in Iraq to bring that conflict to a quick, expeditious, and victorious end. I also believe that the completion of that conflict and the liberation of the Iraqi people from its dictator will not only provide freedom and economic growth for that country but also lift this cloud of uncertainty that has hung over our economy and depressed investment, growth, and job creation here at home.

For the long term, economic growth remains the key to an expanding economy. Real economic growth will provide the resources necessary to address the demographic changes that confront us both in the Social Security and Medicare programs. We should never forget that for these two programs, it is not the size of their trust fund that matters, it is the size of the economy that matters.

It is for this reason that the President's economic growth and job creation proposal is critical to setting a path toward future economic growth. I will continue to press for the largest growth package possible that will allow us to fully consider the growth legislation later this spring. But for now this is just the beginning, not the end of the process.

S. Con. Res. 23, as amended, and before us today is a blueprint. It is the start of the process. Once adopted later today in the Senate and conferenced with the House, this budget blueprint will guide the fiscal policy for the remainder of this first session of the 108th Congress. Unfolding events over the next many months may require modifications to the resolution. I believe emergency provisions built into this resolution will allow it to be flexible and adjust to changing events.

The failure of the last Congress to even consider here in the Senate chamber a budget resolution undermined the budget process and created significant problems. The failure to even consider a budget left the process in shambles and resulted in the failure to complete action on 11 of 13 annual must-do appropriations bills.

We all know the result. Less than 6 weeks ago, with one-quarter of this fiscal year already over, we finally passed an omnibus spending bill for FY 2003.

We must not repeat that mistake of the last Congress. We must pass a budget resolution and then get on with the business of enacting legislation that follows the budget's outline.

Beyond making it possible for considering an economic growth package later this spring, this resolution will provide resources requested by the President to win the war on terrorism, to protect the homeland, to modernize the Medicare program with a prescription drug benefit, increase funding for both IDEA and Title 1 education programs, increase veterans health funding, and provide over $450 million next year for global AIDS programs.

Equally as important this resolution reinstates the tools we need here in the Senate to provide fiscal discipline. It establishes discretionary spending caps for this year and the next two. It puts a limit on the budgetary gimmick of advance funding. It extends the discipline of pay-go beyond its expiration date of April 15, and it reestablishes the supermajority points of order against spending that is not truly emergency spending.

Once again I congratulate the Chairman and the members of the Budget Committee on all their work that has brought us to this point. We will pass a budget and the legislative, budget and appropriation process will go forth as it should.

LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY REIMBURSEMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I appreciate the opportunity to briefly address a health care issue of great importance to Arizona, all other southwest border States, and numerous other States. Hospitals in Arizona and throughout the country incur uncompensated costs of over $1.5 billion annually to provide federally mandated emergency health treatment to undocumented immigrants.

MTG Corporation, a Texas-based firm, and the Border Counties Coalition, through a congressionally directed study, determined that the 24 counties along the Southwest border alone incur unreimbursed costs of over $200 million per year to provide emergency health treatment to undocumented aliens. Based on these estimates, MTG Corporation has concluded that nationwide hospitals, ambulances and other providers incur costs of over $1.5 billion per year.

Arizona, as an example, is indicative of the problems that all States and their providers are facing. The cost to Arizona and its providers for providing these services might well be close to $200 million. These unreimbursed costs, and other health-related issues, have put hospitals around the country in a state of dire fiscal emergency. As a result of these costs, many doctors are simply choosing to practice medicine in such a way that they do not have to provide emergency room treatment—in Phoenix, AZ, depending on the time of day, if you have a specific emergency a specialty doctor might not be available to treat you. Some emergency rooms have closed, or are in danger of having to close, their emergency rooms either temporarily or permanently because of these costs.

I have introduced legislation, along with Senators MCCAIN, FEINSTEIN, DOMENICI, CORNYN, HUTCHISON, CLINTON, and SCHUMER to provide $1.45 billion in funding annually to reimburse providers for these federally mandated, but uncompensated, costs.

It is my understanding that there are resources in the budget for the Finance Committee to consider a measure to provide reimbursement funding for health providers that currently provide federally mandated, but uncompensated, emergency medical treatment to undocumented aliens, be it in the Finance Committee allocation, its reserve fund for the uninsured, or any other appropriate funding stream.

Mr. NICKLES. That is correct. I appreciate the important information that Senator KYL has brought to the attention of the Senate, and I will work with Senator KYL and other interested Members to address this issue.

Mr. KYL. I would ask the Finance Committee, in its consideration of legislation dealing with welfare reform, Medicaid, and issues regarding uncompensated care, to work with me to provide for consideration of legislation to provide for this reimbursement funding.

Mr. GRASSLEY. I will work with both Senators and other interested Members to provide for consideration of legislation to provide reimbursement to health providers who provide federally required, but uncompensated, emergency health treatment to undocumented aliens.

Mr. KYL. I thank the Senator for taking the time to help me clarify this important issue.

PAYMENT LIMITATIONS

Mr. COCHRAN. Can the distinguished chairman of the Budget Committee offer me assurance that budget resolution agreement will leave policy decisions regarding payment limitations to be resolved by the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. NICKLES. I provide that assurance.

Mr. COCHRAN. I thank the Senator for his cooperation.

SUPERFUND

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I am in support of Senator LAUTENBERG's amendment to replenish the superfund trust fund, by reinstating the superfund taxes that expired in 1995. The trust fund is running dangerously low, and that is just not acceptable.

As I've stated before, I remember very clearly when Congress debated the original superfund law, and I remember thinking what an incredible legacy Congress could leave the Nation by enacting that historic legislation.

Seeing how successful superfund has been over the last 25 years, particularly in Libby, MT, reinforces my belief that we did the right thing for the people of this country when we created the superfund program.

The superfund program brought millions of dollars to Montana for clean up activities, to protect the health and well being of Montana's citizens and create good paying jobs in the local communities left with a contaminated site. For example, more than $34 million has been spent in Libby alone in an effort to remove asbestos contamination caused by the now defunct WR Grace vermiculite mine, as well as to provide health screenings for Libby residents. Hundreds of millions have been spent in the Clark Fork basin to remedy decades of industrial pollution. Millions more will be spent to clean up the Berkeley Pit and other sites in the State.

Some of this money will come from an identifiable, solvent responsible party, but much of it will not, as companies go out of business or declare bankruptcy. And, Montana is not alone. That is why maintaining the integrity of the superfund trust fund is so important.

I'm extremely concerned that the more we fall behind in securing the funding necessary for clean-up activities at sites in Montana and around the country, the worse off we're going to be in future years. This has serious implications for the future stability of the superfund program.

I don't believe it's fair to solve this problem by forcing the average taxpayer to pick up the tab for the clean up of toxic sites that were created by private entities, and which threaten our health and our children's health. That's why I strongly support reinstating the superfund tax, and why I support Senator LAUTENBERG's amendment.

A Superfund designation is not a trivial event for the communities involved—it invokes real fear and uncertainty in people about the future, about the future economic health of their community, and about the future effects of any contamination on their health or their children's health. These communities cannot shoulder the immense burden of cleaning up highly contaminated sites by themselves, or forcing a responsible party to pay for the clean-up. The Federal Government is a necessary and important partner in this effort through the Superfund program.

Superfund is a success; we should build on that success, not allow it to fall apart.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I express my strong opposition to a provision in the budget resolution that proposes to shift $1.4 billion in mandatory spending over the next 10 years from agricultural programs, budget function 350, to the Conservation Security Program, budget function 300, compared to projected mandatory spending under the Agriculture Committee's jurisdiction under current law. I am pleased that the budget resolution does not require the Agriculture Committee to report legislation reducing mandatory spending pursuant to a budget reconciliation instruction, nonetheless this proposal amounts to a policy recommendation that the Agriculture Committee shift spending away from agricultural programs and towards the Conservation Security Program.

More importantly, as I understand it, the $1.4 billion in agricultural program savings is to be achieved by reducing farm support program payment limitations below those that were agreed to as part of the 2002 farm bill, the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, FSRIA. Specifically, the proposal would reduce statutory payment limitations for farm program payments to producers of covered crops—wheat, feed grains, oilseeds, cotton, and rice—from $40,000 to $20,000 for direct payments and from $65,000 to $30,000 for countercyclical payments. In addition, the proposal would include certificate transactions and loan forfeitures under the marketing loan program's payment limitation.

I oppose this proposal for a number of reasons. First, the FSRIA, enacted less than a year ago, has already reduced farm program payment limits compared to the 1995 farm bill. Second, the FSRIA, established a Commission on Application of Payment Limitations which is to analyze and make recommendations related to this issue to the President and to the House and Senate Agriculture Committees in a report that is due on or before May 13, 2003. Clearly, the Senate should consider the Commission's findings before it endorses a further policy change in this area. Third, the budget resolution should provide us with a broad plan for Federal revenues and expenditures but leave policy decisions within that budget framework to the Appropriations Committee, in the case of discretionary spending, and to the various

authorizing committees such as the Agriculture Committee, in the case of mandatory spending. This proposal violates that principle by attempting to dictate policy to the Agriculture Committee without having any impact on the overall level of Federal expenditures. Fourth, because their crops cost more to produce, southern cotton and rice farms tend to be larger, on average, than wheat, corn, and soybean farms in other regions. The payment limit proposal would reduce Government payments to larger farms, hurting southern cotton and rice producers the most. It is unclear, at best, what the proposal's changes to the marketing loan program would mean for our farmers. This is a program that has been highly successful in helping our farmers remain internationally competitive without undue Government involvement in the marketplace.

Taken together, the proposal's payment limitation changes could seriously undercut the farm safety net that was a principal goal of the FSRIA, particularly for southern producers of cotton and rice. I strongly oppose this provision.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, our Nation is at war. Our Federal budget faces unprecedented deficits. According to the Congressional Budget Office, counting the cost of that war, the deficit will be $587 billion this year alone. And we are on the threshold of a crisis in the funding of our Social Security system as the baby boom generation begins to retire in the next decade.

Yet this budget resolution calls for fully $850 billion in tax cuts, all of which will be borrowed from that Social Security system. In my 30 year career in the Senate, I cannot recall a more reckless or irresponsible proposal.

Instead of a careful, conservative approach to our finances, instead of caution and a sense of responsibility in these dangerous times, this budget throws caution to the wind and simply dumps the bill for our actions today on our children and grandchildren.

These are no ordinary times. We are now fully engaged in a war in Iraq, a war that will not be truly over until the reconstruction of that nation is accomplished. The $75 billion that the President has just requested is just the first installment on that commitment. We cannot know the full costs of that undertaking, which could take many years to complete. At the same time, the global war on terrorism must be fought here at home as well as in the farthest corners of the globe. The costs of that commitment will be substantial and could well represent a permanent change in the way we do business.

This budget simply ignores those new realities and treats the Social Security system like a broken piggy bank, grabbing the savings the system will soon need for its own obligations to paper over the costs not only of our new security responsibilities, but hundreds and hundreds of billions of dollars of tax cuts as well. But those bills will come due, as the baby boom generation retires, and this budget plants a time bomb in a Social Security system that already faces a serious future imbalance.

Beyond those profound problems, the massive loss of revenues called for in this budget means that we do not have the funds available for such fundamental priorities as homeland defense, health care, or education.

I was glad to see that we fixed some of the problems in this resolution. Senator FEINGOLD's amendment rescued $100 billion from those tax cuts to set aside to pay for the war now being fought in Iraq. That will be just the beginning of the resources we will need to fully cover the cost of that conflict and the massive reconstruction that will follow.

I am glad that we were able to reduce by half the size of the tax cuts that will be protected by a special budget fast-track procedure. We need to stimulate our sagging economy and restore the growth and job creation we have lost in the past 2 years. But at $350 billion, half the original amount that was protected by budget rules, that tax cut is still far too large given the other obligations that we face.

But on top of the $350 billion in tax cuts protected by special budget rules, this resolution still contains an additional $500 billion in other tax cuts, for a total of $850 billion in revenue losses. Counting the additional interest we will have to pay on the debt we will pile up, that is another trillion dollars that will not be available for our national security and homeland security obligations, not available for health care, for education, for law enforcement. Nor will it be there when we need to restore balance to Social Security.

We have made some progress during this debate to restore funding in some of those areas, but not enough to meet the needs and priorities of the vast majority of Americans. This budget resolution is the first step in our consideration of priorities this year, and it is a big step in the wrong direction, one that I fear we will regret.

I hope my colleagues will join me in rejecting this resolution. We can and must do better. We can hardly do worse.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I cannot support this budget resolution. In my judgment, this budget, like the President's budget which it reflects, represents the wrong priorities. A close look reveals too many ill-advised cuts in too many critical areas in order to help pay for a tax cut which is too large, too inequitable, and which will worsen our fiscal situation without providing our economy the jump-start it needs.

The proposed budget cuts in education are particularly troubling. While I am pleased that the Senate passed an amendment I introduced that increased education funding by over $2 billion by proposing to close down two egregious tax haven loopholes, that increase doesn't come close to making up for the shortfalls.

Other priorities are similarly underfunded. The transportation request is less than what was allotted in 2002 and 2003. This year Congress plans to reauthorize TEA–21, the highway reauthorization bill, yet the budget resolution as proposed would limit our ability to increase the program to meet our Nation's transportation needs. The budget would provide inadequate funding for State sewer and water programs, and would cut funding to the Community Oriented Policing Services, COPS, Pprogram, which has helped fund more than 3,300 police officers in Michigan. The proposal provides no funding for the community access program, which improves health care coordination for the uninsured, or for extending unemployment benefits for those whose benefits have expired, even though the number of unemployed in our country has increased by about 40 percent since January 2001.

While I am pleased that we were able to reduce the President's fiscally irresponsible tax cut proposal, the tax cut package in the existing budget resolution is still too large, and likely will increase in conference committee with the President's party in charge of both Houses.

In January 2001, the Office of Management and Budget was projecting a 10-year surplus of $5.6 trillion. Now we are back into a huge deficit ditch and will be for the foreseeable future. In fact, the President's proposed budget and tax cuts would lead to more than a trillion dollars in deficits over the next 5 years, including record deficits of over $300 billion this year and next. The right type of tax cuts could stimulate the economy by being effective in the short term and going to working families and small businesses that will spend the money now instead of mainly going to the wealthiest among us who don't need tax cuts. But tax cuts that drastically worsen our long-term fiscal situation, that won't help out in the short term, and that would require cuts to many other priorities are not what our economy needs.

Surely, simple equity as well as economic stimulus needs suggest that if we are going to have tax cuts they should be broad-based tax cuts, providing, for instance, every working family of four with an immediate tax cut of $1,200. And we should also extend unemployment benefits for those whose benefits have expired and weren't previously extended, provide short-term incentives for businesses to invest immediately, and provide some assistance to our struggling States for education, homeland security, Medicaid, and highway and other infrastructure improvements.

These measures would be better for our economy today, our fiscal situation in future years, and the many other challenges that lay ahead. They also

would address today's problems today without passing the bills onto future generations.

In addition, the Senate is asked by the majority to pass a budget without including any estimated costs of the war in Iraq and its aftermath, even though such estimates exist. Yesterday the President sent a $75 billion funding request regarding Iraq to Congress in the form of an emergency supplemental. That request is not included in the current 2004 budget resolution before us. There is no reason that the costs of the war and its aftermath after September 30, 2003, should be omitted. While there is no question that we will fully fund our troops, we are asked to approve massive tax cuts and huge deficits while totally ignoring the large additional expenditures which will be required by the war in Iraq. In my view, it is both reckless and irresponsible to intentionally keep those costs out of this budget resolution.

This budget emphasizes the wrong priorities, burrows us deeper into the deficit ditch, continues our reliance on the Social Security surplus, and fails to provide the stimulus needed to improve our sputtering economy. I cannot support it.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, the administration's budget was wrong for the Nation when the President proposed it in February. It is even worse for the Nation now that we are at war. I will oppose it, and I hope that reason and common sense will prevail in the remaining steps of the budget process to prevent this package from doing lasting damage to the economy and to our communities.

As incredible as it might seem, this budget plan would worsen the fiscal and economic harm done by the administration's 2001 economic package, which, in one fell swoop squandered the hard-won budget surpluses and converted them to ever-deepening deficits and debt. Making matters all the worse, this budget would compound this squandering while the Nation is at war.

Can anyone seriously argue, just for instance, that it makes fiscal or economic sense to borrow money to pay for a tax cut package which itself is steeply tilted to the wealthiest individuals?

This budget plan is misguided in its priorities. It severely underfunds essential health, education and employment training programs; it contains an enormous government giveaway to wealthy corporations and the wealthiest individuals that will skyrocket our Nation's debt; and it is wholly inadequate to meet the domestic security needs of the first-responder agencies that are our first line of defense against terrorism.

Even before the war, when the President unveiled his budget proposal in February, his priorities were sharply out of kilter with the Nation's needs. By severely underfunding education and other domestic needs, and by making a nearly $700 billion tax package the focus of his budget, the President compounds the irresponsible polices of the last 2 years that have traded record surpluses for record deficits.

Let me cite just a few examples of how bad the President's budget is for Vermont: The $6.7 million cut in after-school programs that will leave 9,566 children in my State without after-school activities; the $2,405,259 cut in Clean Water Act funding, at a time when Vermont has nine toxic waste sites on the National Priorities List; the $524,673 cut in the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) that helps Vermonters who need assistance with the electricity and heating bills; the $793,220 cut in the Community Services Block Grant that provides local organizations in Vermont with funds to help reduce poverty, revitalize low-income communities, and offer families the help they need to become fully self-sufficient; and the elimination of the COPS police-hiring program that has put 245 officers on our streets. And I could go on and on.

In 2001, I voted against the Bush tax package because it was too skewed toward the wealthiest Americans and it was fiscally irresponsible. Since then, we have gone from record surpluses to red ink, and the economy is still floundering. Leading economists have repeatedly made clear that the elimination of taxes on dividends paid to investors, the centerpiece of the President's tax-cut proposal, will do little if anything to spur economic growth or to reduce the Nation's jobless rate.

As Congress shapes an economic package, fiscal responsibility needs to be a priority. We need to be smart about how we proceed, and we need to be fair about it. The tax cuts the President has proposed not only will worsen our Federal deficit, but it will also eliminate $16 million in revenue from the State of Vermont. Congress now has the responsibility to bring stability and sensible fiscal policies back into the budget process. We must work to reestablish a balanced budget and to restore our country's economic health.

Our Nation is at war. We have nearly a quarter of a million troops in the Middle East. We have five carrier battle groups in the region. And we have National Guard units being called up all across the country. Yet the President has only recently submitted an estimate to Congress about the cost of this war. The $75 billion he requested on Monday does not adequately address our country's homeland security needs and is likely just a start in funding all of the United States operations in Iraq.

I was disappointed that the Senate did not adopt my amendment to boost funding for first responders. We are in a two-front war, overseas and here at home, and we need to fund both. First responders are on the front lines in defending against and preparing for terrorist attacks. The White House has refused to adequately fund homeland security, and these added responsibilities have become unfunded Federal mandates that are severely straining our police, fire and rescue agencies. Every time the alert level is raised, it costs our communities and states millions more. Everyone recognizes the vital role of first responders, but the White House is overdue in acting accordingly. The sooner we help first responders help us in the war on terrorism, the better.

In his State of the Union Message, the President was right when he said we should not pass on our problems to other Congresses, other Presidents and future generations. Unfortunately, that is exactly what this budget plan would do. The White House's own documents predict the deficit will hit highs of $304 billion this year and $307 billion in 2004. Over the next 5 years, deficits would total $1.08 trillion. Even these staggering numbers are short of the real mark because the administration will surely need hundreds of billions of dollars more in Iraq-related spending that is not counted here.

This administration has been in a rush to war, but it has been in no hurry to substantively deal with the poor economy that millions of Americans are coping with today.

This budget was a bad plan for the Nation before the war began. It is an even worse plan now.

I ask unanimous consent that an editorial by Emerson Lynn that appeared in the March 21 edition of the St. Albans Messenger be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

IT'S WRONG TO TIE PATRIOTISM TO MASSIVE TAX CUT

There is the distinct sense that the American people cannot do two things at once, that we cannot separate our thoughts of the war with our thoughts of how the government spends and collects our taxpayer dollars. Worse, there is the conviction that one should be labeled unpatriotic if the attempt is made to draw the distinction.

This contradiction was played out yesterday in the House of Representatives which passed largely along party lines the president's proposed budget, including his budget busting tax cuts. The cuts were thought to be in jeopardy a month ago, particularly with the Congressional Budget Office's assessment of unending budget deficits as far as the eye can see.

Why the miraculous turnaround? Because, as partisan Republicans said, it would be wrong to embarrass the president just as war is being waged in Iraq. In other words, one's budget sense should be placed at the mercy of the president's polling numbers.

Hmmm. If there is a sense of discomfort in having the budget resolution being debated while war is being waged, then why not delay discussion of the budget? If the president's experts are to be believed, the war will be over in less than a week or so. Why the hurry?

Was the pressure applied because the Republican leadership (and the White House) are concerned about conflicting messages of domestic support, or is it because they saw the opening moments of the war as the most propitious time to push the president's $726

billion in tax cuts, a proposal most Republicans a month ago thought would be beyond their reach?

Guess.

Today, the same arm-twisting efforts will be applied in the U.S. Senate. Again, it was thought only a week or so ago that the entire tax cut proposal had no chance of being approved, particularly with several moderate Republicans proposing a plan to shave the tax cut in half. The ground has shifted, Senate insiders now believe the president has a good chance of winning it all. Again, it's the war and the pushed thought that a good American supports whatever the president wants right now. We must stand together.

Dear Mr. President: We are smart enough to distinguish between a necessary war and an unnecessary tax cut. Too, our patriotism remains intact; in fact, it is with ease that we can argue that being opposed to the $726 billion in tax cuts is utterly patriotic. How else to avoid an endless string of swollen budget deficits? How else to protect the integrity of legislative branch's responsibility to be acting on behalf of its constituents?

We find it incredible that we have a president who lost the popular vote and today rules as if it was his divine right, as did the kings in Shakespeare's time. And, yet, we are impressed. Highly impressed. In terms of sheer accomplishment, he has achieved more in two years than Bill Clinton did in eight. An it was thought that the balance of power between the Democrats and the Republicans would largely result in legislative stalemate. The Democrats could only wish.

What is most upsetting, however, is understanding how completely backwards the argument before congress is. The primary focus is on the war and stalwart Republicans are using the emotion of the moment to wash away all other thoughts. In truth, what happens in Iraq, while terribly important, pales in comparison to the long-term effects of the president's decision to essentially strip this Congress and all future Congresses of the resources needed to address essential issues such as health care, Social Security, Medicaid and Medicare. The war will not last long, and even the rebuilding efforts afterwards will be short in duration when compared to huge tax cuts that keep on taking, and taking, and taking.

So you say, just elect a Democrat as president. A year from now the primaries will be in full swing. We could have a change in leadership within 24 months.

Think again.

Politically, it is almost impossible for Congress to raise taxes. Our representatives can oppose the cuts to begin with, which is what we hope happens, but once they are in place, good luck turning back the clock.

That's why today's vote in the United States Senate is so important. Although it is a budget resolution and does not have the effect of law, it does pave the way for acceptance later. Let's hope common sense prevails and that our legislators act as if they are capable of distinguishing between what needs to happen in Iraq and what needs to happen here.

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I rise to day to discuss several issues related to agriculture funding in the budget resolution proposed by the distinguished chairman of the Budget Committee.

While there are no specific reconciliation instructions for agriculture in this proposal, the summary documents issued by the committee indicate an assumed savings of $80 million from the crop insurance program.

I have been one of the strongest defenders of this program in the Congress, and I have fought hard to improve the program for producers throughout the country.

Simply put, cutting $80 million from this program is exactly the wrong thing to do at this time. As budgets continue to tighten, both the administration and Members of this congress have said that producers must do more to rely on crop insurance as their primary risk management tool and decrease reliance on emergency disaster assistance programs.

Last fall we also saw the collapse of the largest seller of crop insurance in the country. This was the result of several factors, but the significant drought we have suffered took its toll as indemnity payments to producers added up. And, several other companies are not in strong financial positions for the same reason.

Finally, the entire insurance industry has struggled with reinsurance since 9/11. This is also true in the crop insurance industry, and the difficulties of obtaining reinsurance have been compounded by the drought.

The bottom line is this: We have worked hard to make crop insurance the primary risk management tool for producers. But, crop insurance is struggling along with the entire insurance industry, and this cut many be something it can not recover from. It could put several of the smaller companies out of business and lead to further consolidation in the industry and concentration in agriculture.

I urge the chairman to omit this specific cut in any reconciliation instructions that may come out of the conference with the House.

Finally, I understand that an amendment was offered during committee discussion of the resolution that shifted funds from commodity programs to the conservation budget. I am not going to discuss the merits of the proposal that accomplished this shift. I think that is a discussion best conducted within the Agriculture Committee.

However, if we are going to shift funds to the conservation program, I believe they should go to our well-established programs that benefit producers throughout the United States. These include the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, the Conservation Reserve Program, the Wetlands Reserve Program, and the Farmland Protection Program.

I do not think these funds should go to the Conservation Security Program—a program that will divert the largest potion of the funds to only a couple States that can undertake farming practices that simply do not work in regions of the country where the land is not on the river bottom and the rain comes down sideways with a 50-mile-per-hour wind.

Lets put the money where it will actually work and achieve real conservation benefits.

I thank my colleagues for listening to my views on these issues, and I hope they will continue to consider them as this process toward a final budget agreement progresses.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, it does not seem like all that long ago that efforts were under way to reauthorize the 1996 farm bill. Many of you know that we spent over 2 years listening to ideas and formulating the model for this legislation. I am pleased that I was able to be a part of yet another farm bill that provides planting flexibility, price stability, and allows producers to receive a decent return on their investments.

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 is a balanced 6-year farm bill which met specified budget requirements and was adopted by Congress. The farm bill provides an adequate financial safety net in times when prices are depressed. This safety net allows crops to be priced competitively in the domestic and world markets.

The farm bill is less than 1 year old. The United States Department of Agriculture, USDA, is still working to fully implement some of the remaining provisions. However, the actions taken by the distinguished Senator from Iowa during the markup of this budget resolution was an effort to unravel this carefully drafted legislation. I am referring to a provision that was adopted in the Senate Budget Committee which shifts the Senate Agriculture Committee's mandatory spending, totaling $1.4 billion, from agriculture programs, budget function 350, to the Conservation Security Program, budget function 300.

I want to express my strong opposition to this provision as it negates the carefully crafted payment provision during the farm bill. The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 contains specific limitations on program benefits and adds an adjusted gross income test that makes participants with substantial nonfarm income ineligible for program benefits. In addition, program participants are required to meet detailed eligibility requirements regarding contributions of management and/or labor requirements. My colleague's further efforts to make these limitations even more restrictive only adds additional transitional costs which producers must absorb and creates additional administrative costs for USDA.

As a result of this provision, my distinguished colleague ultimately discriminates against southern crops which are more expensive to produce. Farms in the South tend to be larger than those in the Midwest and other areas of the country where the cost of production is much less. Further restrictions on payment limitations only hurt southern commodity producers.

The farm bill has been debated in the Senate Agriculture Committee, passed by Congress, and signed into law by the President of the United States. This provision reopens the farm bill—the farm bill should not be reopened during

the budget process—that results in bad farm policy. And it should not be reopened during the appropriations process—that results in bad farm policy. Therefore, I strongly oppose this provision in the Senate budget resolution.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, the American people recognize the importance of the family farmer to our Nation and the need to provide an adequate safety net for family farmers. In recent years, however, assistance to farmers has come under increasing scrutiny.

Critics of farm payments have argued that the largest corporate farms reap most of the benefits of these payments. What's more, farm payments that were originally designed to benefit small- and medium-sized family farmers have contributed to their own demise. Unlimited farm payments have placed upward pressure on land prices and have contributed to overproduction and lower commodity prices, driving many family farmers off the farm.

Last year, the Senate agreed, by an overwhelming vote of 66 to 31, to a bipartisan amendment sponsored by Senators DORGAN and myself to target Federal assistance to small-and medium-sized family farmers. The amendment would have limited direct and counter-cyclical payments to $75,000. It would have limited gains from marketing loans and LDPs to $150,000, and generic certificates would have been included in this limit. That would have limited farm payments to a combined total of $275,000.

That amendment was critical to family farmers in Iowa and indeed farmers across the Nation. I feel strongly the farm bill failed Iowa and failed all of our farmers when it failed to effectively address the issue of payment limitations.

A solid majority in the Budget Committee voted last week in favor of a payment limitation provision to limit total payments of all kinds to a combined limit of $300,000. This is more than I think is necessary. It is $25,000 more than the limit that won over two-thirds of the Senate. But in the interests of compromise it seems like a fair approach. The most important thing is that loopholes in the payment limitation law be closed so that the limitation at whatever level is actually the real, effective level.

The Budget Committee voted to apply the savings from this reasonable payment limit proposal against the reductions suffered by the Conservation Security Program, CSP, during consideration of the agricultural disaster package in the fiscal year 2003 omnibus appropriations bill.

This new conservation initiative from the 2002 farm bill will reward farmers and ranchers who voluntarily implement effective conservation on their working lands. Farmers and ranchers will receive public support as they provide public benefits to the Nation's natural resources and environment. This program allows family farmers to solve critical resource problems, with graduated rewards for increasing efforts. The CSP is an innovative new program in the Federal agricultural conservation toolbox and its full funding should be restored as soon as possible.

The Budget Committee endorsed payment limitation reform including a combined maximum cap of $300,000 and endorsed restoring funds to the Conservation Security Program. Payment limitation reform is long overdue, a fact reflected in the vote of the Budget Committee. If cuts should be ordered in the final budget resolution emerging from conference, payment limitations would be the most logical place to look for savings. I look forward to working with my colleagues on this important issue.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there be 4 minutes equally divided between myself and the ranking member for closing debate on the resolution.

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

The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I urge our colleagues to vote in favor of the resolution. I thank all of our colleagues. We have conducted a number of rollcall votes. By the time we have final passage, there will have been 51 rollcall votes; we will have had 29 voice votes, for a total of 80 votes on this resolution. That may be an all-time high, one I hope we don't repeat next year.

The budget process, in my opinion, is somewhat flawed. It is not easy to pass a budget. That is one of the reasons I wanted to compliment my friend and colleague, Senator DOMENICI, because he did it year after year. It is not easy to do. I understand we didn't get it done last year. I don't want to be too critical, but we didn't pass a budget last year. And because we didn't pass a budget, we didn't get appropriations bills done. We didn't do a prescription drug bill, a Medicare bill. We didn't do anything to help grow the economy. The budget does lay the blueprint for the next Congress, certainly for the rest of the year. So we need to pass a budget. I have told my colleagues, we need to pass a budget regardless of the size of the growth package.

I readily admit this growth package is not what I wanted. It is about half a loaf. That is better than none.

We could have done better. We didn't; we tried. We let the legislative process work. With 80 votes, the legislative process did work. The Senate did speak.

I thank my colleagues for their participation. I happen to believe the level of debate was good. I think it was a healthy debate. I thank colleagues on all sides for their cooperation in making that happen.

I also especially thank my friend and colleague, Senator CONRAD, and his staff. They have been a pleasure to work with in a very challenging environment, particularly on Friday evening. Also, I thank our staff as well, Hazen Marshall and Stacey Hughes and our entire staff. They worked very hard to put together a budget process that will work, a budget that will lead us to a balanced budget, a budget that will have deficits declining, substantially declining in the next couple of years, the percentage of GDP substantially.

We need to be in balance. We will work to do that. That is not easily done since we have inherited a situation where revenues have declined substantially in the last 2 years. We need to figure out ways to grow the economy. I look forward to working with my colleagues to try to make that happen. I appreciate very much their cooperation and support throughout the challenging last several days. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, first let me thank the outstanding staffs on both sides. Hazen Marshall, staff director for Senator NICKLES, and his able staff, thank you for the really good attitude that you all brought to this task and challenge. I thank also on our side my staff director, Mary Naylor, who has done such a superb job holding us all together. I think part of the reason this was well organized was because of Mary's talents. And to Jim Horney and Sue Nelson and Lisa Konwinski and all of the other staff members of the Budget Committee, thank you.

Special thanks to the chairman of our committee. Thank you for the effort to organize these votes in a way that was comprehensive and that was understandable to people. Thanks, too, for the attitude and the tone you brought to the debate because we have had significant differences. But I think we have conducted ourselves in the way that our forefathers intended the Senate to be conducted—real debate on real differences without personal rancor of any kind.

While this budget resolution has been substantially improved, we have now reduced the President's proposed tax cut of $1.6 trillion to $850 billion. Still I believe it is fatally flawed. I don't believe we can afford $850 billion of tax cuts that will add in this budget resolution over a trillion dollars of deficit to our country when we are already in record deficit and when we are right on the brink of the retirement of the baby boom generation.

That does not make sense to me. I believe it threatens the long-term economic security of our country. I don't believe it will grow the economy. That view is buttressed by the report of the Congressional Budget Office today. They applied dynamic scoring and what they said is, the one thing that is going to grow under this budget is the deficits and the debt of our country. I urge my colleagues to vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ENZI). The Senator's time has expired. All time has expired.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays on the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to the concurrent resolution, as amended. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 56, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 108 Leg.]

YEAS—56

Alexander	Crapo	McConnell
Allard	DeWine	Miller
Allen	Dole	Murkowski
Baucus	Domenici	Nelson (NE)
Bayh	Ensign	Nickles
Bennett	Enzi	Roberts
Bond	Fitzgerald	Santorum
Breaux	Frist	Sessions
Brownback	Graham (SC)	Shelby
Bunning	Grassley	Smith
Burns	Gregg	Snowe
Campbell	Hagel	Specter
Chafee	Hatch	Stevens
Chambliss	Hutchison	Sununu
Cochran	Inhofe	Talent
Coleman	Kyl	Thomas
Collins	Landrieu	Voinovich
Cornyn	Lott	Warner
Craig	Lugar	

NAYS—44

Akaka	Edwards	Lieberman
Biden	Feingold	Lincoln
Bingaman	Feinstein	McCain
Boxer	Graham (FL)	Mikulski
Byrd	Harkin	Murray
Cantwell	Hollings	Nelson (FL)
Carper	Inouye	Pryor
Clinton	Jeffords	Reed
Conrad	Johnson	Reid
Corzine	Kennedy	Rockefeller
Daschle	Kerry	Sarbanes
Dayton	Kohl	Schumer
Dodd	Lautenberg	Stabenow
Dorgan	Leahy	Wyden
Durbin	Levin	

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 23), as amended, was agreed to, as follows:

(The concurrent resolution will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ENZI). The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I wish to thank all of our colleagues for their cooperation. We did finish the budget resolution by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, as we committed to do. That would not have happened if it had not been for the cooperation certainly of Senator CONRAD and his staff.

I wish to thank Mary Naylor and their entire team, as well as Hazen Marshall, Stacey Hughes, Beth Felder, and our team. The staffs had to work extremely hard over the weekend. This lasted about 2 or 3 days longer than is usual for the budget process. I hope maybe we can streamline it next year a little bit more.

I thank all the staff for their hard work. They put in a lot of hours. We produced a product that is not perfect but it is a significant improvement over no budget. Again, I thank my colleagues for their cooperation.

I ask unanimous consent that a list of staff Democrats and Republicans be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Amy Angelier; Lauren Baylor; Dan Brandt, Economist; Cara Duckworth; Beth Smerko Felder; Ron Floyd; Megan Hauck; Jim Hearn; Jody Hernandez; Stacey Hughes; Rachel Jones; Don Kent; Hazen Marshall; David Myers; Maureen O'Neill; and David Ortega.

Gayle Osterberg; Anne Oswalt; David Pappone; Roy Phillips; Cheri Reidy; Margaret Stewart; Bob Taylor; Jennifer Winkler; Lee Greenwood; Letitia Fletcher; Tim Nolan; Lynne Seymour; George Woodall; Shelley Amdur; Steve Bailey; and Rock Cheung, Jr.

Jim Esquea; Tim Galvin; Lawrence Hershon; Jim Horney; Mike Jones; Erin Keogh; Lisa Konwinski; Sarah Kuehl; Jessie LaVine; Stu Nagurka; Mary Naylor; Kobye Noel; Steve Posner; Lee Price; John Righter; Dakota Rudesill; and Barry Strumpf.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, first, I congratulate the chairman of our committee on successfully passing a budget resolution. As strongly as I disagree with the contents of this resolution, I feel equally as strongly about the way this process was conducted, and the chairman's leadership both in the committee and on the floor in terms of the tone that he set and in terms of the attitude he brought to the job. It makes a big difference, and we appreciate it.

I will now take a moment to thank staff: Mary Naylor, my staff director; Jim Horney and Sue Nelson, my deputy staff directors; Lisa Konwinski, my counsel; Shelley Amdur, who handles education and appropriations; along with John Righter, who is our chief numbers man and handles appropriations as well; Steve Bailey, who does taxes; Sarah Kuehl, who handles Social Security and transportation; Jim Esquea, who handles Medicaid, welfare, and veterans; Tim Galvin, who handles agriculture; Mike Jones, homeland security and energy issues; Dakota Rudesill, who handles defense; Rock Cheung, international affairs; Lee Price, our chief economist; Kobye Noel, our chart master—as my colleagues know, we produced a lot of charts—and Stu Nagurka and Steve Posner, in charge of communications for me; and Jessie Lavine, Erin Keogh, and Lawrence Hershon, our staff assistants. We appreciate very much their hard work.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 95; all after the resolving clause is stricken and the text of S. Con. Res. 23 is inserted in lieu thereof, the resolution is adopted, the Senate insists on its amendment and requests a conference with the House, and the Chair appoints conferees.

The Presiding Officer (Mr. ENZI) appointed Mr. NICKLES, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. HOLLINGS, and Mr. SARBANES, conferees on the part of the Senate.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 95), as amended, was agreed to.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. CONRAD. I now ask there be a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. FITZGERALD). Without objection, it is so ordered.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, I rise today with great honor and pride to pay tribute to the men and women of our Armed Forces, tens of thousands of whom are deployed right now in the Middle East in military action against Iraq. I encourage all my colleagues in the Senate, and in the Congress, that we take a few moments out of each and every one of our days we are engaged in this conflict to come to the floor and speak to our constituents, speak to the American people, and speak to the servicemen and servicewomen who are so valiantly out there defending our freedoms and this great country that we believe in. We are going to take a few moments here today to talk about how important are these men and women in service to our country. We would like to encourage, again, all Members of Congress to come to the floor and spend a few minutes out of their day or out of their week to talk about the incredible lives of these individuals who are there on our behalf, defending our freedom.

Over the course of the last week, since hostilities began in earnest on March 19, our troops have made tremendous progress toward the objectives of their mission. At the same time, we have seen a few setbacks, but these do not detract from what has been accomplished. For that, we have no one to thank but the courageous, hard-working men and women of the American service arm and the coalition of Armed Forces.

We hear a great deal about the technology behind this war—missiles, aircraft, telecommunications devices, weaponry, and other equipment of battle. But we should all remember that even the best equipment and the best technology is of little value without the best soldiers and commanders to make it useful.

Today we have over 230,000 troops representing air, sea, and land forces in the theater, with our allies in the coalition contributing an additional 45,000. These young men and women are serving in a wide variety of capacities but with a unifying mission—to liberate the Iraqi people from the brutal regime of Saddam Hussein, and to destroy his weapons of mass destruction which threaten our globe. They are separated from their families and their friends, placing themselves in great personal danger in order to provide for a safer, more secure world for all of us.

I myself have a young man from my staff who is serving in the Middle East.

He was called up on a Tuesday, left here on Friday, and I just recently heard from his mother. He is in Baghdad. Our thoughts and prayers go out to him. We want him to know we are thinking about him and that we are looking forward to his safe return to us here at home.

We are all deeply grateful for the sacrifices our service men and women are making and the risks they are taking on all of our behalf. Those sacrifices and those risks will not be forgotten.

In addition, I remind my colleagues that a large number of these troops come from the National Guard and the Reserve, nearly 217,000 at our last count. Over 2,000 of these guardsmen and reservists come from my home State of Arkansas. One of those soldiers is Major Stephen Wilson, of Rogers, AK.

Major Wilson, who is 38 years old, is the operations officer for an Apache attack helicopter unit, the 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry of the 11th Aviation Regiment. We have all seen in recent days the difficult odds our attack helicopter crews work under. They are vulnerable to small arms fire from the ground, not to mention difficult weather conditions that we have all been seeing on the television. In spite of these difficulties, Major Wilson and his colleagues persevere in an extremely challenging but extremely necessary mission.

He is a proud representative of our State and our Nation, and we are extremely proud of him for his service to this country.

If there were a way to thank each and every soldier by name, I would do it. I would take the necessary time to make sure that each of them knows how important they are in this conflict and in our resolve. Since it is not possible for me to recognize who is serving today, allow me at least to give a sense of where these units come from all across our great State of Arkansas: Little Rock, North Little Rock, Fort Smith, Van Buren, Siloam Springs, West Memphis, Ozark, Charleston, Marked Tree, Fayetteville, Pine Bluff—and the list could go on.

Furthermore, these units are comprised of individuals from all over the State, meaning that we have soldiers serving from virtually every community in our great State of Arkansas. It is a reminder that even from thousands of miles away, Arkansans have a very serious stake in this war.

On behalf of the people of Arkansas, I wish to say we are proud of all of our troops, and we look forward to welcoming them back home soon and safely.

It is also true that as of today we have suffered casualties, and we should not turn away from this fact. It is believed that up to 14 of our troops from both the U.S. and our broader coalition are missing or captured by enemy forces. Our prayers are that they will be returned to their units safely and timely.

We also had a number of our troops wounded in battle, and we wish them the best in a speedy, full recovery from all of their injuries.

Most tragically of all, over 40 troops from the U.S. and from Great Britain have been killed in action or in accidents. We extend our deepest sympathies to their families, their friends, their loved ones, and we vow that we will honor their service and their memories by finishing this great task in which they have given their lives. Those lives will not have been lost in vain.

In the days and weeks to come, we will no doubt discover that others of our troops will have been captured, wounded, or cut down, but we must remain firm in our resolve that Operation Iraqi Freedom will continue to move forward.

My own father, who passed away last October, was a veteran of the Korean war, and he taught me always to respect the great commitment made by our troops in fighting to protect our freedoms. He taught me better to understand the mind of a soldier when he shared with me the stories and experiences he had on the front lines of Korea. And also, sitting at the foot of the chair of my grandfather, who served in World War I—both of my grandfathers did—I listened to stories of his travels on trains from Helena, AR, west to Little Rock, to catch another train to boot camp, and then on to France.

To better understand the minds of the men and women who serve us in the armed services, each of us must take the time to reflect on the personal stories of the family members, the neighbors, the friends, the staff, all of those who are so critically involved in this conflict in which we now find ourselves.

I again encourage all of my colleagues to take those few moments out of their day, out of their week, to think about what these generous souls are giving on our behalf to be there, to defend so many of the freedoms we in this great country take for granted, to remember them and their families in our thoughts and prayers.

Our troops of today's generation deserve the same respect for the work they do as when we look back at many of our family members who have served in previous wars.

As I reflect today with my colleagues in the Senate, there is no one I think of more at this moment than one of my colleagues here in the Senate, who I would like to share my time with, someone who has a son overseas in the Middle East.

I have to say, as a mother of twin boys who are now in the first grade, it is amazing to imagine how quickly our children grow up. The questions that I get at night from my children—Where they are going? What they are doing? What is our country involved in? Where will they be in 10 or 15 years from now?—it is so important for each of us to reflect on this as we lift up the service men and women who are there valiantly now defending our freedoms.

They and their families will be in our hearts and in our minds and in our prayers in the coming weeks. We wish them Godspeed, God's safety, and a timely return home to this country and this land that we all love so much.

I thank you, Mr. President. And I want to again tell my colleague, Senator JOHNSON, how much I appreciate him and his family for the incredible contribution they make with his son serving in the Middle East right now. It is an unbelievable gift, and we are all truly indebted.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I am honored to have an opportunity to take part in this tribute to our American troops this evening here on the floor of the Senate.

I express a special commendation to my colleague and good friend, Senator LINCOLN of Arkansas, for her comments and for her leadership in helping to put together this tribute, as well as my South Dakota colleague, Senator DASCHLE, for all his support of our troops and his suggestion that we go ahead with a regular tribute and acknowledgement of the contributions our American military personnel are making.

This is a matter of particular personal importance to me with my own oldest son Brooks serving in the 101st Airborne in Iraq today. But there are thousands of others from South Dakota—Reserve, National Guard, Active Duty, Ellsworth Air Force Base in our case in South Dakota—and around the Nation who each are making profound contributions to the security and freedom of this country and for stability in that troubled part of the world.

We owe so much to each and every one of them, not only to honor the men and women who put on our Nation's uniform and jeopardize their lives by doing so but their families who suffer mightily from the sacrifices that are made, and from the prospect of death, injury, captivity—all that to which our military personnel subject themselves.

In our own family's case, we recognize this is a voluntary military in this day and age. Our son Brooks chose to enter the military. It was not my encouragement, particularly. It was his choice. All the credit goes to him. And that young man, with so many others, has served in four conflicts in the last 5 years: Bosnia, Kosovo, Iraq, now Afghanistan. And we in South Dakota, and many around the country, do what we can to demonstrate our pride and support. In South Dakota, we have revived an old World War I tradition of wearing the blue star if we have a family member in the war. We have banners on our front door and at my offices around the State and here in Washington with that same blue star. We recognize that as the tradition goes, some of those blue stars will eventually become gold stars, and that is the symbol worn by parents who have lost a loved one.

We keep a map of Iraq in our family kitchen, as I am sure, in some similar way, the hundreds of thousands of other parents do all across this country, trying to keep track, as best we can, where our son is, as others keep track of where their sons and daughters are, their husbands and wives.

The communication, of course, at this time is just spotty. Initially, we were able to get a couple e-mails. A short time ago, I received a note from our son Brooks on the back of a beef stew box, a piece of cardboard. They had no paper anywhere, and they had to make do as they could. We will keep this forever.

We sent, obviously, notes and cards to them. There are organizations that have encouraged this to go on, and I am sure that builds morale, as these troops suffer through incredible circumstances, both militarily as well as just the sandstorms and all that goes with living out in a desert and in a troubled place.

One of the things Barbara and I recognize, that all the other parents share in a way that is more profound than could possibly be the case unless you have had a loved one in a circumstance like this, is that every glance at the television, every glance toward the radio could convey to you at any moment some catastrophic news. There are many who follow the conflict, have an interest in it, but the families recognize more so than anyone the very real nature of what is happening.

These are not video games. There is a tendency sometimes in the media to talk about collateral damage and casualties, and you see numbers on the maps and colored diagrams going in one direction or another. But the families recognize that each one of those represents real people and real hopes and the love of real families. We in this body understand the sacrifices that need to be made. But it goes almost beyond understanding how much we owe to these men and women and all that they do.

This past week, Barbara and I were listening at our home to some reports, and there was a report of casualties and deaths in our son's division. I went to tell Barbara about it, and it was almost impossible for me to even speak. She had been following the news herself and knew that in this instance it involved a different brigade than where our son was; our son had left Kuwait for Iraq the day before. We breathed a sigh of relief as parents will when their own son or daughter has escaped harm, but we recognized more than ever because of our circumstances that while our son in that case was safe, the losses were very real. Someone else's son, someone else's husband was injured, was killed, somewhere else families are devastated.

We will win this war. We have the greatest military in the world. The world will be a better place when we are victorious. But it is important for us to take stock of the men and women who make this possible. It is important for us to express our honor for what they do and who they are. It is important for us to share our prayers that this conflict is a short and decisive conflict with the fewest losses of life possible on either side.

We as a people owe more to these men and women than words can possibly convey. It is my hope that as we follow this conflict and pray that it is a short one, we in the Senate will do all we can, obviously, to express our honor and our praise for these people, but also that we will go beyond that to take the steps necessary so when they come home, they will come home to a country where there is opportunity, where schools for their children are good, where the environment is clean, the economy is growing, where there are jobs available that are challenging and meaningful to them, and that so long as they remain in the military, their pay, their housing, their quality of life is what it deserves to be.

Every night when we go home and live in relative comfort, I hope we keep in mind these hundreds of thousands of our troops, who this very night, many of them, are sleeping in a hole in the sand 2 or 3 feet deep to protect themselves from shrapnel during the course of the evening, blowing sand, horrible weather, fear of snipers, bombs, biological, chemical warfare that could arise at any moment, and appreciate the quality of these troops and how we as a free people could not possibly sustain our freedoms were it not for the willingness of these troops, these men and women, to voluntarily step into this kind of circumstance and fight this war.

I yield to our leader, Senator DASCHLE. Again, I acknowledge my gratitude to him for helping to organize this tribute to our American troops.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I am sure everyone can appreciate the difficulty that our Senator from South Dakota has experienced in coming to the floor to talk, as he has with pride and enormous appreciation, of the commitment made by a member of his own family.

On a regular basis, we want to come to the Chamber with our Republican colleagues and call attention to all those who, like Brooks Johnson, are now serving in the Persian Gulf. I thank the distinguished Senator from Arkansas for agreeing to help organize today's colloquy and reiterate my deep gratitude to my dear friend and colleague, Senator JOHNSON. We thought it would be appropriate today, as we begin this practice, to call the Senate's attention to the fact that Senator JOHNSON is the only Member of this Congress who has a child serving in Iraq.

As he has noted, Brooks, his son, is a staff sergeant with the Army's 101st Airborne Division. He is 31 years old. I know him, and I can see why his parents are as proud of him as they are. He is remarkable. He has turned down offers to attend recruiter's school because he said he wants to be close to the men he leads.

He is 6′1″, 215 pounds, almost all shoulders and biceps. He loves the rough-and-tumble of the outdoors. But he also enjoys gourmet cooking and Broadway musicals. He is a very thoughtful man, an eloquent speaker. He loves to read the classics. When he was serving in Afghanistan, he was reading the history of the Peloponnesian wars.

He has known since he was a very young man that he wanted to serve and protect our country. He missed his own high school graduation because he was attending Marine Corps Reserves basic training at Parris Island. He went to college at the University of South Dakota, and during college, Brooks served first in the Marine Corps Reserve, then the Army Reserve, then the Army National Guard.

The reason he served in so many branches is that he was looking for a unit that was close to college. He wanted to be able to learn and to serve at the same time. When he decided to make a life of the military, he chose the Army. He has now been on active duty for 8 years.

This is Staff Sergeant Johnson's fourth war in 5 years. He served in Bosnia. He served in Kosovo. He arrived in Afghanistan in December of 2001, 2 months after the terrorist attack on America. He served in Afghanistan for 6 months.

Like so many family members who have loved ones in this war, TIM and Barb aren't exactly sure where Brooks is detailed, but they do know his division has been moved into Iraq.

The other day, TIM came to the floor and he shared something with me. I hope he doesn't mind if I share it with our colleagues. Brooks sent him a postcard, but this isn't a normal postcard. This is a postcard carved out of the box of an MRE, one of these portable meals that they take with them. I have eaten them myself. They are a box about like this. Well, Brooks carved out one side of an MRE, brown, cardboard box. On one side of that postcard box he wrote a message to his parents. On the other side was the address to his parents and his return address. Up in the right-hand corner, instead of a postage stamp, it said ''free.'' There are a lot of connotations to the word ''free'' on that postcard.

So we think of Brooks and the freedom he fights for, the freedom he has, and all the things that we cherish as Americans, recognizing that Brooks Johnson learned those values from two extraordinary parents.

A quarter of a million Americans and several thousand South Dakotans today serve in the Persian Gulf. We are in awe of their courage. Their dedication. Their sacrifice. We are grateful to every one of them and their families.

We are resolved to ensure they have everything they need so they can be successful and return home safely.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, it seems only yesterday that Senator JOHNSON and I were sharing stories about our sons, the athletes. They both were back here with their parents in the East while we were in the Congress. They were little boys then. Then they got to where they were in high school, and they were bigger boys, but they were boys. So it is hard to imagine now our two boys are grown up. They are adults.

Barbara and TIM's son, though, is really grown up. This young man is fighting in the deserts, in the sands of Iraq so that we can continue to enjoy our freedoms in America.

I had to call TIM at home this past Sunday to talk about some of the issues we were working on legislatively. I hated to call TIM because I am sure he and Barbara at this stage do not like to get phone calls on Sunday afternoons, during nonworking hours. I am sure TIM and Barbara every night pray for their boy and probably a few times during the day.

All of us should recognize that we, too, can join in a prayer for the Johnson's son Brooks. We need to do that because you see, what is going on in Iraq is more than just numbers. We hear numbers such as 250,000 people over there, and we hear talk about skirmishes that have taken place. I pray that Brooks Johnson will return home safely to his parents, TIM and Barbara.

I received a message yesterday, as we are notified as Senators, when something happens to someone from our States. Yesterday I received a message about a young man from Tonopah, NV. It used to be a big booming town where heavyweight prize fights were held, and at the turn of the last century it was a great mining community. Now it is a relatively—not relatively, it is a small place.

A man by the name of Frederick Pokorney came there. His parents moved around a lot. He wanted to finish high school. He was a sophomore. He was able to stay with the sheriff. Wade Lieseke took in this young man. It was great for Tonopah High School because he was large—6 foot 7, very athletic; he was a linebacker, a center for the basketball team. He was a great young man, quiet and kept to himself.

To make a long story short, he went into the military. He was in the military for 11 years. He was just made a second lieutenant. He was one of the seven who was taken down in an ambush and killed.

People who serve in the Iraqi conflict are in harm's way—every one of them. My heart goes out to Senator JOHNSON. Through TIM JOHNSON, we all recognize the ultimate sacrifice that young men and women are making in Iraq. He represents, in effect, the Congress. He is the only Member I am aware of who has a family member serving in that conflict.

I congratulate TIM and Barbara for raising such a wonderful son. As I said, Brooks sets a great example for other young men and women in this country. I again say I hope that we all celebrate with the Johnsons when he returns home.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Nevada for his words. We came to Congress together with TIM JOHNSON many years ago and feel a special kinship and friendship with TIM and Barbara and the family.

I was fortunate enough to be walking past the Chamber and saw Senator TIM JOHNSON speaking and stopped to hear the words he had to say about his son. I thought he showed remarkable composure when he talked about his son who is currently with the Army in Iraq in the midst of this battle. Obviously, he has a great deal of pride and, of course, a great deal of concern, natural concern of any parent.

And then to hear Senator DASCHLE's special tribute to Brooks Johnson told us a little more about this young man, an extraordinary young man who has done so many things in his short life of 31 years and has tried over and over to continue to serve his country.

What a great reminder of the men and women who are serving their country overseas today. I am glad this Senate went on record today with an incredible vote of 100 to 0 to increase combat pay and the family separation allowance of those who are serving. That is something that should be done, and I am glad we said it today and said it decisively, and I hope we move quickly to change the law to help those families.

I also wish to say before I yield to my great friend and colleague from West Virginia, that I thank the Senator from Arkansas, Mrs. LINCOLN, who has brought us to the floor now several times to talk about our men and women in uniform. It is important we continue on a daily basis to remind America that this Senate, as well as the Congress, is very sensitive to the fact that what is happening on the screens of the television just a few feet away involves real lives and real Americans and that our commitment is to them.

The vote in the Senate just last week, 99 to 0 in support of those men and women in uniform, I think shows the current state of affairs in America transcends our political differences. We may disagree on foreign policy, we may disagree on what led up to this war, but when the first shot was fired, 99 Senators, everyone voting stood up and said: At this point, make no mistake; we are standing behind our men and women in uniform.

I have been surprised and disappointed by some of the comments I have received in my office from a few people, some by e-mail and some by telephone, who have taken exception to that vote. They said: We thought you voted against the use-of-force resolution, and now what are you doing, hedging your bet by saying you support the men and women in uniform?

What I have said to them and I say on the floor of the Senate is: You better draw a clear and bright line between the debate on foreign policy and whether or not we stand up for these young men and women who have volunteered to serve their country to risk their lives in battle.

I lived through the Vietnam war and remember it as one of the most formative experiences in my life and one of the saddest chapters in American history, the fact that many people channeled their hatred for the war toward the men and women in uniform. That was unfair. It was unfortunate. It should never be repeated.

Political leaders make decisions about foreign policy, committing our troops in various parts of the world, and those men and women who are sworn to serve the leaders and our Nation meet their call of duty, and we should never forget they did not make the foreign policy decision. They are serving their Nation as we asked them to serve. We should never ever compromise our commitment to them. That is why I think the resolution we have adopted, the vote today when it comes to combat pay and the tribute on the floor, is a reminder that we stand as one, shoulder to shoulder in unity, with these men and women in uniform.

In the congressional family of 100 Senators and 435 Members of the House, it turns out we have, to my knowledge, only one son, and that is TIM JOHNSON's son, Brooks, who is in our Senate congressional family serving our Nation.

We are going to be mindful of him. I ask TIM every day: Have you heard anything from Brooks? We will be mindful of him, as we are mindful of people from my town of Springfield, IL, or my State of Illinois who may be in harm's way. It is part of an expanding American family that we come together in times of fear and in times of crisis.

To those who oppose the war, to those who favor peace, please draw that clear bright line: We should never take it out on the men and women in uniform, no matter how much we may disagree with the policy. And I think most Americans who feel that way, even those with misgivings with the events that led up to this war, feel this commitment should be singular.

I mentioned Senator BYRD. Today there is a front-page story in the Washington Post about a family in West Virginia—and I imagine he will bring our attention to that in his remarks which follow. It, too, tells the story of a young woman, in this case, who made an extraordinary sacrifice and is in an usual, unpredictable situation perhaps being captured in Iraq.

I take the floor today to thank Senator LINCOLN and Senator JOHNSON. I urge my colleagues, if you can, spare a few moments each day to come and tell a story of those you know who are serving this war and serving this Nation so well.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, just an hour or so ago, barely 50 feet out this door, many remaining members of the Delaware Army and National Guard were gathered. Coincidentally, it was a day that had long been scheduled for them to be on the Hill. National Guard associations from all over the country have converged on Washington, DC.

In the last several weeks, many of their colleagues in the Army and National Guard have since deployed to the Middle East, to the area around Iraq, and some to Iraq. On Sunday night, at a National Guard headquarters hangar in Wilmington, DE, at the airport we said goodbye to almost 100 of the members of the 166th Military Airlift Command as they set off to join their colleagues and their aircraft on the other side of the world. They are the maintainers of the C–130s which are part of the air bridge from the United States to Iraq.

It starts here with a very large C–5 aircraft and includes the C–17s, and at the end of the delivery system, the end of the air bridge, the C–130s, the smaller sort of rangers. The maintainers, the members of the 166th who have gone to join their colleagues, are the folks who make sure the landing gear works, the radio works, the hydraulic works, the avionics systems work. Without them we would not have C–130s that function, and without C–130s we would not have the kind of air bridge that we need to be successful in this war.

I was privileged to be there to salute them and send them on their way, as were our former Governor, former commander in chief of the Delaware National Guard, MIKE CASTLE, our Congressman, and our Governor, our current commander in chief of the Delaware National Guard, Ruth Ann Minner. I was privileged to be their commander in chief for much of the last decade when I served as Governor of Delaware.

As we said goodbye to the men and women of the 166th, we also had important words for the families of those who stayed behind, the wives and the husbands, the children, the parents of those whose loved ones are climbing on to that C–5 and getting prepared to fly thousands of miles from home. In some cases—and I say this as one who deployed on several occasions as a naval flight officer in the Navy back during the Vietnam war—the deployment is tougher not on the one being deployed but on the ones who stay behind. To those families we owe a lot because they have shared their loved ones with us, and in many cases they put their families in difficult straits at a tough time.

We voted today on several amendments to the budget resolution which are designed to lighten the load a little bit for those who are being deployed, particularly those who are being put into a hazardous place to perform their duties. I am grateful for that and would express on behalf of not just the families of the 166th whose loved ones deployed this Sunday but on behalf all the members of the Delaware National Guard who are now serving in this war, thank you on their behalf and on behalf of their families for thinking of them, for remembering them along with the other Guard and Reserve men and women who are being called to active duty around this country.

During the time I served on active duty in Southeast Asia, we would from time to time receive a Reserve air crew that came in usually from the west coast, but flying their P–3 aircraft for 3 years hunting for Red October, tracking Soviet nuclear submarines, but also flying low-level missions along the coast of Vietnam and Cambodia.

In those days, back in the early 1970s, when we had a tough and dangerous job to do, we would never turn it over to a reserve air crew. The Active-Duty crews would take care of that, and we would be careful to send the Reserve air crews on a job where they could not get in trouble or could not get hurt. That was 30-some years ago. Today it is such a different world. We have guards men and women, activated, deployed, reservists called to active duty who are serving alongside full-time soldiers, sailors, and airmen. They are doing the very same jobs, dangerous jobs, tough dirty jobs in some cases, and to them we owe an enormous debt of gratitude.

A closing word to my friend Senator TIM JOHNSON of South Dakota whose son is over in Iraq, and I am sure a matter of great concern to him and to Barbara, his wife, a concern that is shared by literally tens of thousands of families across this country. I say a special prayer for Brooks and for the Johnson family, and remember them and all who have been deployed and serve our Nation at this tough and challenging time.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. CLINTON. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. COLLINS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN

Mrs. CLINTON. Madam President, I come to the floor on very sad business, both for this body, for my State, and my country. We have just received word that Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan has passed away. For those of us who were privileged to know him, to work with him, to admire and respect him, this is a loss beyond my capacity to express.

Senator Moynihan for decades represented the highest ideals and values of the United States of America. A son of Hell's Kitchen in New York City, he rose to be a confidante and adviser to Presidents. He is responsible for many of the most important ideas and legislative programs that have improved the lives of people in New York, people here in Washington, DC, and our country and around the world.

I am very honored to hold the seat that Senator Moynihan held for so long and so well. Along with his wonderful wife Liz Moynihan, they have been great counselors and advisers to me personally. I will miss him greatly.

Sometimes when I sit here on the floor of the Senate, I wish that Senator Moynihan could be here in spirit as well as body, that his wise counsel could influence our decisionmaking, that he would remind us that what we do, what we say, what we vote for is not just for today, it is for all time. It goes down into the history books. It represents the judgments that we make. It truly displays the values that we claim to hold.

He understood that being a U.S. Senator was a precious trust. Anyone who ever heard him speak knows the experience of learning more than you ever thought possible in a short period of time. He could explain and expound on such a range of subjects that it took my breath away. I remember riding with him through western New York on a bus during the 1992 campaign and hearing the most exquisite disposition about the history of the Indian nations, the Revolutionary War, the geological formations. The love he had for New York and America was overwhelming and so obvious to anyone who spent more than a minute in his company.

He also held high standards about what we should expect from this great country of ours. He wanted us to keep looking beyond the short term, looking beyond the horizon, thinking about the next generation, understanding the big problems that confront us, having the courage to tackle what is not immediately popular, even not immediately understandable, because that is what we are charged to do in this deliberative body.

Senator Moynihan's scholarly undertakings also will stand the test of time.

He sometimes was ahead of his time. In each of his writings or his speeches, whether you agreed with him or not, you were forced to think and think hard. He certainly opened my eyes to a lot of difficult issues.

I could not have had a stronger, more helpful adviser during my campaign than Senator Moynihan. I started my listening tour of my exploration of whether or not to run for this office at Pinders Corner, his farm in upstate New York, a place that he loved beyond words.

I met him in a little schoolhouse, a 19th century schoolhouse that was on the property where he wrote. He would walk down the road from his house to that little schoolhouse every day where he would think deeply and write about the issues that he knew would be important, not just for tomorrow's headline but for years and years to come.

There is not any way that anyone will ever fill his place in this Senate, not just in the order of succession definition but in the intellectual power, the passion, the love of this extraordinary body and our country. He will be so missed.

On behalf of myself and my family and the people I represent, I extend my condolence and sympathy not only to his wonderful family and not only to New Yorkers who elected him time and time again, increasing majorities from one end of the State to the next, but to our country. We have lost a great American, an extraordinary Senator, an intellectual, and a man of passion and understanding about what really makes this country great.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I rise in abject sadness on the horrible news that Senator Moynihan has passed from our midst. When it was announced in our caucus that this terrible event had occurred, you could just see the energy come out of the room and the sadness come on everybody's face. Senator Moynihan was a unique individual. He wasn't just another Senator. He wasn't just another human being. He was very special.

Rarely has one man changed society so with his ideas, the idea that one man can change society for the better. Senator Moynihan's life was testament to that fact. His life was testament to the fact that one man who just thinks can make an enormous difference. He was truly a giant—a giant as a thinker, as a Senator, and as a human being. He was a kind and compassionate person, a loving husband. Liz, our thoughts go out to you and to all of the Moynihan children and family. I have known him for a very long time.

When I was a student at Harvard College, I audited his course. I got to know him a little bit then. As I went through my congressional career, we used to have lunch every so often. He was a complete joy to just sit down and have lunch with and exchange ideas.

He looked out for people. He cared about people. He had real courage. When he disagreed with the conventional wisdom, nothing would stop Pat Moynihan from making his view heard and making it heard in such an interesting and intellectually and thoughtful way.

Again, he changed our world for the better. There are hundreds of millions of human beings in this country who do not know it, but he made their lives better. There are billions of people in the world, and through his work he made their lives better.

Senator Moynihan was loved in my home State of New York from one end of the State to the other. We are a big, broad, diverse State. It is very hard to find consensus with 19 million New Yorkers, but just about everybody loved Pat Moynihan. He did it through a big heart and a great mind.

He is now with his Maker. I know I will be looking up to the heavens for inspiration, as I looked to Senator Moynihan's office when he was still with us.

I very much regret his passing. I pray for the Moynihan family and for the children. I hope God gives us a few more Pat Moynihans in this Senate and in this country. I thank the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I commend the distinguished Senator from New York for his eloquence and his empathy for the family especially of our departed colleague, Pat Moynihan.

The Senator from New York used the term ''giant,'' and, indeed, in this case, I can think of no better word to describe the man, the magnitude, the depth, the history, the persona of Pat Moynihan.

''The Almanac of American Politics'' called Pat Moynihan the Nation's best thinker among politicians since Lincoln and its best politician among thinkers since Jefferson. Scholar, educator, statesman, adviser to four Presidents—Presidents Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, and Ford—Pat Moynihan was the only person in American history to serve in a Cabinet or sub-Cabinet position in four successive administrations.

As my colleagues have noted, he represented the State of New York for 24 years in the Senate with unique vision, imagination, intelligence, and integrity. In many respects, Pat Moynihan was larger than life, whether on the streets of New York or in the corridors of this Capitol. He was a beloved father, grandfather, friend, and colleague to so many of us.

I, too, extend my condolences on behalf of the entire Senate to his wife Liz, to his children, Tim, Maura, and John, his grandchildren, Zora and Michael Patrick. New York and the Nation have lost a giant.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. LOTT. Madam President, I was very sorry to learn of the passing of our good friend and great Senator from New York, Senator Moynihan. I wanted to come and extend condolences on behalf of myself and a lot of other Senators to the family, the children, the grandchildren, and the people of New York, and to America because we have lost truly a great man in Senator Pat Moynihan.

Sometimes people do not realize the types of relationships we do build in this Chamber across the broad philosophical and partisan divide. But Pat Moynihan was not that kind of man. He was always willing to work with Senators, no matter where they were from or what their views were, to try to do the right thing.

Since I have been watching the Senate over the last 30 years up close and personal, as a House Member and a Senator, I have not known a more brilliant and more erudite Senator than the distinguished Senator Pat Moynihan of New York. He served his country in so many different critical roles.

He studied, wrote papers, and made us realize problems we would just as soon not talk about—problems with the children in America, the problems of poverty, the importance of the world community.

He did so many exceptional things for Democratic administrations and, yes, Republican administrations, and in the majority and in the minority in the Senate. I grew to admire him and appreciate him, to seek his advice, and even try to get his vote on occasion, and on occasion he gave it because I was able to convince him that maybe it was the right thing to do.

He also had a sense of humor I learned to appreciate. But more than anything, I will remember my encounters with Senator Moynihan in the little dining room downstairs. About once a week—sometimes not that often, maybe once a month—I would go down to get a bite to eat and he would be there. He always ate strange orders of food, I might say, but I just loved his knowledge. It became an opportunity for me to learn about the world. I would pick a country: Tell me about India. An hour later he was still talking.

I remember one time, I said: I do not quite understand what is going on in East Timor, and he corrected my pronunciation and told me what was going on in that part of the world, what had happened historically—such a wealth of knowledge—all the players involved, the religious considerations, what the solutions could have been, what the solutions might be, what the future would hold. More than once—I would say at least three times—before I got back to my office, before the afternoon

was out, a book would arrive that he had written or that I should read to understand what was going on in the world. What a special touch.

Senator Pat Moynihan tried to help educate this Senator, one who needed a lot of help, but he gave me a greater appreciation of our relationship with countries and people all over the world.

This was a giant of a man, a giant of a Senator, a humble man, in many respects. I have missed him since he left the Senate, and we will all miss him now that he has gone on to his great reward.

I had to come to the floor and express my personal feelings about the great Senator from New York and how much he meant to me personally, to the Senate, and to the country.

I yield the floor, Madam President.

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ALEXANDER). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I have just heard the saddening news that our former colleague, Senator Moynihan of New York, has passed away. This is a great loss for the State of New York, but it is also a great loss for the people of the United States. He was one of the truly outstanding public servants of his time and one of the intellectual towers of this body.

I first met Pat Moynihan when I served in the Nixon administration working at the Department of Transportation. I can say with some accuracy that the name Pat Moynihan filled us all with dread and fear because he was the President's counselor on domestic issues. We were afraid he would come to the Department of Transportation and expose all of our weaknesses; that with his intellect he could discover very quickly where we were doing things wrong.

I met him at the White House as we would go over and discuss various transportation issues. On one occasion, Secretary Volpe invited Mr. Moynihan to come to the Department and address all of the Department's senior management. We had a program of management dinners where all of the senior officials of the Department would gather together and we would have a speaker come in and talk with us. Mr. Moynihan was the first of those speakers, along with Bryce Harlow, who came at my invitation, a little later. That was my moment in the sun with Secretary Volpe, that I was able to call Bryce Harlow and get him to come over and give the address. I still remember very clearly what Pat Moynihan said to us on that occasion and the lesson he gave us.

Being the student of history that he was, he went back to relatively recent history in describing pivotal events in America. He made this point: Political scientists assume that President Kennedy and President Johnson were activist Presidents, whereas President Eisenhower is always described as a passive President, or a pacifist kind of President. He said that particular characterization is given by their opponents, as well as their defenders, people defending Eisenhower's passive attitude toward Government, as well as those attacking it, and so on with Kennedy and Johnson.

However, he said, history will show that President Eisenhower affected life in the United States more than all of the things done by Kennedy and Johnson put together. Why? Because President Eisenhower was responsible for the creation of the interstate highway system.

Recognize again, he was addressing a group of officials at the Department of Transportation. He had done his homework and focused on a transportation issue. He outlined for us the changes in American life that came from the interstate highway system, how cities that were left off the system more or less withered and died and other cities that found themselves on the system had tremendous growth; how the system created efficiency for the transportation of goods and people all over the United States.

I remember one statistic, when I worked at the Department of Transportation, that said 95 percent of intercity trips took place on the interstate highway system. We focused on travel as being a competition in those days between air travel and rail travel, and indeed in the industrial age, going back to Abraham Lincoln's time and after the Civil War, almost all intercity trips were by rail. Then the airlines came in and we talked about the airlines cutting into the rail industry.

He pointed out it was not the airline industry that destroyed railroad passenger traffic; It was the interstate highway system and the convenience that came with the opportunity to take one's own automobile and go from one city to the other and then have local transportation while there. They did not have to catch a cab when they came out of the train station. They brought it with them.

It was this ability to see beyond the specifics of conventional wisdom, step back and see the overall picture that defined Pat Moynihan. He did it for us in that particular speech, but he did it throughout his entire career.

I remember as we became acquainted that he talked with me about the work he did with my father when my father was in the Senate and he was in the Nixon administration. They were talking about programs that the Nixon administration tried to put into place which, for one reason or another, the Congress did not accept. He said to me, if we had prevailed in that program that Wallace Bennett was for, we wouldn't have many of the urban problems that we have today.

I won't try to imitate his accent because it was distinctly his and was part of his charm.

One of the things that I had not understood but that I came to know while Pat Moynihan was in the Senate was the role he played in the rejuvenation of Washington, DC. The story is told and accepted as conventional wisdom that when John F. Kennedy went in his inaugural parade from the Capitol to the White House, he noticed how rundown Pennsylvania Avenue was—and it was. Those of us who remember Pennsylvania Avenue in the 1960s remember it as a place of rundown seedy shops and disreputable buildings that were badly in need of replacement. The conventional wisdom is that John F. Kennedy noticed that as he went by in his limousine and said, We have to do something about that. And the rejuvenation of Pennsylvania Avenue began in the Kennedy administration.

In fact, that is not true. It was not John F. Kennedy who noticed it; it was Pat Moynihan who noticed it and called it to the attention of John F. Kennedy, who, then, in the spirit of all of us in politics, took his staffer's advice and put it forward as his own.

Pat Moynihan, as chairman of what we used to call the Public Works Committee—now it is the Environment and Public Works Committee—Pat Moynihan, of what we used to call the Public Works Committee, presided over the public works that saw to it that Pennsylvania Avenue was turned into the kind of memorial avenue that the world's greatest power deserves; that it changed from what it had been to become the architectural delight that it is today.

I had not realized that until I read Pat Moynihan's memos. He shared them with me, in another circumstance, and going through the memos I realized he was personally the driving force behind that kind of an effort. That demonstrates how much of a renaissance man he was. He was interested in architecture. He was interested in art. He was one of those who helped create the National Endowment for the Arts.

Yes, as a legislator he was interested in public issues and public policy, but as a renaissance man he remained interested in just about everything else.

I can't think of any career covering a wider number of opportunities than his: Ambassador to the United Nations, Ambassador to India, serving Presidents regardless of party, regardless of ideology, with wisdom, clarity, and again the ability to see the big picture, the overall historical circumstance, and not just the issue directly in front of him.

I remember when he was chairman of the Finance Committee and we were locked in this Chamber in a bitter battle over health care. He did his duty. He was the good soldier. He did his best to carry the water for the administration. But in private conversations with him he would candidly share some of

the same concerns that the rest of us had. While he was the good soldier all the way to the end, I know he gave the administration Dutch uncle advice as to what they should be doing.

I remember sitting in the Cabinet Room of the White House when President Clinton had a group of us down to talk about what we needed to do to get trade authority, to get fast track. All of us were being appropriately respectful of the President, as you are in that kind of circumstance. All of us were trying to put forward our opinions in as tender and gingerly expressed a way as we could because we were with the President. Pat Moynihan sat at the President's left and the President said; ''What do we need to do to get trade authority passed?''

He said; ''Sir, you need to get more Democrats.''

That warmed my heart. The Republicans were in favor of fast track. We didn't want to say it. And Pat Moynihan summarized it: ''Sir, you need to get more Democrats.''

The President looked at him and said; ''Pat, you are absolutely right. How do we do that?''

Then they had a very candid discussion.

He was not overly awed by anyone, regardless—with respect to their position. But he was always awed by any human being who had something to tell him. His attitude was that he could learn from anyone.

His health was not the best. His passing is not unexpected. But this is a time for us to rejoice in the opportunity of having known him, having worked with him in this body and having been blessed by his intellect, his humor, his humility, and his great understanding. We shall miss him, and we express our great condolence to his wife Liz and to all of the members of his family.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COLEMAN). The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I am glad I had the opportunity to hear the Senator from Utah talk about our friend Pat Moynihan because in 1969 the Senator from Utah and I had different jobs. I was working for Bryce Harlow in the White House and he was working for Secretary Volpe, both of us in the Nixon administration.

One of the things I think many people will look at, about the Nixon administration, is what an extraordinarily diverse group of individuals the President was able to attract. The Senator from Utah and I were young persons. I am not talking about us at that time. But I am talking about Henry Kissinger and Arthur Burns and Bryce Harlow and foremost among them was Pat Moynihan.

Particularly when we look at a Washington, DC, where so many issues are so divisive and so partisan—and there was a lot of partisanship back then. Look back at 1969. Here was Pat Moynihan, a Harvard professor, Kennedy Democrat, who became the Republican President's domestic policy adviser. He was an extraordinary person. He was, as the Senator from Utah pointed out, a man who could see a long distance.

In the 1960s he coined the phrase ''benign neglect,'' when he talked about the breakdown of the American family and the effect it might have on African-American families. He was courageous enough to talk about that. He predicted at that time that if the rate of breakdown of families that was then occurring among African-American families were to occur among all families, it would be a catastrophe for America. That percentage has long since passed. Pat Moynihan was willing to talk about it.

He was a great teacher. He attracted into the White House at that time a cadre of young Moynihan devotees who are still around today—for example, Checker Finn, a young Harvard graduate who is a leading education expert; and Chris DeMuth, who has had a distinguished career here. All of those young people were attracted by his intellect and his sense of public service.

He had an ability even then to be a person who crossed party lines. He was one of the old Democratic liberals such as Al Shanker—some of them are now called neoconservatives today—who saw our country in a very accurate and clear way.

He believed in America. He was an immigrant, a great immigrant, an Irish immigrant, with all the characteristics that we think of when we think of great Irish immigrants, but he was an American first. He was proud of where he came from but he was prouder of the country to which he came.

He loved politics. His favorite character was George Washington Plunkett, the boss of Tammany Hall. He wrote a forward for a book on Plunkett. Plunkett's favorite comment was:

> I seen my opportunities and I took them.

He went to the United Nations where he pounded the desk. He went to India as Ambassador. He ran for the Senate. Think of this. He ran in 1976, a Republican from the then-disgraced Nixon administration. I know what that was like. I was in that administration. I had been a candidate myself in 1974—lost; and here was Pat Moynihan in New York State, a Democratic State, running for the Senate as a Democrat, able to be elected because of the respect people had for him.

I watched him during his whole career. When I was Education Secretary he came down and lectured me from this body because he wanted me to be more aggressive on standards. But he was always such a gentle person.

As I have gone along in life, I have especially appreciated people who are well known and famous who take time for people who are not so well known and famous. I can remember when my wife and I, in our early 30s—I was, she was younger—went to Harvard, to the John F. Kennedy School of Government, where Pat had gone in the early 1970s. He was a famous man, a great professor, a former adviser to Presidents. Everyone knew him. No one knew us. But he saw us and he spent 45 minutes or an hour with us. He was a teacher and we were his students.

I am glad to be on the floor today to hear my friend from Utah speak of such a distinguished American. We need more Senators, more public leaders, with the breadth and the intellect and the understanding of American history that Pat Moynihan had. We need more who have the capacity to work across party lines, to solve tough problems such as Social Security, which he helped to solve, and to enjoy politics, to love George Washington Plunkett, and the rough and tumble of Tammany Hall politics, but at the same time, when the Nation's issues are foremost, to put them first.

So I rise today to salute a great American, a real patriot, and perhaps a person who most of us—Senators or students—will remember as a great teacher.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

PASSAGE OF THE BUDGET RESOLUTION

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, today we passed the budget resolution 56 to 44. I want to end what has been a very productive week on this budget resolution—the debate and the vote earlier this afternoon—by congratulating the chairman of the Budget Committee, Senator NICKLES, for doing an outstanding job in terms of leadership, in terms of keeping this train moving on time, so that legislative process will be able to go forward in a timely way.

In addition, there are so many others to thank, but in particular I thank Senator JUDD GREGG from New Hampshire, who spent so much time on the floor debating the various amendments and supporting the budget resolution and its ultimate passage today.

In addition, on that committee, there are seven new Republican members. I thank them. The budget process is one that I had the opportunity to address first through that committee in my first 8 years in the Senate. I know it has been an eye-opening experience for them. They did a tremendous job in supporting their leader, their chairman in accomplishing this resolution passage today.

In addition—and it has been mentioned on the floor several times this afternoon since we voted on the bill—we have had a very cooperative spirit. People have been able to express their

opinions, to debate, to articulate their views as to what is appropriate to establish their priorities. But at the end of today—this afternoon, shortly after 4 o'clock—I think we can all be proud, on both sides of the aisle, for developing a product that reflects that debate, that reflects the will of the Senate.

I congratulate Members on the other side of the aisle, the ranking member, Senator KENT CONRAD, the assistant Democratic leader, HARRY REID, and Minority Leader DASCHLE for their cooperation in moving this resolution to a conclusion today.

I thank the staffs. It has been done on the floor already today, but I thank the staffs, under the direction of Hazen Marshall and Mary Naylor, for their long hours and dedication to the process. We saw their participation here on the floor. And in addition to that time on the floor, they have spent many hours developing this budget, they and their staff. I thank them because without their hard work, their tremendous dedication, what we have accomplished today simply would not have been possible.

Today, we did accomplish a lot in passing this budget resolution. I say that because it was on the backdrop of last year, where we were unable even to bring a budget to the floor of the Senate. We were unable to ever see the conclusion that we saw today in this vote.

I understand—and we all understand—this is the first step, the next is the conference, and then the reconciliation. But what we have done today is to establish the framework for that legislative process. It has taken a lot of cooperation on both sides of the aisle.

The resolution today, in terms of the jobs and growth package, is, indeed, less than what I had preferred as we come forward. But the majority of people in this body did speak today. I do want to tell the Members on our side of the aisle that I will continue to work to achieve the growth in this resolution because I think it is important. In fact, it is incumbent upon us to address those jobs and growth issues to stimulate the economy, both in the short term, midterm, and long term.

Again, that process has just begun. The resolution today accomplishes a lot. I am not going to go through the various priorities that were placed, but it establishes fiscal discipline on the spending side. It does that through what we call pay-go and certain spending caps. But it is important the American people understand that what we have done is slowed that growth of spending, which is absolutely critical to do in this environment of deficits.

It strengthens and improves Medicare. That is our health care system and program for our seniors and our individuals with disabilities. It takes a major step forward to strengthen and improve that program so that we can better serve our seniors, so they will have more security in terms of their health in the future.

In terms of our national defense and homeland security needs, it sets those parameters to accommodate that necessary funding, as spelled out by the Budget Committee, by the priorities in the Senate, and the Commander in Chief, the President of the United States.

Fourthly, it increases funding for that much broader spectrum of education in an unprecedented way. It includes education K–12, IDEA—that is the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act—for title I, and then there is veterans health and an initiative that is important to this body, global HIV/AIDS.

But you wrap all that together and, most importantly, I think what we accomplished today is that we allow this legislative process to continue in an orderly, systematic way, to accomplish our responsibilities in this institution of the Senate.

We are on course to finish the conference report of this budget by April 11. The law says that we do it by April 15. I think, just as we have today, we will be able to pass that in advance, not just on time, but in advance a few days.

Again, I thank Chairman NICKLES for being so instrumental in this process.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I rise with sadness on the word we heard this evening with regard to the death of one of our most notable former Members this afternoon.

Daniel Patrick Moynihan served in the Senate over a period from 1977 to 2001. But he served our country in so many different roles over the past half century, as we have heard through other tributes tonight. Rising from the depths of Hell's Kitchen in New York, he became one of America's true leading intellectuals whose foresight and whose ability brought to public attention a mass of critical issues long before others even realized these issues existed. From identifying the stresses and challenges of urban America to spearheading the reformation of Pennsylvania Avenue, from President Nixon's welfare reform plan to Y2K, from Soviet spying to bringing our national security state into the sunshine, Pat Moynihan was at the center of most of our public policy challenges in the last half of the 20th century.

Pat Moynihan, a confidant and essential aide to Presidents of both parties, came to Washington's attention in the early 1960s as a steward of President Kennedy's effort to bring Pennsylvania Avenue back to life. His ability brought him to President Nixon's Cabinet as head of the Domestic Policy Council, and he later became Ambassador to India and Gerald Ford's Ambassador to the United Nations, where he served so well defending the West against totalitarian regimes.

Elected to the Senate in a notable class, he quickly became a leading voice on an extensive range of public policy. While the Senate recognized his ability as chairman of both the Finance Committee and the Environment and Public Works Committee, his contributions to our work were broad and deep.

For example, at a time when Social Security was reeling and near insolvency, Pat Moynihan stepped forward and, with Senator Dole, Alan Greenspan, and President Reagan, rescued the system for the benefit of millions of Americans. In that role, he bridged partisan differences and rose above petty politics to forge a successful solution that brought stability and security to that system. He did that conscious of the need to be responsible not only to the current recipients but to the future beneficiaries who at the time were not even born.

This spirit animated his observations and animated his work, not just on Social Security but other great domestic programs, such as Medicaid, Medicare, and welfare.

Daniel Patrick Moynihan served not only as a Senator from New York, he was one of our leading lights and innovative thinkers. He never hesitated to offer a timely observation, a useful insight, or a historical analogy that not only demonstrated his vast knowledge but was truly useful in analyzing the challenges ahead. His contributions to public policy and his influence in this Chamber will echo for decades to come.

Indeed, our condolences go out to his family and to loved ones, as well as to his many friends and former staff members. We are a better institution, and we are all better public servants for having known Pat Moynihan.

NAVY LIEUTENANT THOMAS MULLEN ADAMS

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to another American—and another Californian—killed in the line of duty. His name: LT Thomas Mullen Adams, of La Mesa. He was only 27.

Yesterday, I spoke of LCpl Jose Gutierrez, a young immigrant from Guatemala who was struck down trying to liberate the Iraqi port city of Umm al Qasar. Corporal Gutierrez was an orphan who first settled in a homeless shelter in Hollywood, before being taken in by foster parents.

Lieutenant Adams, on the other hand, grew up in comfort, in the suburbs, as a member of a family that traces its roots directly to John Adams, one of America's most important Founding Fathers.

On the surface, there seems little in common with Corporal Gutierrez and Lieutenant Adams. But together, they embody the depth and breadth of America's Armed Forces—men and women from all walks of life, willing to give their lives to defend our freedoms.

Lieutenant Adams graduated from Grossmont High School in 1993 and the United States Naval Academy in 1997.

He received flight training in Pensacola, FL, and inherited his love of flying from his father, John, an architect who helped design the Aerospace Museum in San Diego.

Promoted to lieutenant in the year 2000, Adams won two National Defense Service Medals, three Sea Service Deployment Ribbons and other awards.

''He's one of these amazingly clean-cut, all-American kids,'' his aunt, Elizabeth Hansen, told the San Diego Union Tribune newspaper. ''He's the kind of kid that if you had a very special daughter, you would hope that she would snag him. He was just amazingly bright, funny and kind.''

In October of 2002, Lieutenant Adams was assigned as an exchange officer with the British Royal Navy's 849 Squadron, now on the aircraft carrier Ark Royal.

An avid soccer fan who had volunteered to go to Japan with the carrier *Kitty Hawk* in time for the World Cup finals last summer, he joined a local team near his base in Helston, England. Lieutenant Adams' family said that he particularly enjoyed his time with the Royal Navy for two reasons: every ship had a pub on board, and he was allowed a weekly 20-minute phone call home.

''This is an extremely close family, and none of us will ever be the same,'' said his aunt, Elizabeth Hansen. ''All of us just remember him as a fun-loving guy with a wry sense of humor and we can't imagine going forward without him.''

I can only hope that they do go forward. And it is to his family—to his parents, John and Marilyn, and his younger sister, Cari—that I extend my deepest sympathies.

All Americans owe an enormous—an almost incalculable—debt to LT Thomas Mullen Adams, who accepted great risk and was willing to sacrifice his future for the future of the country he so clearly loved, so that we, as a people, might be safe and free. His sacrifice will never be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO CALIFORNIA SERVICEMAN KILLED IN IRAQ

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, as we pray for all those who are in harm's way, I rise to pay tribute to a Californian who was killed in the Iraqi war.

Marine Corps Cpl Randal Kent Rosacker, age 21, of San Diego, CA, was killed on Sunday, March 23, when he encountered Iraqi troops pretending to surrender. He graduated in 2000 from San Diego's Junipero Serra High School where he was a star baseball player. He joined the Marines at age 18 and was a machine gunner based at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina. He is survived by his wife, his father—a Navy Master Chief at Naval Station Bremerton his mother and two sisters.

May this beautiful young American rest in peace. May we have a short war. And may we also pray for the wisdom of those who send our young men and women on their mission.

THE WAR IN IRAQ AND SUPPORT FOR OUR TROOPS

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, on March 20, President Bush ordered U.S. forces to begin attacking Iraqi installations. There are currently 225,000 American service men and women in the Persian Gulf region. Two hundred thousand members of the Reserves and National Guard have been called to active duty. Several thousand Connecticut residents are doing their part—1,500 members of Connecticut's National Guard; 750 deployed to the Middle East and another 750 activated to participate in homeland security related responsibilities. There are also 2,778 of Connecticut's sons and daughters serving in the Navy—active members and reservists, 532 in the Army, and 310 in the Air Force. Dozens of Connecticut's police officers and firefighters have been called up for active duty. I thank each and every one of them. And say to them that I am proud and honored to represent them in the United States Senate.

As is always the case, these young men and women stand ready to obey the orders of the Commander in Chief—the President of the United States—to take up arms and risk their lives in defense of all Americans and the values of freedom, liberty, and democracy. I greatly admire the courage and professionalism of our service men and women who are now engaged in this dangerous conflict far away from home and loved ones. Americans stand as one in support of these brave individuals. I also want to express my gratitude to the family members of our soldiers. They more than anyone understand the sacrifices involved in the service of our country. War is a treacherous endeavor, and we will all pray for their safe return. I am confident that in the days and weeks to come, America and the U.S. Congress will continue to provide our service men and women with all the support they need and deserve.

Over the last several months, my colleagues and I have engaged in an ongoing dialog about when and under what circumstances the U.S. should commence military action in Iraq. I have been a participant in these important debates, as have many others in this Chamber. And across the country, in cities and towns, Americans have also been discussing these issues with their families and neighbors. Many have voiced strong opinions. It is right and appropriate that this has occurred—that is what living in a free country is all about.

Last Fall, I supported President Bush's decision to go the United Nations and seek the support of U.N. members to resolve the threat posed by Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. I supported the deployment of U.N. weapons inspectors to Iraq to verify its peaceful disarmament. As much as anyone, I wanted those diplomatic efforts to succeed. I believe that President Bush did as well. Unfortunately, Saddam Hussein obviously did not.

While there may have been differing opinions on some aspects of our policy toward Iraq, there has been no disagreement that Saddam Hussein is anything but a cruel and murderous tyrant. At every critical juncture, Saddam Hussein chose to impede the work of the inspectors. At every fork in the road, he chose to squander opportunities for peaceful disarmament presented to him by the international community. Finally time has run out.

And now, Saddam Hussein must bear full responsibility for what is about to befall him. He brought it upon himself. I have no sympathy for his plight. The real tragedy is that others may have to suffer for his sins—although I am confident that American soldiers will make every effort, use every means of intelligence, and employ all available technology to minimize civilian casualties.

Would that Saddam Hussein had shown the same regard for his people that our forces will. His record has been the opposite. This murderous tyrant has routinely had his own people tortured, raped, beaten, and executed. In 1988, he ordered the use of chemical weapons against the Iraqi people, killing 5,000 men, women, and children in a single day. Now, he may be ordering his elite troops to use the city of Baghdad as a fortress—a human fortress—endangering the lives of countless Iraqi civilians.

It is my hope that United States military action will not only free the world of the dangers posed by Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction, but provide an opportunity for the Iraqi people to free themselves from 30 years of tyranny and oppression, to begin a new chapter in the history of their country.

The current military action may only last a few days or a few weeks. But in the end, I have not doubt that our American service men and women will prevail in this conflict. However, after we emerge successfully from our military conflict with Saddam Hussein, another challenge will face us—the task of establishing a free and stable Iraq. In many ways this is an even more important battle then the one currently ongoing in the deserts of Iraq. And it is a battle that we should not ''wage'' alone. An international coalition of friends, allies, and U.N. humanitarian organizations must be mobilized to share the costs and responsibility for providing humanitarian relief to the Iraqi people, and the larger and more complex reconstruction of Iraqi society.

The United States is not the only nation that has a stake in rebuilding Iraq. The entire world has a huge stake in getting this right. For only an Iraq that is strong, free, and democratic—only an Iraq that respects the rights of all its citizens—only an Iraq that respects the territorial integrity of its neighbors—can be counted on to contribute to building a Middle East that is stable and prosperous. That is why I

am confident that whatever our past differences may have been, our friends and allies at the United Nations will join with us in this effort.

Once again let me express my thanks to the American men and women who have put themselves at risk for each one of us. Let me also thank the service members from other nations who have joined with our forces in this endeavor. And let me offer one more prayer for their swift and safe return home once their mission is complete.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. In the last Congress Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the Local Law Enforcement Act, a bill that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred September 16, 2001, in Eagan, MN. An Indian-American woman left a grocery store followed by three teenage boys. One of them pushed her against her car. When she turned, another punched her in the stomach and then elbowed her in the back. As they left, the assailants said, ''This is what you people deserve.''

I believe that Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I speak today to ask my colleagues to support the nomination of Mr. Harold Damelin, whom President Bush has nominated to serve as the next Inspector General, IG, of the U.S. Small Business Administration, (SBA). Mr. Damelin's extensive experience in and out of government makes him very well suited to this important position, and I look forward to working closely with him and his office.

As my colleagues are well aware, the IG post at any Federal agency is a critical one—assigned by Congress the duties of protecting taxpayer money, ensuring that laws are upheld, and investigating abuses within an agency. This is no less true at the SBA, which has played a vital role in helping to develop and foster small businesses and small business initiatives for the past 50 years.

The role of the IG is unique: someone who is above the political fray of other appointees, and someone who may even be called upon to investigate them. By their very nature, IG's must function independently and with a distinct authority, so it is no small amount of trust the President and the Congress must place in any IG. Additionally, an IG must possess not only managerial and policy experience, but should possess investigative experience as well. Fining such a candidate can be a difficult task.

Phyllis Fong, the former IG for the SBA, was recently confirmed as the IG for the Department of Agriculture, where I am sure she will continue to perform her official duties in a skillful, competent, and efficient manner. However, because of a delay in her confirmation, the IG position at the SBA was only recently vacated. Given this delay, coupled with the importance of the IG position, Senator SNOWE, the Chair of the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, and I have agreed to seek unanimous consent that Mr. Damelin's nomination be discharged from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship and considered immediately by the full Senate.

In my capacity as ranking member, I have thoroughly reviewed Mr. Damelin's employment and educational experience, his FBI background check and the Committee questionnaire. Mr. Damelin has fully answered all questions put before him. As Mr. Damelin clearly possesses the necessary skills and experience to serve as the next SBA IG, I support moving forward with his nomination at this time.

Mr. Damelin, if confirmed by the Senate, will come to the SBA from the private sector, where he most recently worked as a lawyer for the firm of Powers, Pyles, Sutter and Verville in Washington, DC. Prior to joining the private sector, Mr. Damelin had a long and illustrious career as a public servant, holding such positions as the branch chief for the U.S. Department of Justice's Criminal Division, Fraud Section, Governmental Fraud Branch and the senior counsel to the majority for the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs' Special Investigation Committee. I believe these experiences and others uniquely qualify Mr. Damelin to serve as the SBA's IG.

Mr. Damelin was born in Malden, in my home State of Massachusetts, although he now resides in Virginia. He attended Boston College and earned his JD from Boston College Law School, also my alma mater. Mr. Damelin was also a member of the Armed Forces, serving as a 2nd Lieutenant after college and attaining the rank of Captain in the Army Reserves before being honorably discharged with the rank of Captain. I am always pleased to see a fellow Bay Stater, and Eagle, dedicate his energies toward public service, and this is no exception.

Mr. Damelin's nomination also has the support of Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee Chair OLYMPIA SNOWE.

I ask all of my colleagues to vote in favor of Mr. Damelin's nomination to be the next Inspector General of the U.S. Small Business Administration.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

NORWICH UNIVERSITY CADETS, ICE HOCKEY NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

• Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I rise to recognize the victory last weekend of the Norwich University men's ice hockey team in the NCAA Division III National Championship against the Oswego State Lakers. This is the second championship in four years for the Cadets, who finished this season with an outstanding 27–3 record.

Norwich University enjoys a proud history as the United States' oldest private military college. The campus, founded in 1819, sits in the small town of Northfield, VT, and it offers a tremendous education for those in the Corps of Cadets as well as for students who choose the civilian lifestyle. Norwich is a school of honor and tradition, qualities well-reflected in their champion ice hockey team. The Cadets play with discipline, energy, and confidence. The team played hard this season and now they deserve to enjoy their success.

I congratulate each member of the team: Coach Mike McShane, Assistant Coaches Steve Mattson and Fred Coan, Strength Coach Eric Corey, Trainer Rachel Sutherland, Kevin Schieve, Brad Powell, Brian Mullally, Toza Crnilovic, Ryan Thompson, Chris Fuss, Lou DiMasi, Matt Schmidt, Peter Catalano, Paul Mattucci, Ed Boudreau, Jon Bokelmann, Bob Jaggard, Vadim Beliaev, Marshall Lee, Kurtis McLean, Chris Petracco, Lynn Beedle, Michael Serba, Andrew Senesi, Phil Aucoin, Dominick Dawes, Mario Chinelli, John Grabie, Garett Winder, Randy Hevey, Mike Boudreau, and Aaron Lee. Everybody involved deserves much credit for this outstanding season.

Again, congratulations for a job well done and good luck next season.•

HONORING ELIZABETH NAMUSOKE KIZITO

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I have the honor of rising today to recognize Ms. Elizabeth Namusoke Kizito of Louisville, KY. Earlier this month, Ms. Kizito was named Woman Business Owner of the Year by the Louisville chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners.

Ms. Kizito is being honored for demonstrating smart business practices that have led to the success of Kizito Cookies located in Louisville. Almost 20 years ago, Ms. Kizito began her entrepreneurial experience by selling cookies as a way to pay for her son's birthday present. Shortly thereafter, she had enough business to begin selling cookies from a street cart. Within a few years she traded her cart for a bakery on Bardstown Road. What sets Kizito Cookies apart from other businesses are Ms. Kizito's superior marketing skills. Dressed in traditional garb from her native country of Uganda, she sells cookies from a basket

placed atop her head. Many Louisvillians affectionately refer to her as the ''Cookie Lady.''

Her African heritage plays a dominant part in her life and business. Born in Uganda during the 1950s, she moved to America to attend school. Unfortunately, civil unrest resulting in a civil war prevented her from returning to Uganda. She moved to Louisville in 1978 and began making cookies for coworkers, a skill she learned from her father who ran a bakery in Uganda. Each year she travels to her home country and even provides financial assistance to her relatives. Ms. Kizito continues honoring her roots by passing along to the people of Louisville a piece of her culture.

Ms. Kizito's hard work and dedication are inspiring. She has created a great deal from very little, and in the process made an entire community her friend. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Elizabeth Namusoke Kizito on this much deserved honor.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:18 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 20. Concurrent resolution permitting the Chairman of the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate to designate another member of the Committee to serve on the Joint Committee on Printing in place of the Chairman.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 84. Concurrent resolution providing for the acceptance of a statue of President Dwight D. Eisenhower, presented by the people of Kansas, for placement in the Capitol, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 620. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide supplemental funding and other services that are necessary to assist the State of California or local educational agencies in California in providing educational services for students attending schools located within the Park.

H.R. 788. An act to revise the boundary of the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area in the States of Utah and Arizona.

H.R. 961. An act to promote Department of Interior efforts to provide a scientific basis for the management of sediment and nutrient loss in the Upper Mississippi River Basin, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 620. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide supplemental funding and other services that are necessary to assist the State of California or local educational agencies in California in providing educational services for students attending schools located within the Park; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 788. An act to revise the boundary of the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area in the States of Utah and Arizona; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 961. An act to promote Department of the Interior efforts to provide a scientific basis for the management of sediment and nutrient loss in the Upper Mississippi River Basin, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

MEASURE HELD AT THE DESK

The following concurrent resolution was ordered held at the desk by unanimous consent:

S. Con. Res. 30. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress to commend and express the gratitude of the United States to the nations participating with the United States in the Coalition to Disarm Iraq.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

S. 711. A bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to alleviate delay in the payment of the Selected Reserve reenlistment bonus to members of Selected Reserve who are mobilized.

S. 712. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide Survivor Benefit Plan annuities for surviving spouses of Reserves not eligible for retirement who die from a cause incurred or aggravated while on inactive-duty training.

S. 718. A bill to provide a monthly allotment of free telephone calling time to members of the United States armed forces stationed outside the United States who are directly supporting military operations in Iraq or Afghanistan.

S. 721. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the combat zone income tax exclusion to include income for the period of transit to the combat zone and to remove the limitation on such exclusion for commissioned officers, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC–1727. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General for Administration, Justice Management Division, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Final Rule exempting three Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) systems of records from subsection (e)(5) of the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a): National Crime Information Center (NCIC), FBI–001; Central Records System (CRS), FBI–002; and National Center for Analysis of Violent Crime (NCAVC), FBI–015 (Justice/FBI–001, FBI–002, FBI–015)'' received on March 26, 2003; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–1728. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General for Administration, Justice Management Division, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Clandestine Laboratory Seizure System (CLSS) Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) –002 (Justice/DEA–002)'' received on March 26, 2003; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary:

Report to accompany S. 253, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to exempt qualified current and former law enforcement officers from State laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed handguns (Rept. No. 108–29).

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of committee was submitted:

By Mr. COCHRAN for the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

*Vernon Bernard Parker, of Arizona, to be an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. FITZGERALD):

S. 708. A bill to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7401 West 100th Place in Bridgeview, Illinois, as the ''Michael J. Healy Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. DOLE (for herself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LOTT, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 709. A bill to award a congressional gold medal to Prime Minister Tony Blair; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. LEVIN):

S. 710. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that aliens who commit acts of torture, extrajudicial killings, or other specified atrocities abroad are inadmissible and removable and to establish within the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice an Office of Special Investigations having responsibilities under that Act with respect to all alien participants in war crimes, genocide, and the commission of acts of torture and extrajudicial killings abroad; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, Mr. CHAMBLISS, and Mr. ALLEN):

S. 711. A bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to alleviate delay in the payment of the Selected Reserve reenlistment bonus to members of Selected Reserve who are mobilized; read the first time.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, Mr. CHAMBLISS, and Mr. ALLEN):

S. 712. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide Survivor Benefit Plan annuities for surviving spouses of Reserves not eligible for retirement who die from a cause incurred or aggravated while on inactive-duty training; read the first time.

By Mr. ALLEN:

S. 713. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow individuals to designate any portion of a refund for use by the Secretary of Health and Human Services in providing catastrophic health coverage to individuals who do not otherwise have health coverage; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. SMITH):

S. 714. A bill to provide for the conveyance of a small parcel of Bureau of Land Management land in Douglas County, Oregon, to the county to improve management of and recreational access to the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

S. 715. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the calendar year limitations on the use of commissary stores by certain reserves and others; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 716. A bill to amend the Federal Power Act to improve the electricity transmission system of the United States; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 717. A bill to require increased safety testing of 15-passenger vans, ensure the compliance of 15-passenger vans used as schoolbuses with motor vehicle safety standards applicable to schoolbuses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

S. 718. A bill to provide a monthly allotment of free telephone calling time to members of the United States armed forces stationed outside the United States who are directly supporting military operations in Iraq or Afghanistan; read the first time.

By Mr. GREGG:

S. 719. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the payment of compensation for certain individuals with injuries resulting from the administration of smallpox countermeasures; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself, Mr. FRIST, Mr. BREAUX, and Mr. GREGG):

S. 720. A bill to amend title IX of the Public Health Service Act to provide for the improvement of patient safety and to reduce the incidence of events that adversely affect patient safety; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. ALLEN (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. CHAMBLISS, and Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina):

S. 721. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the combat zone income tax exclusion to include income for the period of transit to the combat zone and to remove the limitation on such exclusion for commissioned officers, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 722. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to require that manufacturers of dietary supplements submit to the Food and Drug Administration reports on adverse experiences with dietary supplements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 723. A bill to amend the Federal Power Act to provide refunds for unjust and unreasonable charges on electric energy in the State of California; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. BUNNING, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. INHOFE, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. CRAIG):

S. Res. 98. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the President should designate the week of October 12, 2003, through October 18, 2003, as ''National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Week''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. FRIST, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. LOTT, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BOND, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. BURNS, Mr. BYRD, Mr. CAMPBELL, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. COLEMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. DODD, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. GRAHAM of Florida, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. INOUYE, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KOHL, Mr. KYL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. MCCONNELL, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MILLER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. REED, Mr. REID, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SMITH, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SPECTER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. TALENT, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 99. A resolution relative to the death of Daniel Patrick Moynihan, former United States Senator for the State of New York; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. MILLER, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mr. WARNER):

S. Res. 100. A resolution recognizing the 100th anniversary year of the founding of the Ford Motor Company, which has been a significant part of the social, economic, and cultural heritage of the United States and many other nations, and a revolutionary industrial and global institution, and congratulating Ford Motor Company for its achievements; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LUGAR (for himself and Mr. BIDEN):

S. Con. Res. 30. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress to commend and express the gratitude of the United States to the nations participating with the United States in the Coalition to Disarm Iraq; ordered held at the desk.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 55

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 55, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the annual determination of the rate of the basic benefit of active duty educational assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill, and for other purposes.

S. 59

At the request of Mr. INOUYE, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 59, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit former members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated as total to travel on military aircraft in the same manner and to the same extent as retired members of the Armed Forces are entitled to travel on such aircraft.

S. 148

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 148, a bill to provide for the Secretary of Homeland Security to be included in the line of Presidential succession.

S. 243

At the request of Mr. ALLEN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 243, a bill concerning participation of Taiwan in the World Health Organization.

S. 300

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 300, a bill to award a congressional gold medal to Jackie Robinson

(posthumously), in recognition of his many contributions to the Nation, and to express the sense of Congress that there should be a national day in recognition of Jackie Robinson.

S. 330

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 330, a bill to further the protection and recognition of veterans' memorials, and for other purposes.

S. 333

At the request of Mr. BREAUX, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 333, a bill to promote elder justice, and for other purposes.

S. 380

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 380, a bill to amend chapter 83 of title 5, United States Code, to reform the funding of benefits under the Civil Service Retirement System for employees of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

S. 464

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 464, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify and expand the credit for electricity produced from renewable resources and waste products, and for other purposes.

S. 468

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 468, a bill to amend the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 to assist the neediest of senior citizens by modifying the eligibility criteria for supplemental foods provided under the commodity supplemental food program to take into account the extraordinarily high out-of-pocket medical expenses that senior citizens pay.

S. 470

At the request of Mr. SARBANES, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 470, a bill to extend the authority for the construction of a memorial to Martin Luther King, Jr.

S. 478

At the request of Mr. SARBANES, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 478, a bill to grant a Federal charter Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated, and for other purposes.

S. 480

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 480, a bill to provide competitive grants for training court reporters and closed captioners to meet requirements for realtime writers under the Telecommunications Act of 1996, and for other purposes.

S. 544

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 544, a bill to establish a SAFER Firefighter Grant Program.

S. 569

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 569, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the medicare outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 589

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 589, a bill to strengthen and improve the management of national security, encourage Government service in areas of critical national security, and to assist government agencies in addressing deficiencies in personnel possessing specialized skills important to national security and incorporating the goals and strategies for recruitment and retention for such skilled personnel into the strategic and performance management systems of Federal agencies.

S. 598

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. CAMPBELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 598, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a clarification of the definition of homebound for purposes of determining eligibility for home health services under the medicare program.

S. 678

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 678, a bill to amend chapter 10 of title 39, United States Code, to include postmasters and postmasters organizations in the process for the development and planning of certain policies, schedules, and programs, and for other purposes.

S. 700

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 700, a bill to provide for the promotion of democracy, human rights, and rule of law in the Republic of Belarus and for the consolidation and strengthening of Belarus sovereignty and independence.

S.J. RES. 4

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 4, resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.

S. CON. RES. 7

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 7, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the sharp escalation of anti-Semitic violence within many participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) is of profound concern and efforts should be undertaken to prevent future occurrences.

S. CON. RES. 15

At the request of Mr. ALLEN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 15, a concurrent resolution commemorating the 140th anniversary of the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation.

S. CON. RES. 25

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 25, a concurrent resolution recognizing and honoring America's Jewish community on the occasion of its 350th anniversary, supporting the designation of an ''American Jewish History Month'', and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 26

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 26, a concurrent resolution condemning the punishment of execution by stoning as a gross violation of human rights, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 27

At the request of Mr. BOND, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAUX) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 27, a concurrent resolution urging the President to request the United States International Trade Commission to take certain actions with respect to the temporary safeguards on imports of certain steel products, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 48

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 48, a resolution designating April 2003 as ''Financial Literacy for Youth Month''.

S. RES. 58

At the request of Mr. ALLEN, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 58, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the President should designate the week beginning June 1, 2003, as ''National Citizen Soldier Week''.

S. RES. 74

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 74, a resolution to amend rule

XLII of the Standing Rules of the Senate to prohibit employment discrimination in the Senate based on sexual orientation.

AMENDMENT NO. 281

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 281 proposed to S. Con. Res. 23, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2003 and for fiscal years 2005 through 2013.

AMENDMENT NO. 281

At the request of Mr. KOHL, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 281 proposed to S. Con. Res. 23, supra.

AMENDMENT NO. 281

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 281 proposed to S. Con. Res. 23, supra.

AMENDMENT NO. 281

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 281 proposed to S. Con. Res. 23, supra.

AMENDMENT NO. 281

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 281 proposed to S. Con. Res. 23, supra.

AMENDMENT NO. 401

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 401 proposed to S. Con. Res. 23, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2003 and for fiscal years 2005 through 2013.

AMENDMENT NO. 407

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 407 proposed to S. Con. Res. 23, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2003 and for fiscal years 2005 through 2013.

AMENDMENT NO. 409

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 409 proposed to S. Con. Res. 23, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2003 and for fiscal years 2005 through 2013.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. FITZGERALD):

S. 708. A bill to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7401 West 100th Place in Bridgeview, Illinois, as the ''Michael J. Healy Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today I am introducing legislation to name the U.S. Post Office at 7401 W. 100th Place in Bridgeview, IL after Postal Police Officer Michael Healy.

On June 21, 1981, while guarding the Chicago Main Post Office at Harrison Avenue and Canal Street, Officer Healy's life was senselessly cut short by a random act of violence. Officer Healy was murdered by three assailants in a foiled robbery attempt. Sadly, Michael Healy became the first officer of the Postal Inspection Service to be killed while on duty.

Shortly after his murder, the Postal Inspection Service retired Michael's badge, number 3972. Subsequently, Michael's name was added to the Federal Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington, DC as well as the Law Enforcement Memorial in Springfield, IL.

In 2001, the Northern Illinois Division of the United States Inspection Service honored the 20th anniversary of Michael's death. The Fraternal Order of Police, FOP, has tried for two years to rename the local post office after Officer Healy.

In protecting others, Officer Healy made the ultimate sacrifice. I believe it is fitting to pay tribute to him by designating the postal facility in honor of Michael J. Healy. I think that it is the most appropriate way to recognize and remember a man who gave so much to his family, his friends, the Postal Inspection Service, and his community of Hometown, IL.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. LEVIN):

S. 710. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that aliens who commit acts of torture, extrajudicial killings, or other specified atrocities abroad are inadmissible and removable and to establish within the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice an Office of Special Investigations having responsibilities under that Act with respect to all alien participants in war crimes, genocide, and the commission of acts of torture and extrajudicial killings abroad; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. LEAHY. I am pleased today to introduce the Anti-Atrocity Alien Deportation Act of 2003, a bill intended to close loopholes in our immigration laws that have allowed war criminals and human rights abusers to enter and remain in this country. Senator HATCH has joined me in offering this bill, along with Senators LIEBERMAN and LEVIN. In the other body, Representatives MARK FOLEY and GARY ACKERMAN today introduce identical legislation.

Our bill would update the charter of the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations, OSI, which for years has investigated and has sought justice in the cases of Nazi war criminals who have sought refuge on our shores. It is time to renew the OSI charter to take into account the new generations of war criminals who try to escape justice by living among us.

This bill closely mirrors legislation I had offered that was reported unanimously by the Senate Judiciary Committee last year, and which passed the Senate during the 106th Congress. I hope and expect that, with the help of Senator HATCH and others, this bill will become law during this Congress.

As we introduce this bill, our armed forces are fighting to replace an Iraqi regime that has been marked by its utter disregard for the human rights of its people. We must not fight this war on the one hand, and let human rights abusers from around the world enter our Nation with impunity on the other.

When they learn it is so, the American people are appalled to learn that our country has become a safe haven for those who exercised power in foreign countries to terrorize, rape, murder and torture innocent civilians. A report issued last year by Amnesty International claims that nearly 150 alleged human rights abusers have been identified living here and warns that this number may be as high as 1,000. Meanwhile, an article in the New York Review of Books stated that ''hundreds, if not thousands, of foreign nationals who have been plausibly accused of the most heinous human rights crimes, including torture and assassination, either have lived or still live freely in the U.S.'' [William Schulz, ''The Torturers Among Us,'' New York Review, p. 22, April 25, 2002.]

I introduced a similar version of this bill on May 10, 2001, and the Judiciary Committee reported the bill with a Leahy-Hatch managers' amendment on April 18, 2002. Unfortunately, the bill was subject to an anonymous hold on the Senate floor.

I introduced similar legislation in the 106th Congress and was pleased when the proposal garnered bipartisan support in both the House and the Senate. The legislation passed the Senate on November 5, 1999, as part of S. 1754, the Hatch-Leahy ''Denying Safe Havens to International and War Criminals Act,'' but unfortunately it was not acted on by the House before the end of the 106th Congress. Nevertheless, Representatives FOLEY and ACKERMAN have provided consistent leadership in moving this legislation in the House, by introducing the measure in the 106th Congress as H.R. 2642 and H.R. 3058, in the 107th Congress, as H.R. 1449, and again today.

The problem of human rights abusers seeking and obtaining refuge in this country is real, and requires an effective response with the legal and enforcement changes proposed in this legislation.

For example, three Ethiopian refugees proved in an American court that

Kelbessa Negewo, a former senior government official in the military dictatorship that ruled Ethiopia in the 1970s, engaged in numerous acts of torture and human rights abuses against them when they lived in that country. Negewo oversaw and participated in the torture of opposition political figures in Ethiopia, and then moved to the United States only to work at the same Atlanta hotel as one of his own victims. The court's descriptions of the abuse are chilling, and included whipping a naked woman with a wire for hours and threatening her with death in the presence of several men. The court's award of compensatory and punitive damages in the amount of $1.5 million to the plaintiffs was subsequently affirmed by an appellate court. [See Abebe-Jira v. Negewo, 72 F.3d 844 (11th Cir. 1996).] Yet during the pendency of his appeal of the civil verdict, the Immigration and Naturalization Service granted Negewo citizenship.

This situation is an affront both to the foreign victims of torture who fled here to escape their persecutors, and to the American victims of such torture and their families. As Professor William Aceves of California Western School of Law has noted, this case reveals ''a glaring and troubling limitation in current immigration law and practice. This case is not unique. Other aliens who have committed gross human rights violations have also gained entry into the United States and been granted immigration relief.'' [20 Mich. J. Int'l.L. at 657.]

Indeed, another case actually involves American victims. In 1980, four American churchwomen were raped and murdered by the Salvadoran National Guard. Two former Salvadoran government officials who allegedly covered up the murders currently reside in Florida.

Unfortunately, criminals who wielded machetes and guns against innocent civilians in countries like Haiti, Chile, Yugoslavia and Rwanda have been able to gain entry to the United States through the same doors that we have opened to deserving refugees. We need to lock that door to human rights abusers who seek a safe haven in the United States. To those human rights abusers who are already here, we should promptly show them the door out.

We have unwittingly sheltered the oppressors along with the oppressed for too long. We should not let this situation continue. We waited too long after World War II to focus prosecutorial resources and attention on Nazi war criminals who entered this country on false pretenses, or worse, with the collusion of American intelligence agencies. Thousands of declassified CIA documents were made public last year, as a result of the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act that I was proud to help enact in 1998. These documents made clear the extent to which the United States relied upon and helped Nazi war criminals. As Eli M. Rosenbaum, the head of the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations, noted at the time, ''These files demonstrate that the real winners of the Cold War were Nazi criminals.'' We should not repeat that mistake for other aliens who engaged in human rights abuses before coming to the United States. We need to focus the attention of our law enforcement investigators to prosecute and deport those who have committed atrocities abroad and who now enjoy safe harbor in the United States.

When I first introduced this bill, the Rutland Daily Herald in Vermont editorialized that:

> For the U.S. commitment to human rights to mean anything, U.S. policies must be strong and consistent. It is not enough to denounce war crimes in Bosnia and Kosovo or elsewhere and then wink as the perpetrators of torture and mass murder slip across the border to find a home in America. (October 31, 1999)

The Clinton Administration recognized the deficiencies in our laws. One Clinton Administration witness testified in February 2000 that:

> The Department of Justice supports efforts to enhance our ability to remove individuals who have committed acts of torture abroad. The department also recognizes, however, that our current immigration laws do not provide strong enough bars for human rights abusers. . . . Right now, only three types of human rights abuse could prevent someone from entering or remaining in the United States. The types of prohibited conduct include: (1) genocide; (2) particularly severe violations of religious freedom; and (3) Nazi persecutions. Even these types of conduct are narrowly defined. [Hearing on H.R. 3058, ''Anti-Atrocity Alien Deportation Act,'' before the Subcomm. on Immigration and Claims of the House Comm. On the Judiciary, 106th Cong., 2d Sess., Feb. 17, 2000 (Statement of James E. Costello, Associate Deputy Attorney General).]

The Anti-Atrocity Alien Deportation Act would provide a stronger bar to human rights abusers and close loopholes in our current laws. The Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) currently provides that (i) participants in Nazi persecutions during the time period from March 23, 1933 to May 8, 1945, (ii) aliens who engaged in genocide, and (iii) aliens who committed particularly severe violations of religious freedom, are both inadmissable to the United States and removable. [See 8 U.S.C. §1182(a)(2)(G) & (3)(E) and §1227(a)(4)(D).] This bill would expand the grounds for inadmissibility and deportation to: (1) add new bars for aliens who have engaged in acts, outside the United States, of ''torture'' and ''extrajudicial killing,'' and (2) remove limitations on the current bases for ''genocide'' and ''particularly severe violations of religious freedom.''

The definitions for the new bases of ''torture'' and ''extrajudicial killing'' are derived from the Torture Victim Protection Act, which implemented the United Nations' ''Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.'' These definitions are therefore already sanctioned by the Congress. The bill incorporates the definition of ''torture'' codified in the federal criminal code, 18 U.S.C. §2340, which prohibits:

> an act committed by a person acting under the color of law specifically intended to inflict severe physical or mental pain or suffering (other than pain or suffering incidental to lawful sanctions) upon another person within his custody or physical control.'' [18 U.S.C. §2340(1).]

''Severe mental pain or suffering'' is further defined to mean:

> prolonged mental harm caused by or resulting from (A) the intentional infliction or threatened infliction of severe physical pain or suffering; (B) the administration or application, or threatened administration or application, of mind-altering substances or other procedures calculated to disrupt profoundly the senses or personality; and (C) the threat of imminent death; or (D) the threat that another person will imminently be subjected to death, severe physical pain or suffering, or the administration or application of mind-altering substances or other procedures calculated to disrupt profoundly the senses or personality. [18 U.S.C. §2340(2).]

The Torture Victim Protection Act also included a definition for ''extrajudicial killing.'' Specifically, this law establishes civil liability for wrongful death against any person ''who, under actual or apparent authority, or color of law, of any foreign nation . . . subjects an individual to extrajudicial killing,'' which is defined to mean ''a deliberated killing not authorized by a previous judgment pronounced by a regularly constituted court affording all the judicial guarantees which are recognized as indispensable by civilized peoples. This term, however, does not include any such killing that, under international law, is lawfully carried out under the authority of a foreign nation.''

The bill would not only add the new grounds for inadmissibility and deportation, it would expand two of the current grounds. First, the current bar to aliens who have ''engaged in genocide'' defines that term by reference to the ''genocide'' definition in the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. [8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)(E)(ii).] For clarity and consistency, the bill would substitute instead the definition in the federal criminal code, 18 U.S.C. §1091(a), which was adopted pursuant to the U.S. obligations under the Genocide Convention. The bill would also broaden the reach of the provision to apply not only to those who ''engaged in genocide,'' as in current law, but also to cover any alien who has ordered, incited, assisted or otherwise participated in genocide. This broader scope will ensure that the genocide provision addresses a more appropriate range of levels of complicity.

Second, the current bar to aliens who have committed ''particularly severe violations of religious freedom,'' as defined in the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (IRFA), limits its application to foreign government officials who engaged in such conduct within the last 24 months, and also bars from admission the individual's

spouse and children, if any. This bill would delete the reference to prohibited conduct occurring within a 24-month period since this limitation is not consistent with the strong stance of the United States to promote religious freedom throughout the world. As Professor Aceves has written:

This provision is unduly restrictive . . . The 24-month time limitation for this prohibition is also unnecessary. A perpetrator of human rights atrocities should not be able to seek absolution by merely waiting two years after the commission of these acts. [William J. Aceves, supra, 20 Mich. J. Int'l L., at 683.]

In addition, the bill would remove the current bar to admission for the spouse or children of a violator of religious freedom. This is a serious sanction that should not apply to individuals because of familial relationships that are beyond their control. The purpose of these amendments is to make those who have participated in atrocities accountable for their actions. That purpose is not served by holding the family members of such individuals accountable for the offensive conduct over which they had no control.

Under current law, most aliens who are inadmissible may receive a waiver under section 212(d)(3) of the INA to enter the nation as a nonimmigrant, where the Secretary of State recommends it and the Attorney General approves. Participants in Nazi persecutions or genocide, however, are not eligible for such a waiver. Our bill retains that provision. It does not, however, ban waivers for those who commit acts of torture or extrajudicial killings. I would hope that such waivers are used sparingly and only under the most compelling of circumstances.

Of course, changing the law to address the problem of human rights abusers seeking entry and remaining in the United States is only part of the solution. We also need effective enforcement. As one expert noted:

[s]trong institutional mechanisms must be established to implement this proposed legislation. At present, there does not appear to be any agency within the Department of Justice with the specific mandate of identifying, investigating and prosecuting modern day perpetrators of human rights atrocities. The importance of establishing a separate agency for this function can be seen in the experiences of the Office of Special Investigations. 20 Mich. J. Int'l L., at 689.

Our country has long provided the template and moral leadership for dealing with Nazi war criminals. The Justice Department's specialized unit, OSI, which was created to hunt down, prosecute and remove Nazi war criminals who had slipped into the United States among their victims under the Displaced Persons Act, is an example of effective enforcement. Since OSI was created in 1979, more than 60 Nazi persecutors have been stripped of U.S. citizenship, almost 50 such individuals have been removed from the United States, and more than 150 have been denied entry.

OSI was created almost 35 years after the end of World War II and it remains authorized only to track Nazi war criminals. Specifically, when Attorney General Civiletti, by a 1979 Attorney General order, established OSI within the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice, that office was directed to conduct all ''investigative and litigation activities involving individuals, who prior to and during World War II, under the supervision of or in association with the Nazi government of Germany, its allies, and other affiliated governments, are alleged to have ordered, incited, assisted, or otherwise participated in the persecution of any person because of race, religion, national origin, or political opinion.'' (Attorney Gen. Order No. 851–79). The OSI's mission continues to be limited by that Attorney General Order.

I believe it is time to reward the tremendous work that OSI has done by expanding its mission to ensure effective enforcement against war criminals of all stripes.

Little is being done about the new generation of international human rights abusers and war criminals living among us, and these delays are costly. As any prosecutor knows instinctively, such delays make documentary and testimonial evidence more difficult to obtain. Stale cases are the hardest to make. We should not repeat the mistake of waiting decades before tracking down war criminals and human rights abusers who have settled in this country. War criminals should find no sanctuary in loopholes in our current immigration policies and enforcement, and should never come to believe that they will find safe harbor in the United States.

The Anti-Atrocity Alien Deportation Act would amend the INA, 8 U.S.C. § 1103, by directing the Attorney General to establish an Office of Special Investigations (OSI) within the Department of Justice with authorization to denaturalize any alien who has participated in Nazi persecution, torture, extrajudicial killing or genocide abroad. Not only would the bill provide statutory authorization for OSI, it would also expand its jurisdiction to deal with any alien who participated in torture, extrajudicial killing and genocide abroad not just Nazis.

The success of OSI in hunting Nazi war criminals demonstrates the effectiveness of centralized resources and expertise in these cases. The knowledge of the people, politics and pathologies of particular regimes engaged in genocide and human rights abuses is often necessary for effective prosecutions of these cases and would best be accomplished by the concentrated efforts of a single office, rather than in piecemeal litigation around the country or in offices that have more diverse missions.

These are the sound policy and practical reasons that experts in this area recommend that the United States ''establish an office in the Justice Department similar to the one that has tracked Nazi war criminals, with an exclusive mandate to carry out the task of investigation [of suspected human rights abusers].'' [William Schulz, supra, at p. 24.]

I appreciate that this part of the legislation has in the past proven controversial within the Department of Justice, but others have concurred in my judgment that the OSI is an appropriate component of the Department to address the new responsibilities proposed in this bill. Professor Aceves, who has studied these matters extensively, has concluded that the OSI's ''methodology for pursuing Nazi war criminals can be applied with equal rigor to other perpetrators of human rights violations. As the number of Nazi war criminals inevitably declines, the OSI can begin to enforce U.S. immigration laws against perpetrators of genocide and other gross violations of human rights.'' 20 Mich. J. Int'l. 657.

Unquestionably, the need to bring Nazi war criminals to justice remains a matter of great importance. Funds would not be diverted from the OSI's current mission instead, additional resources are authorized in the bill to cover the costs of the Office's expanded duties.

Significantly, the bill further directs the Attorney General, in determining what action to take against a human rights abuser seeking entry into or found within the United States, to consider whether a prosecution should be brought under U.S. law or whether the alien should be deported to a country willing to undertake such a prosecution. Despite ratifying the Convention Against Torture in 1994 and adopting a new law making torture anywhere in the world a crime, federal law enforcement has not used this authority. In fact, one recent observer noted that ''the U.S. has never prosecuted a suspected torturer; nor has it ever extradited one under the Convention Against Torture, although it has surrendered one person to the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda.'' [William Schulz, supra, at p. 23 - 24.]

As one human rights expert has noted:

''The justifiable outrage felt by many when it is discovered that serious human rights abusers have found their way into the United States may lead well-meaning people to call for their immediate expulsion. Such individuals certainly should not be enjoying the good life America has to offer. But when we ask the question 'where should they be?' the answer is clear: they should be in the dock. That is the essence of accountability, and it should be the central goal of any scheme to penalize human rights abusers.'' [Hearing on H.R. 5238, ''Serious Human Rights Abusers Accountability Act,'' before the Subcomm. on Immigration and Claims of the House Comm. On the Judiciary, 106th Cong., 2d Sess., Sept. 28, 2000 (Statement of Elisa Massimino, Director, Washington Office, Lawyers Committee For Human Rights).]

Finally, the bill directs the Attorney General to report to the Judiciary Committees of the Senate and House on implementation of the new requirements in the bill, including procedures for referral of matters to the OSI, any

revisions made to immigration forms to reflect amendments made by the bill, and the procedures developed, with adequate due process protection, to obtain sufficient evidence and determine whether an alien is deemed inadmissible under the bill.

I urge my colleagues in the Senate again to give their approval to this bill, and for the House to help us finally make it law. I ask unanimous consent that the text of the legislation be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 710

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Anti-Atrocity Alien Deportation Act of 2003''.

SEC. 2. INADMISSIBILITY AND DEPORTABILITY OF ALIENS WHO HAVE COMMITTED ACTS OF TORTURE OR EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLINGS ABROAD.

(a) INADMISSIBILITY.—Section 212(a)(3)(E) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)(E)) is amended—

(1) in clause (ii), by striking ''has engaged in conduct that is defined as genocide for purposes of the International Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide is inadmissible'' and inserting ''ordered, incited, assisted, or otherwise participated in conduct outside the United States that would, if committed in the United States or by a United States national, be genocide, as defined in section 1091(a) of title 18, United States Code, is inadmissible'';

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(iii) COMMISSION OF ACTS OF TORTURE OR EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLINGS.—Any alien who, outside the United States, has committed, ordered, incited, assisted, or otherwise participated in the commission of—

''(I) any act of torture, as defined in section 2340 of title 18, United States Code; or

''(II) under color of law of any foreign nation, any extrajudicial killing, as defined in section 3(a) of the Torture Victim Protection Act of 1991 (28 U.S.C. 1350 note);

is inadmissible.''; and

(3) in the subparagraph heading, by striking ''PARTICIPANTS IN NAZI PERSECUTION OR GENOCIDE'' and inserting ''PARTICIPANTS IN NAZI PERSECUTION, GENOCIDE, OR THE COMMISSION OF ANY ACT OF TORTURE OR EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLING''.

(b) DEPORTABILITY.—Section 237(a)(4)(D) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1227(a)(4)(D)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''clause (i) or (ii)'' and inserting ''clause (i), (ii), or (iii)''; and

(2) in the subparagraph heading, by striking ''ASSISTED IN NAZI PERSECUTION OR ENGAGED IN GENOCIDE'' and inserting ''PARTICIPATED IN NAZI PERSECUTION, GENOCIDE, OR THE COMMISSION OF ANY ACT OF TORTURE OR EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLING''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to offenses committed before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. INADMISSIBILITY AND DEPORTABILITY OF FOREIGN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHO HAVE COMMITTED PARTICULARLY SEVERE VIOLATIONS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

(a) GROUND OF INADMISSIBILITY.—Section 212(a)(2)(G) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(2)(G)) is amended to read as follows:

''(G) FOREIGN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHO HAVE COMMITTED PARTICULARLY SEVERE VIOLATIONS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.—Any alien who, while serving as a foreign government official, was responsible for or directly carried out, at any time, particularly severe violations of religious freedom, as defined in section 3 of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6402), is inadmissible.''.

(b) GROUND OF DEPORTABILITY.—Section 237(a)(4) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1227(a)(4)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(E) PARTICIPATED IN THE COMMISSION OF SEVERE VIOLATIONS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.—Any alien described in section 212(a)(2)(G) is deportable.''.

SEC. 4. WAIVER OF INADMISSIBILITY.

Section 212(d)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(d)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''and 3(E)'' and inserting ''and clauses (i) and (ii) of paragraph (3)(E)''; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''and 3(E)'' and inserting ''and clauses (i) and (ii) of paragraph (3)(E)''.

SEC. 5. BAR TO GOOD MORAL CHARACTER FOR ALIENS WHO HAVE COMMITTED ACTS OF TORTURE, EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLINGS, OR SEVERE VIOLATIONS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

Section 101(f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(f)) is amended—

(1) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (8) and inserting ''; and''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(9) one who at any time has engaged in conduct described in section 212(a)(3)(E) (relating to assistance in Nazi persecution, participation in genocide, or commission of acts of torture or extrajudicial killings) or 212(a)(2)(G) (relating to severe violations of religious freedom).''.

SEC. 6. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS.

(a) AMENDMENT OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT.—Section 103 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1103) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(h)(1) The Attorney General shall establish within the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice an Office of Special Investigations with the authority to detect and investigate, and, where appropriate, to take legal action to denaturalize any alien described in section 212(a)(3)(E).

''(2) The Attorney General shall consult with the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security in making determinations concerning the criminal prosecution or extradition of aliens described in section 212(a)(3)(E).

''(3) In determining the appropriate legal action to take against an alien described in section 212(a)(3)(E), consideration shall be given to—

''(A) the availability of criminal prosecution under the laws of the United States for any conduct that may form the basis for removal and denaturalization; or

''(B) the availability of extradition of the alien to a foreign jurisdiction that is prepared to undertake a prosecution for such conduct.''.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Justice such sums as may be necessary to carry out the additional duties established under section 103(h) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (as added by this Act) in order to ensure that the Office of Special Investigations fulfills its continuing obligations regarding Nazi war criminals.

(2) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Amounts appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) are authorized to remain available until expended.

SEC. 7. REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACT.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall submit to the Committees on the Judiciary of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report on implementation of this Act that includes a description of—

(1) the procedures used to refer matters to the Office of Special Investigations and other components within the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security in a manner consistent with the amendments made by this Act;

(2) the revisions, if any, made to immigration forms to reflect changes in the Immigration and Nationality Act made by the amendments contained in this Act; and

(3) the procedures developed, with adequate due process protection, to obtain sufficient evidence to determine whether an alien may be inadmissible under the terms of the amendments made by this Act.

Mrs. DOLE. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation to award the Congressional Gold Medal to The Right Honorable Tony Charles Lynton Blair, Prime Minister of Great Britain, First Lord of the Treasury and Minister for the Civil Service.

For more than two centuries, Congress has expressed public gratitude on behalf of the Nation for the notable contributions of individuals and of groups through the Congressional Gold Medal. Congress created this honor as its highest expression of national appreciation for distinguished achievement and contributions.

Originally bestowed upon military leaders, the first Congressional Gold Medal was awarded to George Washington by the Continental Congress on March 25, 1776, for his heroic service in the Revolutionary War. In the two centuries since the medal was first awarded, Congressional Gold Medal recipients have transcended nationality, country and politics. In addition to modern military leaders including General Douglas MacArthur and General Colin Powell, this award has recognized the extraordinary character and efforts of such world leaders as Mother Teresa, Pope John Paul II, and Prime Minister Winston Churchill, another British wartime leader.

In the year and a half since September 11, 2001, and particularly over the course of recent weeks, Prime Minister Blair has exhibited extraordinary courage in the war against terror. With steadfast and unwavering resolve, he has held firm to his principles without regard to, indeed in spite of, the shifting political winds. Again and again, he has been called on to demonstrate his recognition that tyrannical dictators cannot be allowed to terrorize their citizens and neighbors, or the world community.

In the process, Prime Minister Blair has proven to be one of the strongest and most distinguished allies of the United States in our efforts to rid the world of terrorists, and to bring to justice the corrupt regimes that support them. Great Britain has long been a trusted ally of our Nation; however,

Prime Minister Blair has gone beyond friendship to demonstrate true leadership for his nation and for Europe.

In the 18th century, English philosopher Edmund Burke once said, ''The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.'' How poignant and how true that remains today.

It is clear that Prime Minister Blair understands the truth in these words, and that true leaders often hold lonely positions when they forgo the political expedient to stand for what is right.

Last week, a British newspaper editorialized about Prime Minister Blair's lonely struggle. ''Mr. Blair has not shrunk from debate,'' said The Independent, a newspaper that has frequently and loudly criticized the Prime Minister in the past. ''He has taken the argument to all quarters of his restive party. He has allowed the Commons its say. And despite all the doubts about this war, Mr. Blair has shown himself in the past few days to be at once the most formidable politician in the country and the right national leader for these deeply uncertain times.''

These are uncertain, but defining, times. America suffers with Great Britain during the struggles in Iraq. And we mourn together the loss of the brave individuals who dedicate their lives to defending freedom. The courage of the coalition forces in the theater, their skill and bravery on the front lines, the dedication and patriotism of their families at home, all extends back to their leaders.

Prime Minister Blair has had the vision to see that Saddam Hussein is a dangerous man who continues to pose a threat to the region's stability, to his own people, and to the world through his sponsorship of terror.

The liberation of Iraq will be the beginning, not the end, of our commitment to the people of Iraq. We will work together to supply humanitarian relief and strive for the long-term recovery of Iraq's economy.

In this effort to bring freedom to a nation of people who have thirsted for relief from terror, Prime Minister Blair has taken a courageous and principled stand before the world. The simple lesson learned, the lesson Prime Minister Blair personifies, is that evil must be checked.

History will be a kind judge of Tony Blair, for great leaders are remembered well when they stand by their convictions, especially when those stands are tested in the face of adversity, during times of conflict and strife. In such times of testing, we take the measure of our leaders, our institutions, and ourselves.

Prime Minister Blair's character has proven strong and he deserves nothing less than our highest accolades.

That is why I am proud and honored today to introduce legislation to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Prime Minister Blair, and to thank him, on the floor on this Chamber, for his steadfast stand against evil.

I encourage my colleagues to recognize Prime Minister Blair for the courage of his convictions by joining in support of this legislation.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 709

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

SECTION 1. FINDING.

Congress finds that Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom has clearly demonstrated, during a very trying and historic time for our 2 countries, that he is a staunch and steadfast ally of the United States of America.

SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of Congress, of a gold medal of appropriate design, to Prime Minister Tony Blair, in recognition of his outstanding and enduring contributions to maintaining the security of all freedom-loving nations.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the ''Secretary'') shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 3. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 2 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses, and the cost of the gold medal.

SEC. 4. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 5. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF SALE.

(a) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There is authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be necessary to pay for the costs of the medals struck pursuant to this Act.

(b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from the sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under section 3 shall be deposited into the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, Mr. CHAMBLISS, and Mr. ALLEN):

S. 711. A bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to alleviate delay in the payment of the Selected Reserve reenlistment bonus to members of Selected Reserve who are mobilized; read the first time.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, Mr. CHAMBLISS, and Mr. ALLEN):

S. 712. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide Survivor Benefit Plan annuities for surviving spouses of Reserves not eligible for retirement who die from a cause incurred or aggravated while on inactive-duty training; read the first time.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

S. 718. A bill to provide a monthly allotment of free telephone calling time to members of the United States armed forces stationed outside the United States who are directly supporting military operations in Iraq or Afghanistan; read the first time.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bills be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bills were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 711

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

SECTION 1. PAYMENT OF SELECTED RESERVE REENLISTMENT BONUS TO MEMBERS OF SELECTED RESERVE WHO ARE MOBILIZED.

Section 308b of title 37, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (d), (e), and (f) as subsections (e), (f), and (g), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the following new subsection (d):

''(d) PAYMENT TO MOBILIZED MEMBERS.—In the case of a member entitled to a bonus under this section who is called or ordered to active duty, any amount of such bonus that is payable to the member during the period of active duty of the member shall be paid the member during that period of active duty, notwithstanding the service of the member on active duty pursuant to such call or order to active duty.''.

S. 712

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

SECTION 1. SURVIVOR BENEFIT PLAN ANNUITIES FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES OF RESERVES NOT ELIGIBLE FOR RETIREMENT WHO DIE FROM A CAUSE INCURRED OR AGGRAVATED WHILE ON INACTIVE-DUTY TRAINING.

(a) SURVIVING SPOUSE ANNUITY.—Paragraph (1) of section 1448(f) of title 10, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''(1) SURVIVING SPOUSE ANNUITY.—The Secretary concerned shall pay an annuity under this subchapter to the surviving spouse of—

''(A) a person who is eligible to provide a reserve-component annuity and who dies—

''(i) before being notified under section 12731(d) of this title that he has completed the years of service required for eligibility for reserve-component retired pay; or

''(ii) during the 90-day period beginning on the date he receives notification under section 12731(d) of this title that he has completed the years of service required for eligibility for reserve-component retired pay if he had not made an election under subsection (a)(2)(B) to participate in the Plan; or

''(B) a member of a reserve component not described in subparagraph (A) who dies from an injury or illness incurred or aggravated in line of duty during inactive-duty training.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading for subsection (f) of section 1448 of such title

is amended by inserting ''OR BEFORE'' after ''DYING WHEN''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as of September 10, 2001, and shall apply with respect to performance of inactive-duty training (as defined in section 101(d) of title 10, United States Code) on or after that date.

S. 718

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Troops Phone Home Free Act of 2003''.

SEC. 2. PURPOSE.

It is the purpose of this Act to support the morale of the brave men and women of the United States armed services stationed outside the United States who are directly supporting military operations in Iraq or Afghanistan (as determined by the Secretary of Defense) by giving them the ability to place calls to their loved ones without expense to them.

SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) The armed services of the United States are the finest in the world.

(2) The members of the armed services are bravely placing their lives in danger to protect the security of the people of the United States and to advance the cause of freedom in Iraq.

(3) Their families and loved ones are making sacrifices at home in support of the members of the armed services abroad.

(4) Telephone contact with family and friends provides significant emotional and psychological support to them and helps to sustain and improve morale.

SEC. 4. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TELECOMMUNICATIONS BENEFIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as possible after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall provide prepaid phone cards, or an equivalent telecommunications benefit which includes access to telephone service, to members of the armed forces stationed outside the United States who are directly supporting military operations in Iraq or Afghanistan (as determined by the Secretary) to enable them to make telephone calls to family and friends in the United States without cost to the members.

(b) MONTHLY AMOUNT.—The value of the benefit provided by subsection (a) shall not exceed $40 per month per person.

(c) END OF PROGRAM.—The program established by subsection (a) shall terminate on the date that is 60 days after the date on which the Secretary determines that Operation Iraqi Freedom has ended.

(d) FUNDING.

(1) USE OF EXISTING RESOURCES.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall maximize the use of existing Department of Defense telecommunications programs and capabilities, private support organizations, and programs to enhance morale and welfare.

(2) USE OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS.—In addition to resources described in paragraph (1) and notwithstanding any limitation on the expenditure or obligation of appropriated amounts, the Secretary may use available funds appropriated to or for the use of the Department of Defense that are not otherwise obligated or expended to carry out this section.

SEC. 5. DEPLOYMENT OF ADDITIONAL TELEPHONE EQUIPMENT.

The Secretary of Defense shall work with telecommunications providers to facilitate the deployment of additional telephones for use in calling the United States under this Act as quickly as practicable, consistent with the availability of resources and without compromising the Department's military objectives and mission.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. SMITH):

S. 714. A bill to provide for the conveyance of a small parcel of Bureau of Land Management land in Douglas County, Oregon, to the county to improve management of and recreational access to the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I rise today, with my friend and colleague Senator SMITH of Oregon, to introduce legislation to improve the management of and recreational access to the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area in Douglas County, OR.

For the small, rural, coastal community of Winchester Bay in Douglas County, OR, this piece of legislation is critical. Hit first in the early 90's with a steep downturn in the timber economy, closely followed by a near shutdown of the fishing industry, this community found itself on the brink of economic ruin. The final blow came in March of 2000 when the major employer, International Paper, closed its paper mill, putting 300 residents out of work and sending an economic shockwave through the community that impacted the city, the school district, the hospital district, and literally every resident in the area.

Yet, since that time, Winchester Bay, OR has adopted a ''never give up'' attitude, changed its long term outlook, and focused its efforts on developing a thriving tourist industry. The bill I introduce today directs the Secretary of the Interior to convey approximately 68.5 acres from the Bureau of Land Management, BLM, in Douglas County, OR, to Douglas County to be managed for open space and for recreational purposes. The acreage is located just west of tourist and recreational area developments already owned and run by Douglas County. The County will use the land to provide a staging area for off-highway vehicles, thereby improving management of the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area. The land transfer also facilitates the policing of unlawful camping and parking along Salmon Harbor Drive and adjacent areas. This land transfer will improve tourism on Oregon's economically challenged South Coast, as well as improve public safety and reduce traffic congestion along Salmon Harbor Drive.

This legislation is supported by the entire Oregon delegation. It is also supported by the BLM, Douglas County Commissioners, and the community of Winchester Bay. An identical bill was introduced in the last Congress by Representative DEFAZIO, though the 107th Congress ended before both houses could pass it. Representative DEFAZIO reintroduced this land transfer legislation in the 108th Congress, H.R. 514, in the House of Representatives.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.

S. 714

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

SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE OF BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT LAND IN DOUGLAS COUNTY, OREGON.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) CONVEYANCE.—The Secretary of the Interior shall convey, without consideration, to Douglas County, Oregon (referred to in this section as the ''County''), all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the parcel described in paragraph (2) for use by the County for recreational purposes.

(2) PARCEL.—The parcel referred to in paragraph (1) is the parcel of real property consisting of approximately 68.8 acres under the administrative jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management in the County, as depicted on the map entitled ''Umpqua River Lighthouse and Coast Guard Museum Master Plan Study'', dated April 17, 2002.

(b) PURPOSES OF CONVEYANCE.—The purposes of the conveyance under subsection (a) are to improve management of and recreational access to the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area by—

(1) improving public safety and reducing traffic congestion along Salmon Harbor Drive (County Road No. 251) in the County;

(2) providing a staging area for off-highway vehicles; and

(3) facilitating policing of unlawful camping and parking along Salmon Harbor Drive and adjacent areas.

(c) REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary determines that the parcel conveyed under subsection (a) is not being used by the County for a recreational purpose—

(A) all right, title, and interest in and to the parcel, including any improvements on the parcel, shall revert to the United States; and

(B) the United States shall have the right of immediate entry onto the parcel.

(2) DETERMINATION ON THE RECORD.—Any determination of the Secretary under this subsection shall be made on the record after an opportunity for an agency hearing.

(d) SURVEY.—The exact acreage and legal description of the parcel to be conveyed under subsection (a) shall be determined by a survey—

(1) that is satisfactory to the Secretary; and

(2) the cost of which shall be paid by the County.

(e) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyance under subsection (a) as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

By Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

S. 715. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the calendar year limitations on the use of commissary stores by certain reserves and others; to the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the Record.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

S. 715

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

SECTION 1. REPEAL OF CALENDAR YEAR LIMITATIONS ON USE OF COMMISSARY STORES BY CERTAIN RESERVES AND OTHERS.

(a) MEMBERS OF THE READY RESERVE.—Section 1063(a) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking the period at the end of the first sentence and all that follows and inserting ''in that calendar year.''.

(b) CERTAIN OTHER PERSONS.—Section 1064 of such title is amended by striking ''for 24 days each calendar year''.

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 716. A bill to amend the Federal Power Act to improve the electricity transmission system of the United States; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, today I introduce the ''Federal Power Act Amendment of 2003.'' This bill is intended to ensure for the future the two things that matter most to all electricity customers: affordable electricity and reliable electricity.

Electricity users, my constituents and your constituents, wake up in the morning, flip a switch and expect their lights to turn on. They also expect that each month when their electricity bill arrives in the mail that they'll pay a reasonable price for that service. Customers don't care where the electrons come from or what new scheme the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has in mind for the electricity industry or really much of anything else. And frankly, as a representative of nearly four and a half million people in my home State of Louisiana, affordable and reliable electricity are my primary concerns when it comes to electricity policy, and that is the purpose for which I offer legislation today.

Electricity prices in Louisiana, and throughout the Southeast for that matter, are some of the lowest in the nation. According to the North American Electric Reliability Council's most recent reliability assessment report, the Southeast region is expected to enjoy, at least for the near term, ''adequate delivery capacity to support forecast demand and energy requirements under normal and contingency conditions.'' In other words, electricity customers in the Southeast should expect to continue to enjoy reliable electric service over the short run. My concern, however, is about the future of retail electricity service in my State.

There are several specific areas of concern that I have and that I attempt to address in the legislation being offered today.

First, the current balance between State and Federal jurisdiction, which has worked exceedingly well in my home State to provide low-cost and reliable electric service, is in jeopardy. Retail transactions, regulated by State public utility commissions, have historically comprised 90 percent of most utilities' transactions and continue to do so in a majority of States that have not restructured their electricity markets. In fact, there is not a single State in the Southeast with the exception of Virginia that has authorized retail competition. Yet, customers in our region of the country enjoy some of the lowest priced electricity service.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or FERC, however, has issued a proposed rule that would strip States of much of their current jurisdiction over retail electric service, including the transmission component of bundled retail sales. In so doing, FERC would dramatically impair the ability of States to use retail ratemaking to attain local policy goals and to continue to ensure low costs for retail customers. It would also prohibit States from ensuring that retail customers are given a priority for electricity service. As a result, in the event that supplies are tight, retail customers could lose the right to priority service.

FERC's proposed plan is a one-size-fits-all scheme on the entire country based on a model that closely resembles the one in place in New Jersey, much of Pennsylvania and Maryland. This model may work well in the Northeast, but it has never been tested or proven viable in any other part of the country. In fact, in a study performed by the consulting firm, Charles River Associates, it was concluded that there is ''considerable uncertainty as to whether [the FERC's proposed plan] would provide greater benefits to the southeast than the implementation costs.'' In Louisiana, and I'm sure in many other States throughout the Southeast and across the country, customers are happy with their electric service. So I ask, what's wrong with the current jurisdictional division between the State and Federal government? If a State or region wants to adopt a new approach, they should be free to do so. But we should not allow a Federal agency to make fundamental policy decisions that are best left to State officials who are accountable to local interests. We know what happened out West when California regulators attempted to institute a sweeping, new plan for its electricity markets. I hope to avoid importing those problems into Louisiana.

To address this jurisdictional concern, Section 2 of my bill would clarify the Federal-State arrangement under the Federal Power Act by explicitly stating that States shall have jurisdiction over the retail sale of electric energy, including all component parts of a bundled retail sale. In addition, Section 7 would enable States to continue to allow utilities to reserve transmission capacity for retail customers. This is current law and the current practice in a large number of States, including States with some of the lowest average retail rates and the best history of reliability. As contemplated by Congress when the Federal Power Act was enacted, FERC will retain jurisdiction over the wholesale sales of electric energy and States will retain jurisdiction over retail.

My second concern for retail customers is the potential for increased rates caused by the costs of accommodating the ''merchant generation'' that, over the past several years, have been seeking to connect to the electric grid in the Southeast. Though new generation is important to wholesale competition, it is a strain on the transmission system. To accommodate the new generation, new transmission facilities and upgrades to existing facilities are needed. However, customers in Louisiana would be forced to pay for the facilities needed to accommodate the merchant generators, even though most of their customers are out-of-region customers. State regulatory commissioners, understandably, are reluctant to pass transmission construction and upgrade costs off to local customers who are not benefitting from the electricity. Meanwhile energy dependent regions of the country are denied cheap and reliable electricity.

A reason they choose to site in Louisiana is because we are blessed with abundant reserves of natural gas—the currently favored fuel source for electric generation. Merchant generators are siting their facilities to gain access to these resources as cheaply as possible, and then are delivering electricity to regions where they can sell electricity at a higher cost. If enough transmission is built to export just a portion of the new generation that is planned to come on-line in Louisiana—10,000 megawatts—the estimated cost would impose a retail rate increase of 5 to 11 percent.

Surely, there must be a more equitable way to allocate cost while simultaneously enhancing our transmission capacity. It is not fair to expect customers in energy generating States to keep paying for transmission expansion when this increased transmission is primarily being developed for out-of-region use. In Sections 3 and 4 of this bill, I have attempted to provide a more equitable system. Section 3 would allow for ''voluntary participant-funding'' in which a regional transmission organization may choose to establish a system in which market participants pay for expansions to the transmission network in return for the transmission rights created by the expansion investment. This approach gives proper economic incentives for new generator location and transmission expansion decisions.

Similarly, Section 4 of my bill would require the FERC to initiate a proceeding to establish rules for interconnecting new generation to transmission facilities. As in Section 3, any costs made necessary by the interconnecting generator would be funded by the generator, or cost-causer, in return for a right to use such facilities funded by the investment.

The third problem that I see is the lack of new investment in transmission facilities. FERC noted in its Electric Transmission Constraint study that transmission congestion costs retail

customers across the country millions of dollars every year. Over the past 10 years, demand for electricity has increased by 17 percent while transmission investment during the same period has continuously declined about 45 percent.

What is even more troubling is that current demand for electricity is projected to increase by 25 percent over the next 10 years with only a modest increase in transmission capacity. In the short term, this lack of transmission investment and the corresponding lack of transmission capacity, adversely affects the ability of retail customers to realize the benefits of wholesale competition. Over the long term, and if this trend continues, the reliability of the bulk power system could be compromised. In the summer of 2000, transmission constraints limited the ability to sell low-cost power from the Midwest to the South during a period of peak demand, causing higher costs for customers. In the summer of 2001 during the California electricity crisis, transmission constraints along the Path 15 transmission route were a significant cause of the blackouts experienced by customers in the northern parts of that State.

To help spur this needed investment in the transmission sector, Section 5 of the legislation would provide further guidance to FERC in establishing transmission rates in two ways. First, Section 5 would amend Section 205 of the Federal Power Act to clarify that the cost causer is responsible for paying the costs of new transmission investment and that all users of the transmission facilities are required to pay an equitable share of the costs such facilities. These provisions will help ensure that users of the transmission system have proper economic price signals and encourage investment where it is needed most. Second, Section 5 would add a new section to the Federal Power Act, Section 215, that would require the FERC to initiate a rulemaking to establish transmission pricing policies and standards to promote investment in transmission facilities. Although the Commission may have sufficient authority under current law to initiate such policies, our Nation's transmission system has been neglected too long and I believe that the FERC could benefit from more specific guidance from Congress.

Finally, customers are not realizing all of the potential benefits of wholesale electricity markets because of its balkanization. The likely result is higher electricity prices. In different parts of the country, electric utilities are in various stages of joining together to form large regional markets, or in the terms used by FERC—regional transmission organizations. In addition, public power entities, including municipal utilities, cooperatives, and federal and State power marketing associations have been willing or resisting, to varying degrees, to contribute to the efforts to establish regional markets. Exacerbating this problem is the underlying fact that FERC does not have the same jurisdiction over public power utilities as it does over electric utilities.

Properly functioning regional markets for electricity can bring about significant benefits to customers in all parts of the country. More competitive wholesale generation, for example, will allow retail sellers greater opportunities to purchase generation from independent power producers. Improperly functioning markets, or one-size-fits all proposals that do not take into consideration regional differences, can be devastating. Current law and policy at FERC has been insufficient in achieving the proper balance between the need for robust regional markets, the reality of regional differences and the legitimate efforts of utilities.

Therefore, in Section 6 of the bill, the FERC would be required to convene regional discussions with State regulatory commissions to consider the development and progress of regional transmission organizations. It would further provide for specific topics of discussion between FERC and the States including the need for regional organizations, the planning process for facilities, the protection of retail customers, and the establishment of proper price signals to ensure the efficient expansion of the transmission grid. Section 6 would also help reduce the balkanization of the electric grid by authorizing the federal utilities such as the Tennessee Valley Authority and the Bonneville Power Administration to join regional transmission organizations. Also, in an attempt to help expand wholesale markets, Section 8 would provide for FERC to require that public power entities provide a limited form of access to their transmission facilities. This provision would give wholesale generators increased access to markets and ensure that competitors pay only the fair and reasonable price to use the transmission grid owned by public power.

In conclusion, I ask my colleagues to support this legislation and consider its affect on retail electricity customers in their States. Affordable and reliable electricity should be our objective for all customers, in all parts of the country.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 717. A bill to require increased safety testing of 15-passenger vans, ensure the compliance of 15-passenger vans used as schoolbuses with motor vehicle safety standards applicable to schoolbuses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation designed to enhance the safety of large passenger vans, which are highly susceptible to rollovers and have been associated with more than 500 fatalities since 1990.

It was under the most tragic circumstances that this issue came to my State's attention last year. On September 12th, 2002, 14 migrant forestry workers were killed when their 15-passenger van rolled off a bridge over the Allagash Wilderness Waterway in northern Maine. The sole survivor of this catastrophe escaped when he kicked out the rear window of the sinking van in what was the single worst motor vehicle accident in Maine's history.

I quickly learned that this was the latest in a long line of deadly crashes involving the popular vans, which were initially designed to carry cargo rather than passengers and are highly prone to rollovers, especially when fully loaded. There are more than 500,000 of these vans on the road today, and they are frequently used for a wide variety of purposes, from van pools and church outings, to transportation to and from airports, to transporting college athletics teams or workers.

In response to the spate of fatal accidents involving the vans in the past few years, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, NHTSA, conducted a study in 2001 to analyze the vans' propensity to rollover. In May 2001, after concluding the study, NHTSA issued a national warning to users of such vehicles that they have an increased risk of rollovers under certain conditions. They issued a similar warning in April 2002. The results of the NHTSA study are dramatic, finding that rollover risks rise sharply as the number of van occupants increases. With 10 or more occupants, the rollover rate is nearly three times the rate of vans that are lightly loaded. And with more than 15 occupants, the risk of a rollover is almost six times greater than if the van only has five occupants.

Following up on NHTSA's work, and as the deadly march of van accidents continued, last year both the National Transportation Safety Board, NTSB, and the consumer advocacy group Public Citizen issued a number of safety recommendations on the issue. Given the increasing use of 15-passenger vans in transporting larger groups, I believe it is time to move beyond warnings and for Congress to take action to address the safety of these vans.

The bill I am introducing today would require NHTSA to include 15-passenger vans in their dynamic rollover testing program. While NHTSA is currently developing this program, as mandated by The Transportation Recall Enhancement, Accountability, and Documentation, TREAD, Act of 2000, it does not include 15-passenger vans. Given the demonstrated propensity of these vans to roll, and the deadly effects of a rollover in fully loaded passenger vans, it is vital that we subject them to the same safety standards that NHTSA plans to apply to passenger cars and sport utility vehicles, SUVs.

My bill would also require NHTSA to include 15-passenger vans in their New Car Assessment Program, NCAP, rollover resistance ratings, and to test them at various load conditions. The

NCAP, which provides consumers with a measure of the relative safety potential of vehicles in frontal crashes, was expanded recently to include the rollover risk of passenger cars and light trucks. However, the expansion does not extend to vehicles that carry more than 10 passengers. I believe that before churches or colleges or employers purchase one of these vans, they should have access to NCAP information about their rollover propensity relative to other vehicles.

In addition, the bill requires NHTSA to work with van manufacturers to evaluate and test the potential of technological systems to help drivers in maintaining control of the vans. Specifically, NHTSA would look at electronic stability control, ESC, systems that some high-end SUVs are already equipped with and rear-view mirror-based rollover warning systems. ESC systems are computer-controlled systems that attempt to stabilize the vehicle by monitoring a vehicle's movement and the direction the driver is steering. I am also aware of rollover warning systems under development, attachable to the rear-view mirror, that will warn a driver if his speed or driving maneuvers risk a rollover. In short, technology can help us to greatly reduce the tendency of these vans to roll, and in the process save lives.

These vans are also in widespread use for commercial purposes like airport shuttles and vanpools. Therefore, my legislation would require the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, FMCSA, to finish their rulemaking on the application of federal motor carrier safety regulations to 15 passenger vans used for commercial purposes. Both the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, TEA–21, and the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999 directed FMCSA to promulgate regulations on the commercial use of the vans. While they initiated rulemaking in 1999, to date, FMCSA applies no operating regulations whatsoever to these vans.

Finally, this bill addresses the use of 15-passenger vans to transport schoolchildren. Under current law, schools are prohibited from purchasing these vans new to transport schoolchildren because they do not meet the same safety standards as schoolbuses do. However, counter-intuitively, Federal law is silent about the purchase of used vans, or the use of rental vans.

My bill addresses this loophole by incorporating language introduced during the 107th Congress by Representative MARK UDALL of Colorado to extend the ban from the sale of vans to leasing, renting and buying of vans. This is intended to make the buyers accountable as well as the seller. At a recent Senate Commerce Committee hearing, I asked NHTSA Administrator Jeffrey Runge about this disparity in current law, and he agreed that when we're talking about transporting schoolchildren, what's good for new vans should be good for used and rented vans.

Also, to make it worth NHTSA's while to pursue violators, my bill would raise the maximum penalty for violations of the prohibition on the sale or rental of these vans to schools from $5,000 to $25,000.

I truly believe that this legislation will cut down on the number of fatal accidents involving 15-passenger vans by subjecting them to federal rollover standards, providing consumers with adequate safety information and making sure that our schoolchildren are driven to school in safe vehicles. I urge my colleagues to join me in a strong show of support for this effort.

By Mr. ALLEN (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. CHAMBLISS, and Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina):

S. 721. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the combat zone income tax exclusion to include income for the period of transit to the combat zone and to remove the limitation on such exclusion for commissioned officers, and for other purposes; read the first time.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the Record.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

S. 721

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

SECTION 1. EXPANSION OF INCOME TAX EXCLUSION FOR COMBAT ZONE SERVICE.

(a) COMBAT ZONE SERVICE TO INCLUDE TRANSIT TO ZONE.—Section 112(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to definitions) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''Such service shall include any period of direct transit to the combat zone.''.

(b) REMOVAL OF LIMITATION ON EXCLUSION FOR COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 112 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to certain combat zone compensation of members of the Armed Forces) is repealed.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 112(a) of such Code is amended—

(i) by striking ''below the grade of commissioned officer'', and

(ii) by striking ''ENLISTED PERSONNEL'' in the heading and inserting ''IN GENERAL''.

(B) Section 112(c) of such Code is amended by striking paragraphs (1) and (5) and by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) as paragraphs (1), (2), and (3), respectively.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to months beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 2. AVAILABILITY OF CERTAIN TAX BENEFITS FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES PERFORMING SERVICES AT GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL STATION, CUBA, AND IN THE HORN OF AFRICA.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—In the case of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States who is entitled to special pay under section 310 of title 37, United States Code (relating to special pay: duty subject to hostile fire or imminent danger), for services performed at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station, Cuba, or in any country located in the region known as the Horn of Africa as part of Operation Enduring Freedom (or any successor operation), such member shall be treated in the same manner as if such services were in a combat zone (as determined under section 112 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) for purposes of the following provisions of such Code:

(1) Section 2(a)(3) (relating to special rule where deceased spouse was in missing status).

(2) Section 112 (relating to the exclusion of certain combat pay of members of the Armed Forces).

(3) Section 692 (relating to income taxes of members of Armed Forces on death).

(4) Section 2201 (relating to members of the Armed Forces dying in combat zone or by reason of combat-zone-incurred wounds, etc.).

(5) Section 3401(a)(1) (defining wages relating to combat pay for members of the Armed Forces).

(6) Section 4253(d) (relating to the taxation of phone service originating from a combat zone from members of the Armed Forces).

(7) Section 6013(f)(1) (relating to joint return where individual is in missing status).

(8) Section 7508 (relating to time for performing certain acts postponed by reason of service in combat zone).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) WITHHOLDING.—Subsection (a)(5) shall apply to remuneration paid on or after such date of enactment.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 723. A bill to amend the Federal Power Act to provide refunds for unjust and unreasonable charges on electric energy in the State of California; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC, released documents substantiating evidence of market manipulation during the California electricity crisis.

At the same time, I am stunned that FERC took no action today on ordering the companies that cheated California to pay refunds. Nor did FERC order renegotiation of the long-term electricity contracts that were entered into when prices were artificially inflated. The documents released provide absolute and irrefutable evidence of market manipulation by power generators and wholesale traders during California's electricity crisis. I believe it is long past due to end the discussions and deliberations and time to start sending the refund checks.

FERC should use its authority to order full refunds and order them immediately. To make sure that happens, I am introducing legislation to guarantee that the people of California get back the money they are owed.

When the crisis first began in 2000, I introduced my first bill to order refunds. The bill that I am introducing today would require energy companies to pay full refunds in the minimum amount of $8.9 billion. In addition, my bill requires the FERC to order the renegotiation of long-term contracts.

I ask my colleagues to support this legislation. We must not let these companies get away with thievery.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 98—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD DESIGNATE THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 12, 2003, THROUGH OCTOBER 18, 2003, AS ''NATIONAL CYSTIC FIBROSIS AWARENESS WEEK''

Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. BUNNING, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. INHOFE, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. CRAIG) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 98

Whereas cystic fibrosis, characterized by digestive disorders and chronic lung infections, is a fatal lung disease;

Whereas cystic fibrosis is one of the most common fatal genetic diseases in the United States and one for which there is no known cure;

Whereas more than 10,000,000 Americans are unknowing carriers of the cystic fibrosis gene;

Whereas 1 out of every 3,500 babies born in the United States is born with cystic fibrosis;

Whereas approximately 30,000 people in the United States, many of whom are children, have cystic fibrosis;

Whereas the average life expectancy of an individual with cystic fibrosis is 33 years;

Whereas prompt, aggressive treatment of the symptoms of cystic fibrosis can extend the lives of those who have this disease;

Whereas recent advances in cystic fibrosis research have produced promising leads in gene, protein, and drug therapies beneficial to persons afflicted with the disease;

Whereas this innovative research is progressing faster and is being conducted more aggressively than ever before, due in part to the establishment of a model clinical trials network by the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation; and

Whereas education of the public on cystic fibrosis, including the symptoms of the disease, increases knowledge and understanding of cystic fibrosis and promotes early diagnoses: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. NATIONAL CYSTIC FIBROSIS AWARENESS.

(a) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the President should designate the week of October 12, 2003, through October 18, 2003, as ''National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Week''.

(b) PROCLAMATION.—The Senate requests the President to issue a proclamation—

(1) designating the week of October 12, 2003 through October 18, 2003, as ''National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Week''; and

(2) calling on the people of the United States to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

(c) ADDITIONAL ACTION.—The Senate commits to increasing the quality of life for individuals with cystic fibrosis by promoting public knowledge and understanding in a manner that will result in earlier diagnoses, more fund-raising efforts for research, and increased levels of support for those with cystic fibrosis and their families.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, today I am submitting a resolution recognizing October 12, 2003, through October 18, 2003, as National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Week. I am pleased to be joined by thirteen of my colleagues who are original cosponsors of the bill. We are hopeful that greater awareness of cystic fibrosis (CF) will lead to a cure.

The resolution is similar to one which I introduced in the 107th Congress, S. Res. 270, which was agreed to by unanimous consent on October 3, 2002. Since then, I have received input from the National Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (CFF) and the National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Committee (NCFAC) and have updated the information accordingly. Cystic fibrosis is one of the most common fatal genetic diseases in the United States and there is no known cure. It affects approximately 30,000 children and adults in the United States. As recently as 25 years ago, most children born with cystic fibrosis died in early childhood and few survived to their teenage years. Today, most can expect to live past 30. The difference stems from productive research which has led to an understanding of the way cystic fibrosis causes life-threatening damage and to the development of preventive techniques and treatments.

While there is no cure, early detection and prompt treatment can significantly improve and extend the lives of those with CF. My home state of Colorado was one of the first states to require CF screening for newborns. Happily, more states are now performing this simple test.

And, since the discovery of the defective CF gene in 1989, CF research has greatly accelerated. I am proud that Colorado is home to the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, including the Children's Hospital, the National Jewish Medical and Research Center and the Anschutz Centers for Advanced Medicine, all of which are actively involved in CF research and care. The Children's Hospital is one of fourteen innovative Therapeutics Development Centers nationwide performing cutting edge clinical research to develop new treatments for CF.

Currently, the CF Foundation oversees more than 27 potential CF products in its drug development pipeline, including dozens in clinical trials. In addition, small pilot trials and large clinical studies are carried out in the 119 CF Foundation-accredited care centers across the United States. Organizations such as the Cystic Fibrosis Research, Inc. also sponsor studies for treatment of the disease. Efforts such as these throughout the nation are providing a greater quality of life for those who have CF. We applaud these efforts.

While I am encouraged by the CF research in Colorado and elsewhere, more needs to be done. I believe we can increase the quality of life for individuals with Cystic Fibrosis by promoting public knowledge and understanding of the disease in a manner that will result in earlier diagnoses, more fund raising efforts for research, and increased levels of support for those who have CF and their families.

Therefore, I urge my colleagues to act on this resolution so we can move another step closer to eradicating this disease.

Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

SENATE RESOLUTION 99—RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN, FORMER UNITED STATES SENATOR FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. FRIST, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. LOTT, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BOND, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. BURNS, Mr. BYRD, Mr. CAMPBELL, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. COLEMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. DODD, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. GRAHAM of Florida, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. INOUYE, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KOHL, Mr. KYL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. MCCONNELL, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MILLER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. REED, Mr. REID, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SMITH, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SPECTER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. TALENT, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 99

Whereas Daniel Patrick Moynihan served in the United States Navy from 1944 to 1947;

Whereas Daniel Patrick Moynihan held cabinet or sub-cabinet positions under Presidents John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, and Gerald Ford from 1961 to 1976;

Whereas Daniel Patrick Moynihan served as Ambassador to India from 1973 to 1975;

Whereas Daniel Patrick Moynihan served as the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations from 1975 to 1976;

Whereas Daniel Patrick Moynihan served the people of New York with distinction for 24 years in the United States Senate; and

Whereas Daniel Patrick Moynihan was the author of countless books and scholarly articles which contributed enormously to the intellectual vigor of the nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable

Daniel Patrick Moynihan, former member of the United States Senate.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased;

Resolved, That when the Senate adjourns today, it stand adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the Honorable Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

SENATE RESOLUTION 100—RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR OF THE FOUNDING OF THE FORD MOTOR COMPANY, WHICH HAS BEEN A SIGNIFICANT PART OF THE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE UNITED STATES AND MANY OTHER NATIONS, AND A REVOLUTIONARY INDUSTRIAL AND GLOBAL INSTITUTION, AND CONGRATULATING FORD MOTOR COMPANY FOR ITS ACHIEVEMENTS

Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. MILLER, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mr. WARNER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 100

Whereas on June 16, 1903, then 39 year-old Henry Ford and 11 associates, armed with little cash, some tools, a few blueprints, and unbounded faith, launched the Ford Motor Company by submitting incorporation papers in Lansing, Michigan;

Whereas the Ford Motor Company began operations in a leased, small converted wagon factory on a spur of the Michigan Central Railroad in Detroit;

Whereas the first commercial automobile emerged from the Ford Motor Company in 1903 and was the original 8-horsepower, 2-cylinder Model A vehicle, which was advertised as the ''Fordmobile'' and had a 2-speed transmission, 28-inch wheels with wooden spokes, and 3-inch tires;

Whereas between 1903 and 1908, Henry Ford and his engineers developed numerous models named after the letters of the alphabet, with some of the models being only experimental and not available to the public;

Whereas on October 1, 1908, the Ford Motor Company introduced its ''universal car'', the Model T (sometimes affectionately called the ''Tin Lizzie''), which could be reconfigured by buyers to move cattle, haul freight, herd horses, and even mow lawns, and Ford produced 10,660 Model T vehicles its first model year, an industry record;

Whereas the Ford Motor Company inaugurated the first automotive integrated moving assembly line in 1913, changing the old manner of building 1 car at a time through moving the work to the worker by having parts, components, and assemblers stationed at different intervals, and beginning a new era of industrial progress and growth;

Whereas Henry Ford surprised the world in 1914 by setting Ford's minimum wage at $5.00 for an 8-hour day, which replaced the prior $2.34 wage for a 9-hour day and was a truly great social revolution for its time;

Whereas, also in 1914, Henry Ford, with an eye to simplicity, efficiency, and affordability, ordered that the Model T use black paint exclusively because it dried faster than other colors, allowing cars to be built daily at a lower cost, and Ford said the vehicle will be offered in ''any color so long as it is black'';

Whereas, Ford's self-contained Rouge manufacturing complex on the Rouge River, completed in 1925, encompassed diverse industries, including suppliers, that allowed for the complete production of vehicles from raw materials processing to final assembly, was an icon of the 20th century, and, with its current revitalization and redevelopment, will remain an icon in the 21st century;

Whereas, in 1925, the company built the first of 196 Ford Tri-Motor airplanes, nicknamed the ''Tin Goose'' and the ''Model T of the Air'';

Whereas consumer demand for more luxury and power pushed aside the current model, and, on March 9, 1932, a Ford vehicle with the pioneering Ford V-8 engine block cast in 1 piece rolled off the production line;

Whereas, while Ford offered only 2 models through 1937 (Ford and Lincoln), due to increased competition, in 1938 Ford introduced the first Mercury, a car with a distinctive streamlined body style, a V-8 engine with more horsepower than a Ford, and hydraulic brakes, thus filling the void between the low-priced Ford and the high-priced Lincoln;

Whereas the United Automobile Workers (UAW), one of the largest labor unions in the Nation, was formed in 1935 and, after a rather tumultuous beginning, won acceptance by the auto industry, becoming a potent and forceful leader for auto workers with Ford, which built a strong relationship with the union through its policies and programs;

Whereas, by government decree, all civilian auto production in the United States ceased on February 10, 1942, and Ford, under the control of the War Production Board, produced an extensive array of tanks, B-24 aircraft, armored cars, amphibious craft, gliders, and other materials for the World War II war effort;

Whereas Ford dealers rallied to aid the Ford Motor Company in its postwar comeback, proving their merit as the public's main point of contact with the Company;

Whereas on September 21, 1945, Henry Ford II assumed the presidency of Ford, and on April 7, 1947, Ford's founder, Henry Ford passed away;

Whereas a revitalized Ford met the postwar economic boom with Ford's famed F-Series trucks making their debut in 1948 for commercial and personal use, and the debut of the 1949 Ford sedan, with the first major change in a Ford body since 1922, the first change in a chassis since 1932, and the first integration of body and fenders which would set the standard for auto design in the future;

Whereas these new models were followed by such well-known vehicles as Ford ''woodies'', the Mercury Turnpike Cruiser, the retractable hardtop convertible Ford Skyliner, the high performing Ford Thunderbird (introduced in 1955), the Ford Galaxy (introduced in 1959), and the biggest success story of the 1960s, the Ford Mustang, which has been a part of the American scene for almost 40 years;

Whereas, in 1953, President Dwight D. Eisenhower christened the new Ford Research and Engineering Center, which was a milestone in the company's dedication to automotive science and which houses some of the most modern facilities for automotive research;

Whereas Ford's innovation continued through the 1980s with the introduction of the Ford Taurus, which was named the 1986 Motor Trend Car of the Year and which resulted in a new commitment to quality at Ford and in future aerodynamic design trends in the industry;

Whereas Ford's innovation continued through the 1990s with the debut in 1993 of the Ford Mondeo, European Car of the Year, the redesigned 1994 Ford Mustang, and the introduction in 1990 of the Ford Explorer, which defined the sport utility vehicle (SUV) segment and remains the best selling SUV in the world;

Whereas, as the 21st century begins, Ford continues its marvelous record for fine products with the best-selling car in the world, the Ford Focus, and the best-selling truck in the world, the Ford F-Series;

Whereas the Ford Motor Company is the world's second largest automaker and includes Ford, Lincoln, Mercury, Aston Martin, Jaguar, Land Rover, Volvo, and Mazda automotive brands, as well as diversified subsidiaries in finance and other domestic and international business areas; and

Whereas, on October 30, 2001, William Clay Ford, Jr., the great-grandson of Henry Ford, became Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Ford Motor Company, and as such is concentrating on the fundamentals that have powered the company to greatness over the last century and made it a world-class auto and truck manufacturer, and that will continue to carry the company through the 21st century with even better products and innovations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes—

(A) the 100th anniversary year of the founding of the Ford Motor Company, which has been a significant part of the social, economic, and cultural heritage of the United States and many other nations, and a revolutionary industrial and global institution; and

(B) the truly wondrous achievements of the Ford Motor Company, as its employees, retirees, suppliers, dealers, its many customers, automotive enthusiasts, and friends worldwide commemorate and celebrate its 100th anniversary milestone on June 16, 2003;

(2) congratulates the Ford Motor Company for its achievements; and

(3) expects that the Ford Motor Company will continue to have an even greater impact in the 21st century and beyond by providing innovative products that are affordable and environmentally sustainable, and that will enhance personal mobility for generations to come.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 30—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS TO COMMEND AND EXPRESS THE GRATITUDE OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE NATIONS PARTICIPATING WITH THE UNITED STATES IN THE COALITION TO DISARM IRAQ

Mr. LUGAR (for himself and Mr. BIDEN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was ordered held at the desk:

S. CON. RES. 30

Whereas on September 12, 2002, the President of the United States, appearing at the United Nations, called on that institution and its member states to meet their responsibility to disarm Iraq;

Whereas on November 8, 2002, the United Nations Security Council approved Security Council Resolution 1441 under chapter VII of the United Nations Charter by a vote of 15–0, giving Iraq a final opportunity to comply with its disarmament obligations;

Whereas on January 30, 2003, the Prime Ministers of Denmark, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Portugal, and the United Kingdom, and the Presidents of the Czech Republic and the Spanish Government, issued a declaration regarding Security Council Resolution 1441,

wherein they stated that ''[t]he transatlantic relationship must not become a casualty of the current Iraqi regime's persistent attempts to threaten world security . . . The Iraqi regime and its weapons of mass destruction represent a clear threat to world security. This danger has been explicitly recognized by the United Nations. All of us are bound by Security Council Resolution 1441, which was adopted unanimously.'';

Whereas the January 30, 2003, declaration continued to state that ''Resolution 1441 is Saddam Hussein's last chance to disarm using peaceful means. The opportunity to avoid greater confrontation rests with him . . . Our governments have a common responsibility to face this threat . . . [T]he Security Council must maintain its credibility by ensuring full compliance with its resolutions. We cannot allow a dictator to systematically violate those resolutions. If they are not complied with, the Security Council will lose its credibility and world peace will suffer as a result.'';

Whereas on February 5, 2003, the Foreign Ministers of Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia issued a declaration regarding Security Council Resolution 1441, stating that ''the United States [has] presented compelling evidence to the United Nations Security Council detailing Iraq's weapons of mass destruction programs, its active efforts to deceive United Nations inspectors, and its links to international terrorism . . . The transatlantic community, of which we are a part, must stand together to face the threat posed by the nexus of terrorism and dictators with weapons of mass destruction.'';

Whereas the February 5, 2003, declaration continued to state that ''it has now become clear that Iraq is in material breach of United Nations Security Council resolutions, including United Nations Resolution 1441 . . . The clear and present danger posed by Saddam Hussein's regime requires a united response from the community of democracies. We call upon the United Nations Security Council to take the necessary and appropriate action in response to Iraq's continuing threat to international peace and security.'';

Whereas many of the supporters of the January 30, 2003, and February 5, 2003, declarations have provided important support to the United States in addition to their political declarations; and

Whereas in addition to the supporters of the January 30, 2003, and February 5, 2003, declarations, important diplomatic and strategic support to the United States-led Coalition to Disarm Iraq have been provided by such nations as Afghanistan, Angola, Australia, Azerbaijan, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Georgia, Honduras, Iceland, Japan, Kuwait, Macedonia, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Palau, Panama, the Philippines, Rwanda, Singapore, the Solomon Islands, South Korea, Tonga, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) commends and expresses the gratitude of the United States to the nations participating in and contributing to the Coalition to Disarm Iraq, including—

(A) the supporters of the January 30, 2003, declaration issued by the Prime Ministers of Denmark, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Portugal, and the United Kingdom, and the Presidents of the Czech Republic and the Spanish Government;

(B) the supporters of the February 5, 2003, declaration issued by the Foreign Ministers of Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia; and

(C) other allies of the United States who are participating in or contributing to the Coalition;

(2) expresses sincere gratitude to Australia, Denmark, Poland, and the United Kingdom, whose military forces have joined United States Armed Forces to disarm and liberate Iraq;

(3) expresses sincere gratitude to the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Tony Blair, the Prime Minister of Australia, John Howard, and the President of the Spanish Government, Jose Maria Aznar, for their courageous support and strong commitment to the Coalition to Disarm Iraq;

(4) expresses sincere gratitude to other allied nations, including nations in the Persian Gulf region, for their military support, logistical support, and other assistance in the current campaign against the regime of Saddam Hussein in Iraq;

(5) welcomes and encourages the active involvement and participation of these countries, other nations, and key international organizations in the reconstruction and administration of Iraq after the current conflict in Iraq; and

(6) commends and expresses the gratitude of the United States to the military personnel and civilians of the member states of the Coalition to Disarm Iraq who are serving in operations against the regime of Saddam Hussein in Iraq, and to the family members of such personnel and civilians who have borne the burden of sacrifice and separation from their loved ones during the current conflict in Iraq.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED & PROPOSED

SA 428. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2003 and for fiscal years 2005 through 2013; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 429. Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. BINGAMAN) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, supra.

SA 430. Ms. MURKOWSKI proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, supra.

SA 431. Mrs. LINCOLN proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, supra.

SA 432. Mr. NICKLES (for Mr. MCCONNELL) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, supra.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

March 25, 2003

SA 411. Mr. CONRAD proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2003 and for fiscal years 2005 through 2013; as follows:

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004.

(a) DECLARATION.—Congress declares that this resolution is the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2004 including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2003 and for fiscal years 2005 through 2013 as authorized by section 301 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 632).

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

Sec. 1. Concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2004.

TITLE I—LEVELS AND AMOUNTS

Sec. 101. Recommended levels and amounts.
Sec. 102. Social security.
Sec. 103. Major functional categories.

TITLE I—LEVELS AND AMOUNTS

SEC. 101. RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS.

The following budgetary levels are appropriate for the fiscal years 2003 through 2013:

(1) FEDERAL REVENUES.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution—

(A) The recommended levels of Federal revenues are as follows:

Fiscal year 2003: $1,282,134,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004: $1,473,435,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005: $1,633,031,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006: $1,739,022,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007: $1,851,246,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008: $1,960,717,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009: $2,076,710,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $2,192,257,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $2,427,396,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $2,650,579,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $2,805,810,000,000.

(B) The amounts by which the aggregate levels of Federal revenues should be changed are as follows:

Fiscal year 2003: −$77,700,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004: $7,065,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005: $16,005,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006: −$1,650,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007: −$1,920,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008: −$2,260,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009: −$1,620,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: −$785,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: −$100,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $800,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $1,600,000,000.

(2) NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the appropriate levels of total new budget authority are as follows:

Fiscal year 2003: $1,901,363,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004: $1,864,753,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005: $1,979,456,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006: $2,120,241,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007: $2,246,386,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008: $2,366,468,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009: $2,475,874,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $2,584,726,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $2,709,145,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $2,798,272,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $2,922,872,000,000.

(3) BUDGET OUTLAYS.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the appropriate levels of total budget outlays are as follows:

Fiscal year 2003: $1,829,086,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004: $1,899,965,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005: $1,978,628,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006: $2,089,544,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007: $2,207,833,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008: $2,229,553,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009: $2,445,715,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $2,502,133,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $2,695,793,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $2,772,474,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $2,907,760,000,000.

(4) DEFICITS.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the amounts of the deficits are as follows:

Fiscal year 2003: −$546,952,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004: −$426,530,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005: −$345,597,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006: −$350,522,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007: −$356,587,000,000.

Fiscal year 2008: −$368,836,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009: −$369,005,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: −$369,876,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: −$268,397,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: −$121,895,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: −$101,950,000,000.

(5) PUBLIC DEBT.—The appropriate levels of the public debt are as follows:
Fiscal year 2003: $6,781,300,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004: $7,286,882,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005: $7,738,623,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006: $8,214,232,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007: $8,700,321,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008: $9,202,613,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009: $9,706,954,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $10,216,905,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $10,629,297,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $10,902,099,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $11,156,541,000,000.

(6) DEBT HELD BY THE PUBLIC.—The appropriate levels of the debt held by the public are as follows:
Fiscal year 2003: $3,540,427,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004: $3,951,933,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005: $4,202,001,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006: $4,360,348,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007: $4,509,222,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008: $4,643,691,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009: $4,769,925,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $4,876,352,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $4,964,366,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $4,932,374,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $4,738,818,000,000.

SEC. 102. SOCIAL SECURITY.

(a) SOCIAL SECURITY REVENUES.—For purposes of Senate enforcement under sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the amounts of revenues of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund are as follows:
Fiscal year 2003: $531,607,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004: $557,886,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005: $587,895,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006: $619,162,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007: $651,228,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008: $684,509,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009: $719,212,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $755,834,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $792,232,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $829,648,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $869,770,000,000.

(b) SOCIAL SECURITY OUTLAYS.—For purposes of Senate enforcement under sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the amounts of outlays of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund are as follows:
Fiscal year 2003: $459,795,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004: $480,249,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005: $499,040,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006: $522,970,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007: $549,367,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008: $548,159,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009: $610,553,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010: $645,845,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011: $682,594,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012: $724,415,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013: $770,807,000,000.

(c) SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—For the Senate, the amounts of the new budget authority and budget outlays of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund for administrative expenses are as follows:
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, $3,838,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $3,838,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, $4,257,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,206,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, $4,338,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,301,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, $4,424,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,409,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, $4,522,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,505,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, $4,638,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,617,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $4,792,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,766,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $4,954,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $4,???,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $5,121,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $5,091,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $5,292,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $5,260,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $5,471,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $5,439,000,000.

SEC. 103. MAJOR FUNCTIONAL CATEGORIES.

Congress determines and declares that the appropriate levels of new budget authority, budget outlays, new direct loan obligations, and new primary loan guarantee commitments for fiscal years 2003 through 2013 for each major functional category are:

(1) National Defense (050):
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, $472,494,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $418,229,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, $400,658,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $430,664,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, $420,402,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $426,536,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, $440,769,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $430,191,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, $461,400,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $441,621,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, $482,340,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $465,115,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $489,209,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $477,989,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $495,079,000.
(B) Outlays, $487,993,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $502,947,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $500,478,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $510,984,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $501,628,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $519,393,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $514,885,000,000.

(2) International Affairs (150):
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, $22,506,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,283,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, $25,681,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,207,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, $29,734,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,917,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, $32,308,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,539,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, $33,603,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $28,464,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, $34,611,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $29,604,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $35,413,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $30,733,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $36,258,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $31,689,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $37,136,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $32,565,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $38,005,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $33,408,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $38,885,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $34,298,000,000.

(3) General Science, Space, and Technology (250):
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, $23,153,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $21,556,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, $23,577,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $22,854,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, $24,125,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,746,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, $24,642,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,081,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, $25,153,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,544,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, $25,709,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $25,015,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $26,267,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $25,560,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $26,849,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,119,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $27,453,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,703,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $28,060,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,299,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $28,668,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $27,899,000,000.

(4) Energy (270):
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, $2,074,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $439,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, $2,401,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $656,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, $2,193,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $468,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, $2,232,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $733,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, $2,137,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $641,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, $1,789,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $303,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $1,762,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $371,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $1,823,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $435,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $1,883,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $576,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $1,954,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $917,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $2,022,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $842,000,000.

(5) Natural Resources and Environment (300):
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, $30,816,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $28,940,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, $32,394,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $30,895,000,000.

Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, $33,286,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $32,102,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, $34,263,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $33,700,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, $35,018,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $34,374,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, $35,823,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $35,021,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $37,163,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $36,258,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $38,229,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $37,290,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $39,263,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $38,318,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $40,194,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $39,219,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $41,121,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $40,214,000,000.
(6) Agriculture (350):
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, $24,418,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,365,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, $25,212,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,909,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, $27,382,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,166,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, $27,229,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $26,038,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, $26,718,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $25,562,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, $25,933,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,798,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $26,517,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $25,545,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $25,970,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $25,132,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $25,415,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,596,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $24,995,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,192,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $24,715,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,909,000,000.
(7) Commerce and Housing Credit (370):
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, $8,812,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $5,881,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, $8,134,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $3,204,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, $9,060,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $2,867,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, $8,620,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $2,895,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, $8,959,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $2,936,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, $8,720,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $2,605,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $8,451,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $2,274,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $8,274,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $1,736,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $8,193,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $1,074,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $8,236,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $624,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $8,248,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $475,000,000.
(8) Transportation (400):
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, $68,222,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $68,038,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, $64,717,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $73,058,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, $71,965,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $73,348,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, $74,324,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $75,253,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, $76,925,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $78,290,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, $79,735,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $81,825,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $82,503,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $85,305,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $82,375,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $88,246,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $82,263,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $90,135,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $82,174,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $91,622,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $82,114,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $92,924,000,000.
(9) Community and Regional Development (450):
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, $17,251,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $15,994,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, $15,554,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $17,647,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, $16,418,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,281,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, $17,214,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $18,956,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, $17,726,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $17,659,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, $17,993,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $17,070,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $18,336,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $17,431,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $18,696,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $17,787,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $19,072,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $18,153,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $19,445,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $18,506,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $19,823,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $18,883,000,000.
(10) Education, Training, Employment, and Social Services (500):
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, $88,741,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $81,660,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, $89,881,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $89,997,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, $96,237,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $93,577,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, $100,520,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $97,167,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, $104,433,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $100,927,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, $108,432,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $104,866,000,000.
(A) New budget authority, $112,408,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $108,840,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $116,371,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $112,863,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $120,499,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $116,923,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $124,539,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $120,984,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $128,287,000.
(B) Outlays, $125,109,000,000.
(11) Health (550):
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, $227,453,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $223,596,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, $242,169,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $241,908,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, $259,307,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $258,521,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, $279,273,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $278,287,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, $300,381,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $298,793,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, $321,927,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $320,406,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $345,464,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $344,019,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $371,391,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $369,962,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $399,645,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $398,217,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $430,046,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $428,629,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $463,499,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $462,005,000,000.
(12) Medicare (570):
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, $248,586,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $248,434,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, $259,303,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $259,575,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, $273,200,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $276,130,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, $323,590,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $320,333,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, $359,859,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $360,110,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, $388,766,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $388,619,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $420,626,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $420,357,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $453,765,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $454,019,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $490,382,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $493,735,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $530,821,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $526,990,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:

(A) New budget authority, $576,244,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $576,494,000,000.
(13) Income Security (600):
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, $324,956,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $322,807,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, $328,369,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $330,827,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, $332,643,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $334,607,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, $340,868,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $342,360,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, $348,137,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $349,374,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, $360,894,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $361,729,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $372,590,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $373,311,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $385,559,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $386,327,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $403,220,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $404,150,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $395,183,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $396,397,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $410,715,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $412,374,000,000.
(14) Social Security (650):
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, $13,255,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $13,255,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, $14,224,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $14,224,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, $15,331,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $15,331,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, $16,452,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $16,452,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, $17,976,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $17,976,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, $19,828,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,828,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $21,983,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $21,983,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $24,358,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $24,358,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $28,236,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $28,236,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $31,451,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $31,451,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $34,482,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $34,482,000,000.
(15) Veterans Benefits and Services (700):
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, $57,597,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $57,486,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, $63,779,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $63,355,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, $67,557,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $67,124,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, $66,264,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $65,935,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, $65,171,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $64,725,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, $69,331,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $69,028,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $70,969,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $70,614,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $72,712,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $72,308,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $77,413,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $76,995,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $74,383,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $73,866,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $79,226,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $78,784,000,000.
(16) Administration of Justice (750):
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, $38,543,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $37,712,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, $41,193,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $41,022,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, $40,567,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $41,121,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, $39,965,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $39,370,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, $40,613,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $40,149,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, $41,766,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $41,239,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $43,040,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $42,455,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $44,357,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $43,746,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $45,714,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $45,088,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $47,093,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $46,463,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $48,514,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $47,877,000,000.
(17) General Government (800):
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, $33,178,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $33,103,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, $18,264,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $18,214,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, $18,770,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $18,483,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, $19,302,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $18,888,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, $19,902,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,973,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, $20,106,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $19,779,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $20,798,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $20,295,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $21,518,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $20,981,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $22,264,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $21,704,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $23,043,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $22,613,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $23,841,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $23,231,000,000.
(18) Net Interest (900):
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, $240,412,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $240,412,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, $258,221,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $258,221,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, $303,153,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $303,153,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, $338,449,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $338,449,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, $363,047,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $363,047,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, $385,858,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $385,858,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, $408,666,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $408,666,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, $429,837,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $429,837,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, $449,662,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $449,662,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, $464,064,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $464,064,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, $472,058,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $472,058,000,000.
(19) Allowances (920):
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, $0.
(B) Outlays, $0.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, −$6,084,000,000.
(B) Outlays, −$1,578,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, −$9,276,000,000.
(B) Outlays, −$7,252,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, −$11,584,000,000.
(B) Outlays, −$11,624,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, −$11,737,000,000.
(B) Outlays, −$11,737,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, −$11,872,000,000.
(B) Outlays, −$11,872,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, −$13,506,000,000.
(B) Outlays, −$13,506,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, −$13,839,000,000.
(B) Outlays, −$13,839,000,000.
Fiscal year 2011:
(A) New budget authority, −$14,508,000,000.
(B) Outlays, −$14,508,000,000.
Fiscal year 2012:
(A) New budget authority, −$14,813,000,000.
(B) Outlays, −$14,813,000,000.
Fiscal year 2013:
(A) New budget authority, −$15,200,000,000.
(B) Outlays, −$15,200,000,000.
(20) Undistributed Offsetting Receipts (950):
Fiscal year 2003:
(A) New budget authority, −$41,104,000,000.
(B) Outlays, −$41,104,000,000.
Fiscal year 2004:
(A) New budget authority, −$42,894,000,000.
(B) Outlays, −$42,894,000,000.
Fiscal year 2005:
(A) New budget authority, −$52,598,000,000.
(B) Outlays, −$52,598,000,000.
Fiscal year 2006:
(A) New budget authority, −$54,459,000,000.
(B) Outlays, −$54,459,000,000.
Fiscal year 2007:
(A) New budget authority, −$49,035,000,000.
(B) Outlays, −$49,035,000,000.
Fiscal year 2008:
(A) New budget authority, −$51,221,000,000.
(B) Outlays, −$51,221,000,000.
Fiscal year 2009:
(A) New budget authority, −$52,785,000,000.
(B) Outlays, −$52,785,000,000.
Fiscal year 2010:
(A) New budget authority, −$54,856,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −$54,856,000,000.

Fiscal year 2011:

(A) New budget authority, −$57,007,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −$57,007,000,000.

Fiscal year 2012:

(A) New budget authority, −$61,585,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −$61,585,000,000.

Fiscal year 2013:

(A) New budget authority, −$63,783,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −$63,783,000,000.

SEC. 201. FIVE-YEAR EXTENSION OF SUPERMAJORITY ENFORCEMENT OF POINTS OF ORDER AND SENATE PAY-AS-YOU-GO POINT OF ORDER.

Sections 2(a)(1) and 2(b)(1)(B) of S. Res. 304 (107th Congress) are amended by striking ''2003'' and inserting ''2008''.

SEC. 202. DISCRETIONARY SPENDING CAPS.

(a) DEFINTION—In this section, for the purposes of enforcement in the Senate the term ''discretionary spending limit'' means—

(1) for fiscal year 2004—

(A) for the discretionary category, $796,428,000,000 in new budget authority and $832,371,000,000 in outlays;

(B) for the highway category, $31,598,000,000 in outlays; and

(C) for the mass transit category, $6,754,000,000 in outlays; and

(2) for fiscal year 2005—

(A) for the discretionary category, $828,285,000,000 in new budget authority and 837,201,000,000 in outlays;

(B) for the highway category, $33,374,000,000 in outlays; and

(C) for the mass transit category, $7,197,000,000 in outlays.

(b) POINT OF ORDER IN THE SENATE—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (2), it shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that exceeds any discretionary spending limit set forth in this section.

(2) EXCEPTION.—This subsection shall not apply if a declaration of war by Congress is in effect.

(3) WAIVER AND APPEAL.—This section may be waived or suspended in the Senate only an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn. An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required in the Senate to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

(c) ADJUSTMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) CHAIRMAN.—After the reporting of a bill or joint resolution, the offering of an amendment thereto, or the submission of a conference report thereon, the chairman of the Committee on the Budget may make the adjustments set forth in subparagraph (B) for the amount of new budget authority in that measure and the outlays flowing from that budget authority.

(B) MATTERS TO BE ADJUSTED.—The adjustments referred to in subparagraph (A) are to be made to—

(i) the discretionary spending limits, if any, set forth in the appropriate concurrent resolution on the budget;

(ii) the allocations made pursuant to the appropriate concurrent resolution on the budget pursuant to section 1302(a); and

(iii) the budgetary aggregates as set forth in the appropriate concurrent resolution on the budget.

(2) AMOUNTS OF ADJUSTMENTS.—The adjustments referred to in paragraph (1) shall be amounts provided and designated as an emergency requirement by Congress and the President.

SEC. 203. RESERVE FUND FOR MEDICARE, PRESCRIPTION DRUGS, AND HEALTH CARE.

(a) MEDICARE.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations to the Committee on Finance for a bill, amendment, or conference report that provides a drug benefit for Medicare beneficiaries that is equitable, dependable, affordable, and protects beneficiary access to all medically necessary drugs, by the amounts provided in that legislation for those purposes, but not to exceed $594,000,000 in new budget authority and outlays for the period of fiscal years 2004 through 2013 except as provided in subsection (d).

(b) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) ''Equitable,'' as used in this section, shall be construed to mean that Medicare beneficiaries in traditional Medicare shall receive prescription drug coverage that is on an equal basis with regard to benefit level whether they remain in the traditional fee-for-service Medicare program or enroll in a private plan;

(2) ''Dependable,'' as used in this section, shall be construed to mean that beneficiaries shall have access to a drug benefit that is administered through a stable and dependable delivery system so that beneficiaries will not lose coverage or face significant premium increases from one year to the next;

(3) ''Affordable,'' as used in this section, shall be construed to mean that low-income beneficiaries shall receive assistance with premiums and cost sharing;

(4) ''Protects beneficiary access,'' as used in this section, shall be construed to mean that the plan shall include measures that protect beneficiary access to medically necessary drugs with no financial penalty, and shall preserve access to local pharmacies.

(c) HEALTH CARE.—If the Committee on Finance reports legislation that would expand health insurance coverage to the uninsured (and build upon and strengthen public and private coverage), the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations for that committee and other appropriate budgetary aggregates and allocations of new budget authority (and the outlays resulting thereform) and may revise the revenue aggregates and other appropriate budgetary aggregates and allocations in this resolution by the amount provided by that measure for that purpose, but not to exceed $95,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2004 through 2013 except as provided in subsection (d).

(d) TOTAL ADJUSTMENTS.—The total of adjustments allowed under subsections (a) and (c) shall not exceed $594,000,000 in new budget authority and outlays for the period of fiscal years 2004 through 2013.

SEC. 205. RESERVE FUND FOR THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget shall, in consultation with the Members of the Committee on the Budget and the Chairman and Ranking Member of the appropriate committee, increase the allocations pursuant to section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pension of the Senate by up to $1,750,000,000 in new budget authority and $35,000,000 in outlays for fiscal year 2004, $26,250,000,000 in new budget authority and $14,963,000,000 in outlays for the total of fiscal years 2004 through 2008, and $95,881,000,000 in new budget authority and $72,880,000,000 in outlays for the total of fiscal years 2004 through 2013, for a bill, amendment, or conference report that would provide increased funding for part B grants, other than section 619, under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), with the goal that funding for these grants, when taken together with amounts provided by the Committee on Appropriations, provides 40 percent of the national average per pupil expenditure for children with disabilities in the tenth year.

SEC. 106. APPLICATION AND EFFECT OF CHANGES IN ALLOCATIONS AND AGGREGATES.

(a) APPLICATION.—Any adjustments of allocations and aggregates made pursuant to this resolution shall—

(1) apply while that measure is under consideration;

(2) take effect upon the enactment of that measure; and

(3) be published in the Congressional Record as soon as practicable.

(b) EFFECT OF CHANGED ALLOCATIONS AND AGGREGATES—Revised allocations and aggregates resulting from these adjustments shall be considered for the purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 as allocations and aggregates contained in this resolution.

(c) BUDGET COMMITTEE DETERMINATIONS.—For purpose of this resolution—

(1) the levels of new budget authority, outlays, direct spending, new entitlement authority, revenues, deficits, and surpluses for a fiscal year or period of fiscal years shall be determined on the basis of estimates made by the Committee on the Budget of the Senate; and

(2) the Chairman of that Committee may make any other necessary adjustments to such levels to carry out this resolution.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 428. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2003 and for fiscal years 2005 through 2013; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 3, line 11, increase the amount by $367,000,000.

On page 3, line 12, increase the amount by $1,807,000,000.

On page 3, line 13, increase the amount by $1,881,000,000.

On page 3, line 14, increase the amount by $1,921,000,000.

On page 3, line 15, increase the amount by $1,963,000,000.

On page 3, line 16, increase the amount by $2,006,000,000.

On page 3, line 17, increase the amount by $2,051,000,000.

On page 3, line 18, increase the amount by $2,097,000,000.

On page 3, line 19, increase the amount by $2,143,000,000.

On page 4, line 2, increase the amount by $367,000,000.

On page 4, line 3, increase the amount by $1,807,000,000.

On page 4, line 4, increase the amount by $1,881,000,000.

On page 4, line 5, increase the amount by $1,921,000,000.

On page 4, line 6, increase the amount by $1,963,000,000.

On page 4, line 7, increase the amount by $2,006,000,000.

On page 4, line 8, increase the amount by $2,051,000,000.

On page 4, line 9, increase the amount by $2,097,000,000.

On page 4, line 10, increase the amount by $2,143,000,000.

On page 4, line 16, increase the amount by $1,835,000,000.

On page 4, line 17, increase the amount by $1,874,000,000.

On page 4, line 18, increase the amount by $1,913,000,000.

On page 4, line 19, increase the amount by $1,956,000,000.

On page 4, line 20, increase the amount by $1,998,000,000.
On page 4, line 21, increase the amount by $2,042,000,000.
On page 4, line 22, increase the amount by $2,088,000,000.
On page 4, line 23, increase the amount by $2,134,000,000.
On page 4, line 24, increase the amount by $2,180,000,000.
On page 5, line 6, increase the amount by $367,000,000.
On page 5, line 7, increase the amount by $1,807,000,000.
On page 5, line 8, increase the amount by $1,881,000,000.
On page 5, line 9, increase the amount by $1,921,000,000.
On page 5, line 10, increase the amount by $1,963,000,000.
On page 5, line 11, increase the amount by $2,006,000,000.
On page 5, line 12, increase the amount by $2,051,000,000.
On page 5, line 13, increase the amount by $2,097,000,000.
On page 5, line 14, increase the amount by $2,143,000,000.
On page 25, line 20, increase the amount by $1,835,000,000.
On page 25, line 21, increase the amount by $367,000,000.
On page 25, line 24, increase the amount by $1,874,000,000.
On page 25, line 25, increase the amount by $1,807,000,000.
On page 26, line 3, increase the amount by $1,913,000,000.
On page 26, line 4, increase the amount by $1,881,000,000.
On page 26, line 7, increase the amount by $1,956,000,000.
On page 26, line 8, increase the amount by $1,921,000,000.
On page 26, line 11, increase the amount by $1,998,000,000.
On page 26, line 12, increase the amount by $1,963,000,000.
On page 26, line 15, increase the amount by $2,042,000,000.
On page 26, line 16, increase the amount by $2,006,000,000.
On page 26, line 19, increase the amount by $2,088,000,000.
On page 26, line 20, increase the amount by $2,051,000,000.
On page 26, line 23, increase the amount by $2,134,000,000.
On page 26, line 24, increase the amount by $2,097,000,000.
On page 27, line 2, increase the amount by $2,180,000,000.
On page 27, line 3, increase the amount by $2,143,000,000.
On page 47, line 14, increase the amount by $1,835,000,000.
On page 47, line 15, increase the amount by $367,000,000.

SA 429. Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. BINGAMAN) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2003 and for fiscal years 2005 through 2013; as follows:

On page 8, line 23, increase the amount by $3,000,000,000.
On page 8, line 24, increase the amount by $3,000,000,000.
On page 46, line 20, increase the amount by $3,000,000,000.
On page 46, line 21, increase the amount by $3,000,000,000.
On page 4, line 14, increase the amount by $3,000,000,000.
On page 5, line 4, increase the amount by $3,000,000,000.
On page 5, line 17, decrease the amount by $3,000,000,000.

SA 430. Ms. MURKOWSKI proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2003 and for fiscal years 2005 through 2013; as follows:

On page 45, line 24, increase the amount by $47,904,000,000.
On page 46, line 1, increase the amount by $18,768,000,000.

SA 431. Mrs. LINCOLN proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2003 and for fiscal years 2005 through 2013; as follows:

At the appropriate place insert the following:

SEC. . SENSE OF THE SENATE ON THE $1000 CHILD CREDIT

It is the sense of the Senate that extending the $1,000 child credit for three additional years (2011–2013) can be accommodated within the revenue totals and instructions of the resolution.

SA 432. Mr. NICKLES (for Mr. MCCONNELL) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2003 and for fiscal years 2005 through 2013; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following: ''It is the Sense of the Senate that the President should negotiate a free trade agreement with the United Kingdom.''

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a judicial nominations hearing on Wednesday, March 26, 2003, at 2 p.m. in the Dirksen Senate Office Building Room 226.

Panel I: The Honorable Paul Sarbanes, United States Senator [D–MD]; The Honorable Barbara Mikulski, United States Senator [D–MD]; The Honorable Jeff Bingaman, United States Senator [D–NM]; The Honorable John Breaux, United States Senator [D–LA]; The Honorable Mary Lendrieu, United States Senator (D–LA]; The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison, United States Senator [R–TX]; The Honorable John Cornyn, United States Senator [R–TX]; The Honorable Blanche Lincoln United States Senator [D–AR]; The Honorable Mark Pryor, United States Senator [D–AR]; The Honorable George Allen, United States Senator [R–VA]; and The Honorable Billy Tauzin, United States Representative [R–LA–3rd District].

Panel II: Edward C. Prado to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit.

Panel III: Richard D. Bennett to be United States District Judge for the District of Maryland. Dee D. Drell to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana. J. Leon Holmes to be United States District Court Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas. Susan G. Braden to be Judge for the Court of Federal Claims. Charles F. Lettow to be Judge for the Court of Federal Claims.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for Kevin Avery to be granted the privilege of the floor.

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

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Ann Marie White, a legislative fellow in the office of Senator DODD, be granted the privilege of the floor for the duration of this debate on S. Con. Res. 23.

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

DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 99 submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 99) relative to the death of Daniel Patrick Moynihan, former United States Senator for the State of New York.

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

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 99) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 99.

Whereas Daniel Patrick Moynihan served in the United States Navy from 1944 to 1947;

Whereas Daniel Patrick Moynihan held cabinet or sub-cabinet positions under Presidents John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, and Gerald Ford from 1961 to 1976;

Whereas Daniel Patrick Moynihan served as Ambassador to India from 1973 to 1975;

Whereas Daniel Patrick Moynihan served as the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations from 1975 to 1976;

Whereas Daniel Patrick Moynihan served the people of New York with distinction for 24 years in the United States Senate; and

Whereas Daniel Patrick Moynihan was the author of countless books and scholarly articles which contributed enormously to the intellectual vigor of the nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable Daniel Patrick Moynihan, former member of the United States Senate.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased;

Resolved, That when the Senate adjourns today, it stand adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the Honorable Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 1307

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that on Thursday, March 27, at 11 a.m., the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 1307, the military tax bill, that there be 3 hours of debate equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Finance Committee; further, that the only amendment in order be a Grassley substitute which is the text of calendar item No. 11, S. 351; that at the expiration or yielding back of time, the amendment be adopted, the bill, as amended, be read a third time, and the Senate proceed to a vote, with no intervening action or debate.

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

MEASURE HELD AT THE DESK—S. CON. RES. 30

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that S. Con. Res. 30, which was submitted earlier today by Senators LUGAR and BIDEN, be held at the desk.

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

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 711, S. 712, S. 718, S. 721

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I understand the following bills are at the desk, and I ask that they be read for the first time, en bloc: S. 711, S. 712, S. 718, and S. 721.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will state the bills by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 711) to amend title 37, United States Code, to alleviate delay in the payment of the Selected Reserve reenlistment bonus to members of Selective Reserve who are mobilized.

A bill (S. 712) to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide Survivor Benefit Plan annuities for surviving spouses of Reserves not eligible for retirement who die from a cause incurred or aggravated while on inactive-duty training.

A bill (S. 718) to provide a monthly allotment of free telephone calling time to members of the United States Armed Forces stationed outside the United States who are directly supporting military operations in Iraq or Afghanistan.

A bill (S. 721) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the combat zone income tax exclusion to include income for the period of transit to the combat zone and to remove the limitation on such exclusion for commissioned officers, and for other purposes.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I now ask for their second reading and object to further proceeding on these matters, en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

THE CALENDAR

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of the following calendar items en bloc: No. 45, S. Res. 48; No. 46, S. Res. 52; No. 47, S. Res. 58.

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

The clerk will state the resolutions by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 48) designating April 2003 as ''Financial Literacy For Youth Month.''

A resolution (S. Res. 52) recognizing the social problems of child abuse and neglect, and supporting efforts to enhance public awareness of the problem.

A resolution (S. Res. 58) expressing the sense of the Senate that the President should designate the week beginning June 1, 2003, ''National Citizen Soldier Week.''

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the amendments to the resolutions, where applicable, be agreed to, the resolutions, as amended, if amended, be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc, and that any statements relating to these matters be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 48) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 48

Whereas the percentage of income used for household debt payments, including mortgages, credit cards, and student loans, rose to the highest level in more than a decade in 2001 and remained at 14 percent in 2002;

Whereas consumer bankruptcies in 2001 increased 19 percent over those in the previous year, exceeding the previous high reached in 1998, and the rate of filings did not slacken during the first 9 months of 2002;

Whereas personal savings as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product decreased from 7.5 percent in the early 1980s to 2.4 percent in 2002;

Whereas approximately 40,000,000 Americans, the ''unbanked'', are not using mainstream, insured financial institutions;

Whereas home foreclosures in 2002 reached the highest rate in 30 years;

Whereas 55 percent of college students acquire their first credit card during their first year in college, and 83 percent of college students have at least 1 credit card;

Whereas 45 percent of college students are in credit card debt, with the average debt being $3,066;

Whereas only 26 percent of 13- to 21-year-olds reported that their parents actively taught them how to manage money;

Whereas a 2002 study by the Jump$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy found that high school seniors know even less about credit cards, retirement funds, insurance, and other personal finance basics than seniors did 5 years ago;

Whereas a 2002 survey by the National Council on Economic Education found that a decreasing number of States include personal finance in their education standards for students in grades K–12;

Whereas a greater understanding and familiarity with financial markets and institutions will lead to increased economic activity and growth;

Whereas financial literacy empowers individuals to make wise financial decisions and reduces the confusion of an increasingly complex economy;

Whereas personal financial management skills and long-lived habits develop during childhood;

Whereas personal financial education is essential to ensure that our youth are prepared to manage money, credit, and debt, and become responsible workers, heads of households, investors, entrepreneurs, business leaders, and citizens; and

Whereas the Jump$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy, its State affiliates, and its partner organizations have designated each April as ''Financial Literacy for Youth Month'', the goal of which is to educate the public about the need for increased financial literacy for youth in America: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 2003 as ''Financial Literacy for Youth Month'' to raise public awareness about the need for increased financial literacy in our schools and the serious problems that may be associated with a lack of understanding about personal finances; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, other entities, and the people of the United States to observe the month with appropriate programs and activities.

The resolution (S. Res. 52), as amended, was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

[Omit the part in bold brackets and insert the part printed in italic]

S. RES. 52

Whereas approximately 3,000,000 reports of suspected or known child abuse and neglect involving 5,000,000 American children are made to child protective service agencies each year;

Whereas 588,000 American children are unable to live safely with their families and are placed in foster homes and institutions;

Whereas it is estimated that more than 1,200 children, 85 percent of whom are under the age of 6 years and 44 percent of whom are under the age of 1 year, lose their lives as a direct result of abuse and neglect every year in America;

Whereas this tragic social problem results in human and economic costs due to its relationship to crime and delinquency, drug and

alcohol abuse, domestic violence, and welfare dependency; and

Whereas Childhelp USA has initiated a ''Day of Hope'' to be observed on Wednesday, April 2, 2003, during Child Abuse Prevention Month, to focus public awareness on this social ill: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

[(1) it is the sense of the Senate that—

[(A) all Americans should keep the victims of child abuse and neglect in their thoughts and prayers;

[(B) all Americans should seek to break the cycle of child abuse and neglect and to give these victimized children hope for the future; and

[(C) the faith community, nonprofit organizations, and volunteers across America should recommit themselves and mobilize their resources to assist these abused and neglected children; and

[(2) the Senate—

[(A) supports the goals and ideas of the ''Day of Hope'', which was initiated by Childhelp USA and will be observed on April 2, 2003, as part of Child Abuse Prevention Month; and

[(B) commends Childhelp USA for all of its efforts on behalf of abused and neglected children throughout the United States.]

(1) it is the sense of the Senate that—

(A) all Americans should keep the victims of child abuse and neglect in their thoughts and prayers;

(B) all Americans should seek to break the cycle of child abuse and neglect and to give these victimized children hope for the future; and

(C) the faith community, nonprofit organizations, and volunteers across America should recommit themselves and mobilize their resources to assist these abused and neglected children; and

(2) the Senate—

(A) supports the goals and ideas of the ''Day of Hope'', which will be observed on April 2, 2003, as part of Child Abuse Prevention Month; and

(B) commends those working on behalf of abused and neglected children throughout the United States.

The resolution (S. Res. 58) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 58

Whereas members of the National Guard and the other reserve components of the Armed Forces perform a vital role in the defense of the United States;

Whereas members of the National Guard and the other reserve components of the Armed Forces make significant personal sacrifices in performing military service when called to active duty; and

Whereas there are over 100,000 members of the National Guard and the other reserve components of the Armed Forces serving on active duty: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF NATIONAL CITIZEN SOLDIER WEEK.

(a) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the President should designate the week beginning June 1, 2003, as ''National Citizen Soldier Week''.

(b) PROCLAMATION.—The Senate requests the President to issue a proclamation—

(1) designating the week beginning June 1, 2003, as ''National Citizen Soldier Week''; and

(2) calling on the people of the United States to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, and upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 96–388, as amended by Public Law 97–84 and Public Law 106–292, appoints the following Senators to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council for the 108th Congress:

The Senator from Utah, Mr. HATCH; the Senator from Maine, Ms. COLLINS; and the Senator from Minnesota, Mr. COLEMAN.

S. CON. RES. 23 RETURNED TO CALENDAR

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the vote on adoption of S. Con. Res. 23 be vitiated. I further ask that the resolution be returned to the calendar.

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

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2003

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 27. I further ask that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and there then be a period for morning business until 11 a.m., with the time equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, for the information of Senators, the Senate will be in a period for morning business until 11 a.m. Under a previous order, at 11 a.m., the Senate will proceed to the consideration of H.R. 1307, the military tax bill, for 3 hours of debate. The Senate will vote on passage of the military tax bill at approximately 2 p.m.

In addition, there are several judicial nominations which may be cleared for votes during tomorrow's session. We are also attempting to reach an agreement for the consideration of S. Con. Res. 30 which expresses the gratitude of the United States to the nations participating with the U.S. in the coalition to disarm Iraq. Members, therefore, should expect rollcall votes throughout the day tomorrow.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the provisions of S. Res. 99 as a further mark of respect for our friend and colleague, Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, following the remarks of Senator SESSIONS for up to 10 minutes.

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

The Senator from Alabama.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I wish to share a few thoughts on the passing of the remarkable Daniel Patrick Moynihan, one of America's most brilliant people. He graced this Senate and served this country in innumerable ways.

He, of course, was a great scientist, a person able to study complex data and make serious judgments. I remember being in the subway at a point not too long before he left the Senate. Some numbers had come out that indicated we were doing a little better in marriage, a little less number of children were being born out of wedlock. We were standing there and somebody said something about that point. With great intensity and passion, he said: That's nothing. In the history of the world, no Nation has ever seen a collapse of marriage like we are seeing in this country.

It just hit me he was giving us a scientific analysis of a very serious social problem with which we needed to deal, and he took it very seriously.

Another incident I recall was being in this small dining room. We were working late one night and voting. I went in with the majority leader, TRENT LOTT, and was talking to TRENT about Colombia, the revolutionaries there, the Marxist group, the drug dealing group and wanted to do some things better for Colombia. We sat down and Senator Moynihan was there. TRENT said: Pat, tell me about Colombia; what's going on in Colombia.

We just sat in rapt attention as he described the last 50 years in Colombia in detail—how this country had developed a history of violence, how they were having revolutionary problems, and how it was going to be very difficult to eliminate those problems. I was stunned at the encyclopedic knowledge he displayed.

As we left, TRENT said: I love to ask him those questions. He always knows those kinds of things. He said: I do it frequently just to see what he will share with us.

I remember asking about serving as Ambassador to India. He told a story, a complex story, that gave such great insight into the good people of India.

Pat Moynihan was an extraordinary person. He operated on a higher level. He benefited this country in many ways. He served Republican Presidents and Democratic Presidents, and he served in this body. He helped point out the problems with welfare and helped us move toward reform. He served on the commission that courageously gave insight into how we may improve Social Security. He, in many

ways, on those two issues with Nixon going to China had the ability and the credibility to move the country in a way that some lesser Senator may not have been able to do.

I wanted to take a moment before we adjourned to express my thoughts about Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, one of the most brilliant people to ever grace this body.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m., Thursday, March 27.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:35 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, March 27, 2003, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate March 26, 2003:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MARSHA E. BARNES, OF MARYLAND, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JOHN FRANCIS BARDELLI, OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE JOHN R. O'CONNOR.

ADAM NOEL TORRES, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE JOSE ANTONIO PEREZ.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, OF NEW YORK, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY. (NEW POSITION)

THE JUDICIARY

ROBERT N. DAVIS, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS FOR THE TERM PRESCRIBED BY LAW, VICE A NEW POSITION CREATED BY PUBLIC LAW 107–103, APPROVED DECEMBER 27, 2001.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS THE CHIEF OF CHAPLAINS, UNITED STATES ARMY AND FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 3036:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. DAVID H. HICKS, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

CHAPLAIN (COL.) JEROME A. HABEREK, 0000

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. HENRY P. OSMAN, 0000

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

GARY D. BOMBERGER, 0000
WILFRED R. BRISTOL, 0000
JEFFRY A. DULL, 0000
ROBERT S. HOCHREITER, 0000
JOSEPH S. KUAN, 0000
WARREN R. ROBNETT, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

REBECCA G. ABRAHAM, 0000
ALAN K. ANDERSON, 0000
LYNDON S. ANDERSON, 0000
MICHAEL ANGLEY, 0000
MARK ANTHONY, 0000
GLEN A. APGAR, 0000
ROBERT A. ARBACH, 0000
STEVEN J. ARQUIETTE, 0000
TIMOTHY D. ARRINGTON, 0000
CARLOS V. ARVIZU, 0000
BRADLEY K. ASHLEY, 0000
GARRY C. BACCUS, 0000
DANIEL D. BADGER JR., 0000
OCTAVIO NMI BAEZ JR., 0000
STEVEN F. BAKER, 0000
MARTIN D. BANNON, 0000
RICHARD D. BARTHOLOMEW, 0000
MICHAEL L. BARTLEY, 0000
MICHAEL O. BEALE, 0000
DENNIS J. BEERS, 0000
SHERON L. BELLIZAN, 0000
ROBERT S. BELLOMY, 0000
HOWARD D. BELOTE, 0000
LISA M. BELUE, 0000
GARY C. BENDER, 0000
EDWARD J. BERGEMANN, 0000
THOMAS W. BERGESON, 0000
WILLIAM J. BERNARD, 0000
LOUIS A. BERRENA, 0000
WARREN D. BERRY, 0000
THOMAS W. BILLICK, 0000
MATTHEW T. BLACK, 0000
LEMOYNE F. BLACKSHEAR, 0000
RANDY L. BLAISDELL, 0000
CAROLYN M. BLALOCK, 0000
GRACE M. BLEVINSHOLMAN, 0000
JODIE L. BLISS, 0000
MICHAEL J. BLOOMFIELD, 0000
LOUIS G. BOCHAIN, 0000
RICHARD L. BORNMANN JR., 0000
AMY M. BOUCHARD, 0000
CHRISTOPHER W. BOWMAN, 0000
GARY A. BRAND, 0000
JOSEPH P. BREEN, 0000
WILLIAM P. BRIDGES, 0000
ANDREW J. BRITSCHGI, 0000
STEPHEN M. BRUMMOND, 0000
JOHN A. BRUNDERMAN, 0000
JOHN S. BRUNHAVER, 0000
ARNOLD W. BUNCH JR., 0000
ROBERT E. BURNETT JR., 0000
THOMAS A. BUTER, 0000
GREGORY S. BUTERBAUGH, 0000
ALAN E. BYNUM, 0000
KENNETH L. BYRD, 0000
DANIEL H. CAMPION, 0000
JAY S. CARLSON, 0000
JOHN C. CASSERINO, 0000
WILFRED T. CASSIDY, 0000
JOHN R. CAWTHORNE, 0000
MICHAEL J. CAYLOR, 0000
CHRISTOPHER S. CEPLECHA, 0000
RAYMOND J. CHAPMAN, 0000
WILLIAM G. CHAPMAN, 0000
RICHARD M. CHAVEZ, 0000
JUDY G. CHIZEK, 0000
DANIEL A. CIECHANOWSKI, 0000
RICHARD M. CLARK, 0000
JOSEPH D. CLEM, 0000
KRISTINE M. CLIFTON, 0000
BARRY B. COBLE, 0000
JOSEPH M. CODISPOTI, 0000
JAMES R. CODY, 0000
PATRICK A. COE, 0000
CYNTHIA M. COHAN, 0000
CATHERINE G. COLEMAN, 0000
LEONARD T. COLEMAN, 0000
CHRISTOPHER E. COLEY, 0000
JAMES M. COLLINS, 0000
PATRICK M. CONDRAY, 0000
JEFFREY P. CONNORS, 0000
CHRISTOPHER A. COOK, 0000
MICHAEL B. COOLIDGE, 0000
MICHAEL A. CORBETT, 0000
KIMBERLY J. CORCORAN, 0000
MARIA L. CORDERO, 0000
DAVID C. CORDON, 0000
MICHAEL A. COX, 0000
STEVEN M. CRANDALL, 0000
DAVID W. CRIBB, 0000
YOLANDA CRUZ, 0000
STEPHEN B. CZERWINSKI, 0000
SUSAN E. DABROWSKI, 0000
ARDEN B. DAHL, 0000
SIGFRED J. DAHL, 0000
LOUIS M. DANTZLER, 0000
CONSTANCE H. DAVIS, 0000
DENNIS J. DEGRAFF, 0000
JAMES E. DENNIS, 0000
LEE E. DEREMER, 0000
BRUCE R. DEWITT, 0000
BRIAN D. H. DICKERSON, 0000
DEREK R. DICKEY, 0000
MICHAEL R. DICKEY, 0000
TERESA L. DICKS, 0000
MARK C. DILLON, 0000
MARC K. DIPPOLD, 0000
LAURA A. H. DISILVERIO, 0000
RALPH S. DOBBS, 0000
MATTHEW J. DORSCHEL, 0000
MARIA J. DOWLING, 0000
WILLIAM E. DURALL, 0000
MICHAEL S. DUVALL, 0000
JAMES E. EDGE, 0000
GEORGE V. EICHELBERGER, 0000
JAMES E. EISENHART, 0000
MATTHEW C. ENGLUND, 0000
JAMES C. EPTING, 0000
STEPHEN C. FAIRBAIRN, 0000
ANNE R. FAIRCHILD, 0000
ANTHONY W. FAUGHN, 0000
ANGELIQUE L. FAULISE, 0000
TERRY M. FEATHERSTON, 0000
MARK P. FITZGERALD, 0000
MARTIN E. BARTEAU FRANCE, 0000
RANDAL C. FRANKLIN, 0000
WARREN H. FRANKLIN, 0000
DAVID T. FREANEY, 0000
KEITH D. FREDE, 0000
MICHAEL K. FRYE, 0000
JAMES P. GALLOWAY III, 0000
JERRY L. GANDY, 0000
IGOR J. P. GARDNER, 0000
ERIC D. GARVIN, 0000
JORGE S. GARZA, 0000
HENRY J. GAUDREAU, 0000
MILO R. GAVIN, 0000
JOHN P. GEIS II, 0000
CHRISTIAN G. GEISEL, 0000
BRADFORD D. GENTRY, 0000
JAMES F. GEURTS, 0000
PHILLIP G. GIBBONS, 0000
RICHARD F. GIBBS II, 0000
TOM GILBERT, 0000
DORILYNN D. GIMONDO, 0000
JOHN PHILLIP GOOD, 0000
DAVID E. GOSS, 0000
ROBERT S. GREEN, 0000
TIMOTHY S. GREEN, 0000
RODERICK I. GREGORY, 0000
RONALD A. GRUNDMAN, 0000
GLEN E. GULLEKSON, 0000
MORRIS E. HAASE, 0000
CHRISTOPHER B. HALE, 0000
THELMA R. HALES, 0000
BRIAN K. HALL, 0000
DONALD J. HALPIN, 0000
CHARLES A. HAMILTON, 0000
ROBERT E. HAMM JR., 0000
HARVEY L. HAMMOND JR., 0000
JAMES L. HANNON, 0000
JEFFREY A. HANSON, 0000
MICHAEL R. HARGROVE, 0000
STUART D. HARTFORD, 0000
MARVIN K. HARVEY JR., 0000
WALTER B. HARVEY III, 0000
KEN R. HASEGAWA, 0000
MICHAEL L. HELSABECK, 0000
JAMES E. HENRY, 0000
WILLIAM E. HERR, 0000
JENNIFER L. HESTERMAN, 0000
MARK C. HIEBERT, 0000
DOUGLAS J. HINE, 0000
PAMELA R. C. HODGE, 0000
EDWARD E. HOLLAND JR., 0000
GARY W. HOLLAND, 0000
DANA J. HOURIHAN, 0000
STEPHEN P. HOWARD, 0000
ARTHUR F. HUBER II, 0000
BENJAMIN C. HUFF, 0000
STEPHEN L. HUFFMAN, 0000
CRAIG A. HUGHES, 0000
WILLIAM D. HUGHES III, 0000
JOHN F. HUNNELL, 0000
JAMES C. HUTTO JR., 0000
JUAN IBANEZ JR., 0000
NANCY R. INSPRUCKER, 0000
MICHAEL J. IRWIN, 0000
DOUGLAS JACKSON, 0000
JOHN C. JACKSON III, 0000
ALLEN J. JAMERSON, 0000
VERALINN JAMIESON, 0000
JEROME M. JANKOWIAK, 0000
MARK P. JELONEK, 0000
BRUCE A. JOHNSON, 0000
DAVID C. JOHNSON, 0000
JEFFREY R. JOHNSON, 0000
PAUL T. JOHNSON, 0000
GERARD JOLIVETTE, 0000
STEPHEN M. JONES, 0000
DANIEL P. JORDAN, 0000
MARTHA K. JORDAN, 0000
GREGORY J. JUDAY, 0000
MICHAEL J. KADLUBOWSKI, 0000
ROBERT J. KAUFMAN III, 0000
KEVIN V. KECK, 0000
GAIL A. KEEFE, 0000
ALVIN R. KEMMET JR., 0000
JON A. KIMMINAU, 0000
ROBYN M. KING, 0000
MICHAEL J. KINGSLEY, 0000
MAX E. KIRSCHBAUM, 0000
BRET T. KLASSEN, 0000
KURT A. KLAUSNER, 0000
ANDREW Q. KNAPP, 0000
MARK E. KOECHLE, 0000
KEVIN C. KRINER, 0000
ROBERT D. LAFEBRE, 0000
PAUL S. LAND, 0000
GARY W. LANE, 0000
RONALD K. LAUGHBAUM, 0000
TIMOTHY J. LEAHY, 0000
DAVID C. LEE, 0000
RICHARD W. LEIBACH, 0000
JOHN W. LENT, 0000
ROBERT P. LEROUX, 0000
ALFRED M. LEWIS, 0000
JOHN C. LIBURDI, 0000
JOHN S. LILLY, 0000
MARK F. LIST, 0000
RODNEY K. H. LIU, 0000
PAUL S. LOCKHART, 0000
JEFFREY G. LOFGREN, 0000
JAMES T. LONG, 0000
KEVIN W. LOPEZ, 0000

ROBERTA R. LOWE, 0000
MARC A. LUIKEN, 0000
GEOFFREY T. LUM, 0000
KENNETH O. LYNN, 0000
BRIAN R. MADTES, 0000
ROBERT J. MAHONEY, 0000
JOEL E. MALONE, 0000
JAMES R. MARRS, 0000
KEVIN L. MARTIN, 0000
WILLIAM H. MARTIN JR., 0000
EARL V. MCCALLUM JR., 0000
ROBERT S. MCCORMICK, 0000
WAYNE L. MCCOY JR., 0000
MICHAEL E. MCGAUVRAN, 0000
ANNE E. MCGEE, 0000
MATTHEW P. MCKEON, 0000
CHARLES G. MCMILLAN, 0000
MICHAEL R. MCPHERSON, 0000
JOSEPH MEANS JR., 0000
LINDA R. MEDLER, 0000
MARCUS S. MILLER, 0000
SCOTT A. MILLER, 0000
STEVEN F. MILLER, 0000
EDWARD M. MINAHAN, 0000
TIMOTHY R. MINISH, 0000
MICHAEL J. MIXON, 0000
STEVEN J. MOES, 0000
JAMES P. MOLLOY, 0000
PAUL J. MONTGOMERY, 0000
LLOYD B. MOON JR., 0000
DAVID A. MOORE, 0000
MICHAEL A. MORABITO, 0000
WILLIAM A. MORGAN, 0000
LEONARD S. MOSKAL, 0000
MARK R. MUELLER, 0000
STEVEN C. MUHS, 0000
EDEN J. MURRIE, 0000
JAMES J. NALLY, 0000
WILLIAM M. NAPOLITANO JR., 0000
RICHARD G. NAUGHTON, 0000
DAVID NEGRON JR., 0000
DEAN A. NELSON, 0000
ALLAN S. NETZER, 0000
JOHN F. NEWELL III, 0000
JAMES O. NORMAN, 0000
DAVID H. NUCKLES JR., 0000
WILLIE G. NUNN, 0000
THEODORE P. OGREN, 0000
LOUIS W. OLINTO, 0000
DAVID P. OLSON, 0000
JOHN T. ORSATO, 0000
TERRENCE J. OSHAUGHNESSY JR., 0000
STEVEN R. OTTO, 0000
ROXANN A. OYLER, 0000
CHARLES E. PARKS, 0000
ERNEST L. PARROTT, 0000
CHARLES C. PATTILLO JR., 0000
CHRISTOPHER E. PELC, 0000
JOSEPH PELCHAR, 0000
ALAN J. PERDIGAO, 0000
GEORGE PERKINS, 0000
RICHARD M. PERRY, 0000
DAVID E. PETERSEN, 0000
EDWARD J. PHILLIPS, 0000
ALFRED L. PITTS, 0000
NICOLE H. PLOURDE, 0000
GARY L. PLUMB, 0000
ROBERT D. POLLOCK, 0000
CHARLES H. PORTER, 0000
RUSSELL L. PORTER, 0000
JAMES N. POST III, 0000
NORMAN D. POTTER, 0000
JOHN D. POUCHER II, 0000
JOSEPH J. PRIDOTKAS, 0000
MARVIN S. PUGMIRE, 0000
MARY L. PURDUE, 0000
FOWLER O. RAGLAND JR., 0000
GLENDA P. RAICHLEN, 0000
DOUGLAS J. RAILEY JR., 0000
ROBERT A. RATNER, 0000
GREGORY J. RATTRAY, 0000
STEVENSON L. RAY, 0000
TIMOTHY M. RAY, 0000
JOHN W. RAYMOND, 0000
DOUGLAS J. REED, 0000
JOEL S. REESE, 0000
ROBERT E. REHBEIN, 0000
JERRY RENNE, 0000
CURTIS R. REYNOLDS, 0000
PATRICK L. RHODE, 0000
DAVID L. RICHARDS, 0000
EDDIE L. RICHARDSON, 0000
DENEAN P. RIVERA, 0000
HECTOR V. RIVERA, 0000
LARRY E. ROAN, 0000
STEVEN W. ROBINETTE, 0000
CHARLES M. ROBINSON, 0000
JOSEPH T. ROHRET, 0000
STEVEN A. RUEHL, 0000
COLLEEN M. RYAN, 0000
MICHAEL C. RYAN, 0000
FREDERIC C. RYDER, 0000
DAVID H. SAMMONS JR., 0000
SCOTT H. SCHAFER, 0000
JOHN M. SCHIAVI, 0000
DAVID P. SCHILLER, 0000
CHARLES J. SCHNEIDER, 0000
SHEILA L. SCHROCK, 0000
BERNARD A. SCHWARTZE, 0000
JOSEPH H. SCHWARZ, 0000
GEORGE D. SCISS, 0000
REBECCA N. SEEGER, 0000
WILLIAM D. SELLERS, 0000
ROBERT H. SHAMBLIN, 0000
MICHAEL R. SHANAHAN, 0000
KENNETH M. SHARPLESS, 0000
WILLIAM L. SHELTON JR., 0000
MICHAEL M. SHEPARD, 0000
LAURA E. SHOAF, 0000
PAUL D. SIEVERT, 0000
MICHAEL A. SILVER, 0000
JOHN D. SILVIA, 0000
THOMAS L. SIMPSON, 0000
ERIC N. SINGLE, 0000
ALBERT L. SLY, 0000
LEONARD C. SMALES, 0000
KEVIN C. SMITH, 0000
ANNE E. SOBOTA, 0000
JOHN L. SOKOLSKY, 0000
DAVID F. SOLOMON, 0000
DON W. SPARKS, 0000
JEFFREY W. SPRAGGINS, 0000
ROBERT J. STAIB, 0000
ROBERT M. STAMBAUGH, 0000
EDWARD M. STANHOUSE, 0000
WENDELL T. STAPLER, 0000
JOHN D. STAUFFER, 0000
CAREY A. STEGALL, 0000
JOSEPH V. STEPHANS, 0000
WILLIAM D. STEPHENS, 0000
JEFFREY L. STEPHENSON, 0000
RALPH O. STOFFLER, 0000
KURT A. STONEROCK, 0000
BRIAN W. STORCK, 0000
DAVID A. STRAND, 0000
SUSAN E. STREDNANSKY, 0000
PAUL C. STRICKLAND, 0000
THOMAS R. STULL, 0000
SHANNON M. SULLIVAN, 0000
PHILIP A. SWANSON, 0000
GERALD E. SZPILA, 0000
JOHN R. TAYLOR, 0000
MICHAEL D. TAYLOR, 0000
LEE E. THOMAS, 0000
ANTHONY C. THOMPSON, 0000
DAVID D. THOMPSON, 0000
JEFFERY G. THOMPSON, 0000
TERRY D. TICHENOR, 0000
THOMAS L. TINSLEY, 0000
STEVEN M. TIPPETS, 0000
DAVID M. TOBIN, 0000
THERESA MARY TOIA, 0000
KIMBERLY K. TONEY, 0000
LINDA E. TORRENS, 0000
GEORGE TORRES JR., 0000
BENJAMIN D. TROTTER, 0000
DAVID P. TROTTIER, 0000
COUNT B. TYE JR., 0000
DAVID C. UHRICH, 0000
SCOTT A. VANDERHAMM, 0000
DEBORAH S. VANDEVEN, 0000
VICTORIA A. VELEZ, 0000
JOHN R. VENABLE, 0000
ROSS A. VICTOR, 0000
TIMOTHY D. VINOSKI, 0000
RONALD J. WAGNER, 0000
MARK T. WALDRON, 0000
PAUL C. WALKER, 0000
JOSEPH S. WARD JR., 0000
DONALD S. WATROUS, 0000
ROBERT D. WATSON, 0000
DAVID D. WATT, 0000
JOHN D. WEIDERT, 0000
STEPHEN P. WEILER, 0000
JAMES G. WELTON, 0000
RICHARD J. WHEELER, 0000
JERRY D. WHITLEY, 0000
ERIC J. WILBUR, 0000
TERRY E. WILLETT, 0000
DAVID J. WILMOT, 0000
KENNETH S. WILSBACH, 0000
MICHAEL P. WINSLOW, 0000
RICHARD L. WOJICK JR., 0000
MARTIN J. WOJTYSIAK IV, 0000
ELDON A. WOODIE, 0000
WILLIAM N. WOOTTON, 0000
EDWARD G. WORLEY, 0000
ROBERT G. WRIGHT JR., 0000
DONALD E. WUSSLER JR., 0000
CHARLES E. WYNNE, 0000
JEFFREY YUEN, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

BRIAN J. ACKER, 0000
LOREN A. AHNBERG, 0000
JOHN L. BINDER, 0000
PAULETTA D. BLUEITT, 0000
CHARLES M. CAMPBELL, 0000
PERRY R. COOPER, 0000
THOMAS S. DELANEY, 0000
RONALD S. DORNIN, 0000
CATHERINE M. ERICKSON, 0000
LEONARD W. JACKSON, 0000
KENNETH C. JACOBS, 0000
KELLEY J. KASH, 0000
GRANT D. KOTOVSKY, 0000
DAVID J. LANNEN, 0000
LAWRA A. LEE, 0000
DENISE K. LEW, 0000
CHARLES E. POTTER, 0000
ANGELA D. WASHINGTON, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

PAUL M. BARZLER, 0000
BARBARA G. BRAND, 0000
MARSHALL L. CAGGIANO, 0000
WILLIAM T. CUMBIE, 0000
GORDON R. HAMMOCK, 0000
STEPHEN R. IRWIN, 0000
ALBERT W. KLEIN JR., 0000
FELIX A. LOSCO, 0000
MICHAEL W. MEADOWS, 0000
WILLIAM W. PISCHNOTTE, 0000
MATTHEW J. POLGAR, 0000
RONALD A. RODGERS, 0000
LAURENCE M. SOYBEL, 0000
JEFFREY W. WATSON, 0000
RONALD J. WILLIAMS, 0000
CHARLES W. WILLIAMSON III, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

PAUL V. BENNETT, 0000
NAOMI M. BOSS, 0000
SHERRY L. COX, 0000
DAVID T. HOCKING, 0000
LELA M. HOLDEN, 0000
PAULA R. JAMESON, 0000
JOHN S. MURRAY, 0000
MICHAELA R. SHAFER, 0000
MARGARET A. STULTZLALK, 0000
DONNALEE SYKES, 0000
GLORIA J. TWILLEY, 0000
BARBARA L. WOLFE, 0000
VICTORIA G. ZAMARRIPA, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

MICHAEL F. ADAMES, 0000
LISA M. BECK, 0000
PAUL F. BLAISSE, 0000
DEAN B. BORSOS, 0000
ERIC C. BRUSOE, 0000
JAMES J. BURKS, 0000
RICHARD C. BYRD, 0000
CHARLES D. CHAPDELAINE, 0000
JAMES R. CLAPSADDLE, 0000
ROBERT H. COTHRON III, 0000
SUSAN L. DAVIS, 0000
PATRICK L. DAWSON, 0000
DONALD L. FAUST, 0000
JAMES T. FISH, 0000
BARBARA J. HENNING, 0000
EDWIN A. HURSTON, 0000
PHILIP E. JONES, 0000
BRIAN E. KING, 0000
DARRELL W. LANDREAUX, 0000
REX A. LANGSTON, 0000
RACHEL H. LEFEBVRE, 0000
ARMAND L. MARTIN, 0000
LEWIS M. MARTIN, 0000
RICHARD W. MILES, 0000
DANIEL S. MILNES, 0000
TERANCE L. NIVER, 0000
JAMES B. PAYNE JR., 0000
THEODORE O. PERSINGER, 0000
JAMES C. RAY, 0000
HEIDIE R. ROTHSCHILD, 0000
WEATHERLY A. RYAN, 0000
KIM L. SCHMIDT, 0000
CHARLES W. SCHOTT, 0000
REBECCA C. SEESE, 0000
PAUL M. SKALA, 0000
THOMAS A. STEINBRUNNER, 0000
TRACY A. TENNEY, 0000
MARK W. TESMER, 0000
CAMILLE M. TILSON, 0000
WILLIAM R. TYRA, 0000
ROBERT A. VALENTINE, 0000
KENNETH R. WILSON, 0000
SCOTT A. ZUERLEIN, 0000

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C, SECTION 624:

To be colonel

HENRY E ABERCROMBIE, 0000
DAVID L ALLWINE, 0000
MICHAEL E BONHEIM, 0000
MATTHEW L BRAND, 0000
PETER C BRIGHAM, 0000
STEVEN M BROUSE, 0000
DONALD J BURNETT, 0000
PEGGY R CARSON, 0000
ANGEL L COLON, 0000
JOHN P CONNELL, 0000
CHARLES G COUTTEAU, 0000
DAVID L CRAWFORD, 0000
PHILIP J DERMER, 0000
TIMOTHY D DIXON, 0000
NATHAN R EBERLE, 0000
ANAS T ECONOMY III, 0000
GEORGE D EVELAND JR., 0000
JEFFREY FARGO, 0000
FRANCIS X FIERKO, 0000
TIMOTHY G GODDETTE, 0000
RICHARD L GREENE JR., 0000
SUSAN K GRUBB, 0000
MICHAEL A HALLISEY, 0000
RICHARD D HANSEN JR., 0000
EARNEST D HARRIS, 0000
THEODORE C HARRISON, 0000
PETER F HOFFMAN, 0000
ANTHONY R INCORVATI II, 0000

KERMIT C JONES, 0000
ROBERT KENDRICK III, 0000
JIYUL KIM III, 0000
CHRISTOPHER F KUREK, 0000
GLEN D LAMBKIN JR., 0000
KELLY M LANGDORF, 0000
DEBRA R LITTLE, 0000
CORY W MAHANNA, 0000
PAUL A MCGUIRE JR., 0000
LEONARD R MONTFORD JR., 0000
SUSAN B NEUMANN, 0000
ROBERT B NEWMAN, 0000
WILLIAM E PARKER, 0000
JAMES R RALPH III, 0000
ENRIQUE RAMOS, 0000
GRADY G REESE JR., 0000
MARK D RIDER, 0000
JESS A SCARBROUGH, 0000
GEORGE A SEARS II, 0000
JORGE L SILVEIRA, 0000
WILLIAM W STEVENSON, 0000
MICHELLE D STOLESON, 0000
KENNETH R STOLWORTHY, 0000
CHRISTOPHER C SULLIVAN, 0000
GREGORY J ULSH, 0000
JOHN K VAUGHN, 0000
THOMAS D WAHLERT, 0000
STEPHEN WALTERS, 0000
HENRY WALLER III, 0000
RANDY L WILLIAMS, 0000
DANIEL G WOLFE, 0000
MICHELLE F YARBOROUGH, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

MICHAEL P ARMSTRONG, 0000
WILLIAM BALOGH, 0000
WAYNE M BRAINERD, 0000
ROBERT H BRUCE, 0000
CURTIS P CHEESEMAN, 0000
JOHN A DAVIS, 0000
GARRIE P DORNAN, 0000
CHARLES DUNN III, 0000
KIMBERLY K DURR, 0000
DAVID C GROHOSKI, 0000
THOMAS G HARRIS, 0000
RUDOLPH C HAYNIE, 0000
CARL W HUNT, 0000
THOMAS C LUTHER, 0000
SHARON M MACK, 0000
RANDALL L MACKEY, 0000
KEVIN J MCCLUNG, 0000
NELSON MCCOUCH III, 0000
DAVID R MCDONALD JR., 0000
THOMAS Z NAPIER, 0000
SCOTT F NETHERLAND, 0000
KEVIN P POLCZYNSKI, 0000
GREGORY S RASSATT, 0000
PATRICK H RAYERMANN, 0000
ARNOLD K VEAZIE, 0000
ROGER WATERS, 0000
CRAIG M WHITEHILL, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

JOHN F AGOGLIA, 0000
RICHARD E ARNOLD, 0000
CHARLES T BARHAM, 0000
MARGARET H BELKNAP, 0000
KENNETH W BISHOP, 0000
DAISIE D BOETTNER, 0000
CLARENCE A CRUSE III, 0000
MICHAEL F DAVINO, 0000
PETER DEFLURI III, 0000
JOHN J DOLAC, 0000
MICHAEL E DONOVAN, 0000
ROBERT M DYESS JR., 0000
ALLEN C EAST, 0000
CHRISTOPHER W FOWLER, 0000
THOMAS FREEMAN JR., 0000
ANTHONY GLENN JR., 0000
BRIAN L GROFT, 0000
DARRALL R HENDERSON, 0000
RICKY E HILL, 0000
PAUL S HILTON, 0000
WILLIAM C HIX, 0000
GREGORY C HOSCHEIT, 0000
CINDY R JEBB, 0000
BARRETT F LOWE, 0000
MICHAEL W KIRSCH, 0000
JAMES A KNOWLES, 0000
PARIS M MACK, 0000
ROBERT W MACKAY, 0000
JOE D MANOUS JR., 0000
LLOYD W MARSHALL, 0000
RICKIE A MCPEAK, 0000
STEVEN J MULLINS, 0000
DANIEL J RAGSDALE, 0000
BRUCE J REIDER, 0000
DAVID J SCARCHILLI, 0000
ROBERT L STEINRAUF, 0000
WILLIAM J TARANTINO, 0000
WENDELL L TAYLOR, 0000
PAUL D THORNTON, 0000
BRIAN S VEIT, 0000
ALFRED VIANA, 0000
MICHAEL L WACLAWSKI, 0000
JAMES N WASSON, 0000
RONALD W WELCH, 0000
MICHAEL C WILMER, 0000
MICHAEL B WINZELER, 0000
JEFFREY R WITSKEN, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

PAUL F ABEL JR., 0000
MICHAEL S ADAMS, 0000
GARY A AGRON, 0000
MICHAEL W ALEXANDER, 0000
CHRISTOPHER E ALLEN, 0000
RODNEY K ALSTON, 0000
ROBERT ASHLEY, 0000
KEVIN M BADGER, 0000
ALVIN L BAILEY, 0000
JEFFREY L BAILEY, 0000
MARK D BAINES, 0000
JAMES B BALOCKI, 0000
STEFAN J BANACH, 0000
THERESA L BARTON, 0000
RICHARD C BASSETT, 0000
ALLEN W BATSCHELET, 0000
PETER C BAYER JR., 0000
JEFFREY A BEDEY, 0000
JAMES L BEDINGFIELD, 0000
BRENDA K BESS, 0000
ROBERT L BETHEA JR., 0000
TERRY W BEYNON, 0000
MICHAEL D BIANCHI, 0000
GWENDOLYN BINGHAM, 0000
PETER E BLABER, 0000
DAVID J BISHOP, 0000
RICHARD E BLOSS, 0000
CHARLES A BOAZ JR., 0000
RANDALL J BOCKENSTEDT, 0000
ALAN G BOURQUE, 0000
MAX A BOWERS JR., 0000
MICHAEL A BRADLEY, 0000
CLAY F BRIDGES, 0000
JASEY B BRILEY, 0000
CRAIG A BROWN, 0000
GARY B BROWN, 0000
JAMES B BROWN, 0000
KEVIN W BROWN, 0000
DANIEL V BRUNO, 0000
VICTORIA M BRUZESE, 0000
JEFFREY S BUCHANAN, 0000
RANDY A BUHIDAR, 0000
MICHAEL J BURNS, 0000
JAMES B BURTON, 0000
RALPH A BUTLER, 0000
MICHAEL D CASE, 0000
JAY W CHAMBERS JR., 0000
CLARENCE K CHINN, 0000
JOHN M CHIU, 0000
MICHAEL C CLOY, 0000
ROBIN D COFER, 0000
GEORGE G COFFELT, 0000
HECTOR L COLON, 0000
THOMAS J COMODECA, 0000
BRIAN A CRAWFORD, 0000
CARDON B CRAWFORD, 0000
JAMES B CROCKETT III, 0000
JOSEPH P CROWLEY, 0000
JACQUELINE E CUMBO, 0000
JOHN P CUMMINGS, 0000
KENDAL W CUNNINGHAM, 0000
CRAIG J CURREY, 0000
PETER E CURRY, 0000
KENNETH R DAHL, 0000
EDWARD B DALY, 0000
GORDON B DAVIS JR., 0000
MICHAEL J DAVIS, 0000
WAYNE K DAVIS, 0000
TIM L DAY, 0000
WILLIAM S DECAMP JR., 0000
NORVEL L DILLARD, 0000
RICHARD J DIXON, 0000
JANICE L DOMBI, 0000
SCOTT F DONAHUE, 0000
CHARLES W DURR JR., 0000
JAMES F DUTTWEILER, 0000
TIMOTHY J EDENS, 0000
MICHAEL C EDWARDS, 0000
BILLY D FARRIS II, 0000
QUILL R FERGUSON, 0000
ROBERT S FERRELL, 0000
JEFFREY D FIELD, 0000
KENNETH F FISHER JR., 0000
KELLY F FISK, 0000
DEBRA L FIX, 0000
CHRISTINA F FLANAGAN, 0000
PETER W FOREMAN, 0000
KIRK L FOSTER, 0000
BRYAN C FOY, 0000
TONY R FRANCIS, 0000
MARY L FRANKLIN, 0000
CHRISTOPHER T FULTON, 0000
JOHN J GALLAND, 0000
MARK C GARDNER, 0000
MARGUERITE C GARRISON, 0000
KEITH G GEIGER, 0000
STEPHEN J GERRAS, 0000
WALTER L GILLIAM, 0000
JAMES A GRAY, 0000
GARY R GRIMES, 0000
ROBERT D GRYMES, 0000
MICHAEL C GUNN, 0000
SAMUEL A GUTHRIE, 0000
DAVID L HAGG, 0000
CATHERINE G HAIGHT, 0000
DAVID B HAIN, 0000
JOHN L HAITHCOCK JR., 0000
SCOTT A HALASZ, 0000
WILLIAM E HARMON, 0000
DAVID D HAUGHT, 0000
STEVEN P HAUSTEIN, 0000
SAMUELL R HAWES, 0000
MARK W HAYES, 0000
FALKNER HEARD III, 0000
MARK S HELD, 0000
SCOTT A HENRY, 0000
WALTER M HERD, 0000
ERNEST J HEROLD III, 0000
ROBERT T HESS, 0000
STEPHEN L HILL, 0000
RICHARD D HOOKER JR., 0000
RICHARD M HORNACK JR., 0000
JAMES R HOY JR., 0000
JONATHAN B HUNTER, 0000
FRANK P IPPOLITO, 0000
JEFFREY JARKOWSKY, 0000
GREGORY L JOHANSEN, 0000
MICHAEL R JOHNSON, 0000
ROBERT L JOHNSON JR., 0000
SAMUEL H JOHNSON, 0000
MARK A JOHNSTONE, 0000
BRIAN D JONES, 0000
FRANKLIN K JONES, 0000
JOHN D JORDAN, 0000
RAY A JOSEY, 0000
KENNETH G JUERGENS, 0000
JEFFREY T KAPPENMAN, 0000
BRIAN KEETH, 0000
BRYAN D KEIFER, 0000
THOMAS M KELLEY, 0000
MICHAEL M KERSHAW, 0000
HOWARD J KILLIAN III, 0000
DAVID M KING, 0000
ROBERT W KLINE, 0000
THOMAS G KNIGHT JR., 0000
JAMES A KNOWLTON, 0000
TIMOTHY A KOKINDA, 0000
MICHAEL A KRIZ, 0000
THOMAS W KULA, 0000
DWAYNE A LACEWELL, 0000
CATHERINE H LACINA, 0000
RAYMOND L LAMB, 0000
SCOTT A LANG, 0000
GARY D LANGFORD, 0000
HENRY S LARSEN III, 0000
JON S LEHR, 0000
RONALD N LIGHT, 0000
BRIAN S LINDAMOOD, 0000
JAMES B LINDER, 0000
DAVID H LING, 0000
MICHAEL D LINGENFELTER, 0000
XAVIER P LOBETO, 0000
MARK A LORING, 0000
KEITH R LOVEJOY, 0000
THOMAS F LYNCH III, 0000
SEAN B MACFARLAND, 0000
FRANCIS A MACHINA, 0000
DONALD M MACWILLIE, 0000
KEVIN W MANGUM, 0000
GERALD J MANLEY, 0000
DAVID L MANN, 0000
DORIOT A MASCARICH, 0000
RICHARD J MASON JR., 0000
ANTON E MASSINON, 0000
JAMES J MATHIS, 0000
DAVID S MAXWELL, 0000
MICHAEL T MCBRIDE, 0000
DOUGLAS E MCCALLUM, 0000
EVERETT K MCDANIEL, 0000
JAMES D MCDONOUGH JR., 0000
RALPH M MCGEE, 0000
MARK J MCKEARN, 0000
MARK E MCKNIGHT, 0000
HERBERT R MCMASTER JR., 0000
JOHN J MEGNIA, 0000
CHARLES R MEHLE II, 0000
FRANCIS R MERRITT, 0000
AUSTIN S MILLER, 0000
BRICK T MILLER, 0000
DEREK A MILLER, 0000
EARL E MILLER, 0000
ROSE M MILLER, 0000
DAVID L MOLINELLI, 0000
JOHN M MOORE, 0000
DOUGLAS J MORRISON, 0000
CHRISTOPHER V MOYLAN, 0000
JOSEPH P MUDD, 0000
PAUL J MULLIN, 0000
JAMES M MURPHY, 0000
MARK D NEEDHAM, 0000
GLENWOOD NORRIS JR., 0000
THOMAS E ODONOVAN, 0000
JEFFREY R OESER, 0000
TIMOTHY M OHARA, 0000
JOHN A OLSHEFSKI, 0000
DAVID C OSBORNE, 0000
KEVIN C OWENS, 0000
KEVIN J PALGUTT, 0000
MARK S PATTERSON, 0000
DAMON C PENN, 0000
DEBRA J PEREZ, 0000
STEVEN W PETERSON, 0000
JAMES A PHELPS, 0000
WARREN E PHIPPS JR., 0000
AUNDRE F PIGGEE, 0000
MARTIN B PITTS, 0000
RICHARD J POOLE, 0000
THOMAS G POPE, 0000
GREGG C POTTER, 0000
KENNETH L PRENDERGAST, 0000
BECKY PRETTYMAN, 0000
DANNY G PUMMILL, 0000
ALEXANDER B RAULERSON, 0000
DOUGLAS E RAYMOND, 0000
CHRISTOPHER J REDDISH, 0000
JARROLD M REEVES JR., 0000
CARLTON B REID JR., 0000

STEWARD E REMALY, 0000
BRYAN T ROBERTS, 0000
ROBERT H ROOME, 0000
MICHALE S ROSE, 0000
JOHN G ROSSI, 0000
MICHAEL A ROSSI, 0000
DINO D ROTH, 0000
DONALD M SANDO, 0000
LAWRENCE SANSONE, 0000
TIMOTHY A SASSENRATH, 0000
WAYNE A SAUER, 0000
WALTER J SAWYER, 0000
MICHAEL D SAXTON, 0000
ANDREW K SCHWEIKERT, 0000
ROBERT E SCURLOCK JR., 0000
THOMAS C SEAMANDS, 0000
MICHAEL K SEIDL, 0000
GARY M SERVOLD, 0000
TIMOTHY M SHERWOOD, 0000
MICHAEL H SHIELDS, 0000
JAMES D SHUMWAY IV, 0000
JAMES M SIMMONS, 0000
DAVID A SMITH, 0000
EUGENE B SMITH, 0000
JACK F SMITH JR., 0000
KEVIN B SMITH, 0000
STEPHEN T SMITH, 0000
WILLIAM E SMITH, 0000
AUDY R SNODGRASS, 0000
JEFFREY J SNOW, 0000
ROBERT D SNYDER, 0000
PATRICK T STACKPOLE, 0000
CHARLES A STAFFORD, 0000
GARY R STANLEY, 0000
MICHAEL D STEELE, 0000
GRANT D STEFFAN, 0000
KENNETH R STRICKLAND, 0000
ERIC C SURLES, 0000
LORI L SUSSMAN, 0000
DAVID W SUTHERLAND, 0000
ANTHONY SWAIN, 0000
PETER J TABACCHI, 0000
MICHAEL J TALIENTO JR., 0000
STEVEN C TALKINGTON, 0000
JOHN A TARTALA, 0000
JOHN J TAYLOR, 0000
PETER F TAYLOR JR., 0000
LOUISE V TERRELL, 0000
DEBRA A THEDFORD, 0000
RICHARD G THOMAS JR., 0000
JOSEPH E THOME JR., 0000
DAVID S THOMPSON, 0000
GARY M THORNE, 0000
MARK E TILLMAN, 0000
RICHARD C TOWNES, 0000
STEPHEN J TOWNSEND, 0000
TODD J TRAVAS, 0000
RONALD D TUGGLE, 0000
JOHN N TULLY, 0000
BARRY N TYREE, 0000
JOHN UBERTI, 0000
RAMON VALLE, 0000
RAYMOND T VANPELT, 0000
ROBERT J VASTA, 0000
DAVID W VERGOLLO, 0000
ANTHONY C VESAY, 0000
DOROTHEA I WALLACE, 0000
JOSEPH K WALLACE, 0000
JAMES M WARING, 0000
TIMOTHY L WHALEN, 0000
WILLIAM A WHATLEY JR., 0000
TIMOTHY L WHITE, 0000
JOHN A WILCOX, 0000
JOHN A WILHELM, 0000
ANTHONY L WILLIAMS, 0000
BENJAMIN H WILLIAMS III, 0000
DARRYL A WILLIAMS, 0000
DONNA L WILLIAMS, 0000
HERMAN WILLIAMS III, 0000
VIRGIL S WILLIAMS, 0000
THOMAS F WOLOSZYN, 0000
JOHN K WOOD, 0000
KENT T WOODS, 0000
EDMUND W WOOLFOLK JR., 0000
HAROLD H WORRELL JR., 0000
JOHN T WRIGHT, 0000
LARRY D WYCHE, 0000
EDGAR J YANGER, 0000
MICHAEL S YARMIE, 0000
MARK W YENTER, 0000
PETER B ZWACK, 0000
X0000
X0000

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

MICHAEL H. GAMBLE, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

JEFFREY L. MILLER, 0000

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF SABINO CICI WHO RETIRES AFTER 25 YEARS OF DEDICATED AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AS CITY COUNCIL MEMBER FOR THE CITY OF SAN GABRIEL

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sabino Cici who will retire from the San Gabriel City Council after 25 years of service to the city and community. Sabino was elected to the San Gabriel City Council in 1978, and appointed Mayor four times.

Sabino Cici has been a business owner in the San Gabriel community for 32 years. Throughout his professional and public service career, Councilman Sabino Cici has been an enthusiastic, committed leader and participant on numerous community and regional boards. He currently serves as Director of the Los Angeles County Sanitation District, Director of the San Gabriel Valley Animal Control Authority, and Delegate to the League District Attorney's Community Advisory Council. Sabino has also been actively involved with the San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce, Community Hospital Founders Trek, United States Air Force Association, San Gabriel Kiwanis, Italian Catholic Federation, and the Peace Officers Association.

Sabino's distinguished list of accomplishments while on the city council include building municipal economic reserves, creation of an Economic Redevelopment Agency, revitalization of the historic San Gabriel Mission District, implementation of the $5 million Millennium Miles Program to rehabilitate San Gabriel's streets, seismic and ADA retrofitting of City Hall, and restoration of the legendary San Gabriel Civic Auditorium.

An active member of the San Gabriel community, he has supported and participated in the creation of exciting, fun-filled programs and events to educate and communicate the unique story that is San Gabriel and celebrate San Gabriel's diversity such as the Alhambra-San Gabriel Lunar New Year Parade and Festival, Christmas in April, Three-day San Gabriel Birthday & Festival, California History Day, Mission District Mercado, National Night Out, and Kids Day.

Councilman Cici celebrates 12 years of marriage to Kathleen ''Cookie'' Cici. Together the Cici's have six children and four grandchildren.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in congratulating Sabino Cici on an impressive and long spanning career as city councilman and for his invaluable commitment and involvement in the City of San Gabriel.

THE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the right to self-determination is the essence of democracy. The lack of it is one reason that many of us here in Congress believe India falls short of a full-fledged democracy.

In January 1949, India promised the United Nations that it would allow self-determination in Kashmir through a free and fair vote. It is now 2003 and this plebiscite has still not been held. India refuses to allow the Sikhs of Punjab, Khalistan, predominantly Christian Nagaland, Muslim Kashmir, and the other nations seeking their freedom from India to exercise their right to self determination through a free and fair vote, the democratic way, despite their claim that there is no support for independence. If not, why not just hold a vote and get the issue behind you?

Instead of following the democratic principle of self-determination, India has tried to continue the subjugation of the Sikhs, Christians, Muslims, and other minorities through force. They have murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, over 200,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, over 85,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988, and tens of thousands of other minorities, including Assamese, Bodos, Dalits, Manipuris, and Tamils. A report from the Movement Against State Repression showed that India admitted to holding 52,268 Sikhs as political prisoners under the expired TADA law, one of the most repressive laws I know of. TADA expired in 1995. Some of these political prisoners have been held in illegal detention since 1984. According to Amnesty International, tens of thousands of other minorities, such as Christians, Muslims, and others, are also being held as political prisoners. How can a democratic country hold political prisoners? The State Department reported in 1994 that over 41,000 cash bounties were paid to police officers for killing Sikhs. They picked up human-rights activist Jaswant Singh Khalra after he exposed their practice of secret cremations and Mr. Khalra was killed in police custody. Independent investigations showed that the Indian government's forces carried out the massacre of 35 Sikhs in March 2000.

Recently, the All India Christian Council reported that the government is sending out agents to seek intrusive information about Christians, such as whether they are first-generation Christians and how long they have been in India. This is happening in a country where American missionary Joseph Cooper was severely beaten and had to spend a week in the hospital, then was thrown out of the country for the crime of preaching. Australian missionary Graham Staines and his two sons were burned to death while they slept in their jeep by militant Hindu nationalists chanting ''Victory to Hannuman,'' a Hindu god. Priests have been murdered, nuns have been raped, churches have been burned, and schools and prayer halls have been violently attacked. A Christian festival was ended by police gunfire. Now two states, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu, have enacted laws prohibiting conversions to any religion except Hinduism. The survey of Christians is also occurring in Gujarat.

Gujarat is the state where at least 2,000 and up to 5,000 Muslims were murdered last year, according to Indian newspapers. The press also reported that the government planned the attacks in advance.

Mr. Speaker, the Council of Khalistan recently issued an open letter detailing these and other Indian government atrocities, repression, and violations of human rights. I urge everyone to read it. India has 18 official languages and it is not one nation. India must stop violating the human rights of minorities and instead follow democratic principles by allowing self-determination for all the minority nations that seek it. That is the only way to bring real freedom, peace, and stability to the region. Until then, the United States should stop its aid with India and Congress should put this country on record in support of self-determination.

I would like to place the Council of Khalistan's open letter into the RECORD at this time, Mr. Speaker. It will be very informative to my colleagues and the people of this country.

MARCH 19, 2003.

OPEN LETTER TO THE SIKH NATION: KHALSA PANCHAYAT REPRESENTS SIKH NATION AND DESERVES OUR SUPPORT

AKALI LEADERSHIP AND JATHEDARS ARE UNDER INDIAN GOVERNMENT CONTROL

We must liberate Khalistan now. This is the only way for the Sikh Nation to prosper, progress, and project the Sikh religion and the interest of the Sikh Nation. Nations and religions without political power disappear.

Our experience since 1947 has been very disappointing and repressive. Colonial rule was better for everyone in India except the Brahmins than Indian rule is. We have been victimized by repression, tyranny, discrimination, and other abuses of our basic, god-given rights. India has used genocide, murder, torture, rape, and everything in its arsenal to destroy the Sikh Nation. It has even blown up its own airliner to blame it on the Sikhs, as the book *Soft Target,* written by two Canadian journalists, proves beyond a doubt. They paid former Punjab governor Surendra Nath $1.5 billion to foment and support terrorism in Punjab and Kashmir.

The present Sikh leadership is dishonest, corrupt, and completely under Indian control. They are complicit in the crimes of the Indian regime. The book *Chakravyuh: Web of Indian Secularism* by Professor Gurtej Singh shows their complicity. What a shame that they connived with the Indian government before the Golden Temple invasion to murder Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, General Shabeg Singh, and thousands of other good Sikhs who were working for Sikh freedom. Over 20,000 Sikhs were murdered in the attack on the Golden Temple and 38 other Sikh Gurdwaras throughout Punjab, Khalistan in June 1984. Another 20,000 were

killed in the November 1984 massacres in Delhi and other cities. Overall, the Indian government, which boasts about being ''the world's largest democracy,'' has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984. The death sentence given to Professor Devinder Pal Singh Bhullar based on a false confession is the latest example of India's effort to eliminate the Sikh religion and intimidate the Sikh Nation.

Indian police arrested human-rights activist Jaswant Singh Khalra after he exposed their policy of mass cremation of Sikhs, in which over 50,000 Sikhs have been picked up, tortured, and killed, then their bodies are declared unidentified and secretly cremated. Then Mr. Khalra was murdered in police custody. His body was not given to his family. Rajiv Singh Randhawa, the only witness to the Khalra kidnapping tried to give a petition to Jack Straw, then the British Home Minister and now its Foreign Minister, outside the Golden Temple in Amritsar. For this, he was arrested and tortured.

Similarly, the police murdered former Jathedar of the Akal Takht Gurdev Singh Kaunke. His body was not handed over to his family. No one has been brought to justice for the Khalra kidnapping and murder. The murderer of Akal Takht Jathedar Gurdev Singh Kaunke, SSP Swaran Ghotna, has never been brought to trial. Nor have those who carried out the massacre of 35 Sikhs in Chithisinghpora three years ago this month.

According to a report by the Movement Against State Repression (MASR), 52,268 Sikhs are being held as political prisoners in India without charge or trial. Some have been in illegal custody since 1984! Yet Chief Minister Amarinder Singh denies that there are any political prisoners at all. Have they murdered them all? Most of these political prisoners were taken into illegal custody under the Beant Singh regime, a Congress government. Can't Amarinder Singh find these records? Amarinder Singh should be commended for prosecuting corrupt government officials. Now he should keep his promise to prosecute Parkash Singh Badal and his family for their corruption during his tenure as Chief Minister. He sold government jobs for money. Services were only delivered after they received bribes. His wife Surinder Kaur is so experienced at this corrupt practice that she could tell the amount of money in a paper bag just by lifting it. What a shame for the Akali government! The Badal family has tarnished the pious Akali name of the first half of the last century. That Sikh leadership gave sacrifices for the glory of the Khalsa Panth.

The Indian regime paid over 41,000 cash bounties to police officers for killing Sikhs, according to a 1994 report from the U.S. State Department. One of these bounties was paid to a policeman who killed a three-year-old boy! In another case, a man brought suit because he had been listed as having been killed in one of these incidents but was actually alive. Who was murdered in his place?

The legs of the driver for Baba Charan Singh were tied to two jeeps which drove off in opposite directions and he was torn in half. An attorney in Ropar who defended Sikh youth was picked up along with his wife and his two-year-old son. They were made to ''disappear'' just like 50,000 other Sikhs. The Indian Supreme Court called the Indian government's murders of Sikhs ''worse than a genocide.'' On October 7, 1987, the Sikh Nation declared the independence of its homeland, Punjab, Khalistan. No Sikh representative has ever signed the Indian constitution.

The Sikh nation has awakened. I call on all Sikhs to support the Khalsa Panchayat. These good Sikhs forced Jathedar Manjit Singh of Kesgarh to resign. Now Jathedar Vedanti must resign along with him. Please help the Khalsa Panchayat in these efforts. And work to build a party that will lead a Shantmai Morcha to liberate our homeland, Khalistan, from Indian occupation. Just as the Akalis took control from the Mahants of the last century, we must take control of our future from the new Mahants, the present Akali leadership and Indian-controlled Jathedars.

India is on the verge of disintegration. Khalistan will soon be free. Home Minister L.K. Advani said that if Kashmir goes, India goes. The Kashmir problem has been internationalized. The only way to solve the Kashmir problem is to have a referendum where the Kashmiri people can decide their own future. With self-determination, the Kashmiri people will either be independent or go with Pakistan. Either way, Kashmir is going to go. As soon as Kashmir goes, Khalistan will be independent within a year. We can achieve freedom much earlier if our leadership is not under Indian control and they are sincere and honest.

Only in a free Khalistan will the Sikh Nation prosper. Only then will the Sikh Nation get justice. India must start acting like a democracy and allow self-determination in the form of a free and fair plebiscite on independence for Punjab, Khalistan and the other nations seeking their freedom from India. Let us join hands to secure our freedom, for ourselves and future generations.

Sincerely,

DR. GURMIT SINGH AULAKH,
President, Council of Khalistan.

HELP EFFICIENT, ACCESSIBLE, LOW-COST, TIMELY HEALTHCARE (HEALTH) ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. TED STRICKLAND

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2003

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I speak on the floor today in opposition to H.R. 5 and in opposition to the closed rule under which we are debating the bill.

I have heard from doctors and hospitals throughout my district that they are struggling with high malpractice rates. I think we all recognize that this is a big problem in many regions of the country, and I believe we must take action to ensure patients can continue to access quality and timely health care. In my rural Ohio district, access to care is a constant problem for many of my constituents. I hear the voices of the family practice physicians who tell me they no longer may be able to afford to deliver babies. In some cases in Ohio, pregnant women must travel long distances for prenatal care and delivery services because there is only one doctor providing these services throughout a county. Something must be done, but I do not think HR 5 gets it done.

These are the reasons I have cosponsored H.R. 1124, which has been introduced by Rep. Dingell. H.R. 1124 would address high malpractice rates through moderate tort reforms, requiring attorneys to submit a certificate of merit declaring a case to be meritorious, and requiring medical malpractice insurance companies to dedicate at least 50% of the savings from these tort reforms to reducing the insurance premiums paid by physicians and other health professionals. In addition, H.R. 1124 attempts to look at the broad issues that may have contributed to the high malpractice rates doctors across the country are facing by establishing an independent advisory commission on medical malpractice insurance. I wish Congress had acted quickly and in a bipartisan fashion last year—had we done so, we may already have more answers about why rates are now as high as they are. And finally, H.R. 1124 would create a grants program through the Department of Health and Human Services to ensure that areas affected by high malpractice rates do not suffer a shortage of providers. However, we will not even hear debate about these provisions or others because the Leadership passed a closed rule that limits debate to the base bill. This does a disservice to the American people, to the House, and to the health care providers we want to help.

I believe H.R. 5 will not address the high malpractice rates our doctors are confronting. H.R. 5 fails to address or even acknowledge the complicated nature of this problem: my colleagues who have introduced H.R. 5 haven't considered how the insurance industry may have contributed to the high rates or considered how individual states' systems have affected malpractice rates.

Throughout the Energy and Commerce Committee's consideration of H.R. 5, 1 spoke about two provisions in, H.R. 5 that I strongly oppose.

First, H.R. 5 would limit the liability of HMO'S, drug companies, and nursing homes. These companies have never come to me to explain why their liability should be limited; in fact, I strongly believe consumers should have the right to use every tool possible to collect damages if they are injured by a drug or device company whose product is defective. My constituents have access to prescription drugs—the drugs are there in the pharmacy, ready to be purchased, and the drug companies aren't going out of business. Unfortunately, many of my constituents, especially seniors, can't afford to pay the prices these companies are charging. Since the drug companies are doing quite well, I think it's safe to say that they don't need the further protections H.R. 5 would afford them.

Second, I cannot support H.R. 5 because of its $250,000 limit on noneconomic damages. Noneconomic damages are awarded by a jury to compensate a victim for intangible pain and suffering. These damages are often very important to low income adults, women, and children who often would not recover a large economic damage award when they are injured. In addition, someone whose injury is purely cosmetic may not have economic damages because the injury doesn't directly affect his or her ability to work. For example, the facial disfiguration 17–year-old Heather Lewinski has had to live with for the past 9 years because when she was 8 years old a plastic surgeon committed clear malpractice and scarred her for life. The years of pain and suffering Heather has lived with and testified to before the Energy and Commerce Committee two weeks ago are real. Heather's lawsuit against the plastic surgeon who injured her resulted in zero economic damages, but she did receive compensation in the form of noneconomic damages. H.R. 5 would have limited her award to $250,000. 1 cannot vote for legislation that would arbitrarily limit the damages that might be so important to the average American who finds themselves injured

through medical malpractice. Although proponents of H.R. 5 contend that the bill will limit frivolous lawsuits, I believe it will not do so; instead, this provision would arbitrarily cap meritorious claims of malpractice.

I ask my colleagues: if we trust our jury system to make decisions about life and death, I believe we must be able to trust that jury system to make decisions about money.

The increase in malpractice rates is a huge problem for doctors and hospitals, and that is why I wish this bill had been crafted with input from the leaders of both parties. At the least, I wish we had the benefit of an open rule that would allow real debate here on the floor. I will not support this bill because I think it fails to prevent frivolous lawsuits, fails to address the problems with the insurance industry, and fails to provide direct relief to communities that are struggling with access problems resulting from high malpractice rates.

PROCLAMATION—POLICE-FIRE MERGER PLATINUM ANNIVERSARY, KALAMAZOO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety. In 1983, it was determined that the combination of Kalamazoo police and fire services could serve as an effective method of providing more efficient and productive use of resources and employees. By cross-training personnel in both disciplines, the fire department's 164 firefighters and the police department's 219 law enforcement positions were consolidated into 383 multifunctional employees. This streamlining provided an excellent public safety service to the community while minimizing expenses. The Department of Public Safety has continued to evolve and improve since its inception—forming specialty units and services and using state of the art technology. Today, the department is the largest public safety organization in the country, with 315 highly trained and educated employees, and 2003 marks the 20th year of these combined police and fire services. I wish them many more years of continued success.

RECOGNIZING MR. RONALD J. RUFFENNACH

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. Ronald J. Ruffennach for his many years of hard work, initiative and dedication to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and our Nation.

Ron has served the Corps for 30 years. His career encompasses working in the Pittsburgh District, Europe, and the Savannah District before transferring to the Southwestern Division's Fort Worth District Office in 1984. During his career, he has been called upon to accomplish many significant projects for the Corps of Engineers.

Ron is recognized as a leader and expert in the Corps' Public Affairs community. He has often been sought out to provide valuable public relations expertise during disaster recover efforts. His expertise was invaluable in 1989 following Hurricane Hugo in South Carolina and the earthquake in northern California; in 1991, when he was assigned to the Defense Reconstruction Assistance Office during the Kuwait Recovery; and in 1993 when he was called to the Corps' Civil Works Forward Office following the Midwest flood event.

While in the Fort Worth District, Ron's unique and selfless dedication, as the Chief of Public Affairs and Legislative Affairs, is instrumental in building partnerships and achieving consensus on many important projects in the State of Texas, Louisiana, New Mexico, and beyond. My staff and I have personally called upon Ron to assist us in obtaining valuable assistance on projects in my district and throughout the State of Texas.

In the community, Ron has been a trusted and well-known leader and public servant. He is a 1993 graduate of Leadership Fort Worth, and an active member of the St. Vincent De Paul Catholic Church, where he is a Eucharistic Minister and an active member of the Men's Club. He served as a past president of the Boy's Select Soccer Club, past president of the Martin High School Soccer Booster Club and was active in local school board issues. He also was a regular volunteer at the Arlington night shelter.

Over the past few years, Ron has experienced serious health issues. However, not once during that period did Ron's commitment to the nation, the Corps of Engineers, and his family waiver.

I know that you, Mr. Chairman, and the other members of the subcommittee would like to join me in thanking Mr. Ronald J. Ruffennach for his long, dedicated, and faithful service to the nation, the Army, and to this committee. Thanks Ron.

IN HONOR OF SAINT WENDELIN PARISH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the parish community of Saint Wendelin Church, as they celebrate one hundred years of healing and hope in Cleveland's Ohio City neighborhood. Throughout the past century, Saint Wendelin's has served as a spiritual refuge, opening its doors to any soul in search of guidance and peace.

The ministry of Saint Wendelin's began in 1903, originally serving the Slovak community of Cleveland's near west side. On May 3rd of that same year, the community received permission to found Saint Wendelin Parish. A small church was soon constructed and on December 6, 1903, Father Koudelka celebrated Saint Wendelin's first mass. Not long after, the Sisters of Notre Dame established Saint Wendelin's School. The order would continue to provide quality Catholic education for the next seventy years.

In 1925, the current church and school complex was dedicated. Always reaching outward, Saint Wendelin's welcomes all believers to join in worship. It is a testament to the Saint Wendelin ministry that Catholics from all corners of the city heed the call to celebrate at the little church on Columbus Avenue.

Cleveland's vital tradition of Catholic education is reflected at Saint Wendelin's with their active participation in the Urban Community School. Saint Wendelin 's facilities serve as a second home to over 300 students of Urban Community School.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of every member of Saint Wendelin Church, and its leaders—Pastor Jerome Lajack and Deacon James J Armstrong, as they celebrate mass with Bishop Anthony Pilla in commemoration of one hundred years of service to God and community. Saint Wendelin parish continues its dedication to social justice and spiritual healing—within the neighborhoods of Ohio City, and the world community beyond.

IN RECOGNITION OF DOMINIC POLIMENI WHO RETIRES AFTER 13 YEARS OF DEDICATED AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AS CITY COUNCIL MEMBER FOR THE CITY OF SAN GABRIEL

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dominic Polimeni who will retire from the San Gabriel City Council after 13 years of service to the city and community.

Born May 23, 1940, in Dunmore, PA, Dominic Polimeni was raised and educated in Buffalo, NY. He attended the University of Buffalo and graduated from Bryant and Stratton Business Institute. A 31-year resident of San Gabriel, Mayor Polimeni was elected to the San Gabriel City Council in April, 1990.

Reflecting a team spirit approach and courteous respect for others, Mayor Polimeni's example encouraged a cohesive city council whose collective objective is to put San Gabriel first in order to accomplish community and regional goals.

Dominic Polimeni's city council highlights include building municipal economic reserves, creation of an Economic Redevelopment Agency, revitalization of the historic San Gabriel Mission District, implementation of the $5 million Millennium Miles Program to rehabilitate San Gabriel's streets, seismic and ADA retrofitting of City Hall, restoration of the legendary San Gabriel Civic Auditorium, the three-acre Smith Park Expansion Project, created ordinances and supported public safety and other department programs to improve the quality of life for San Gabriel residents.

An active member of the San Gabriel community, he has supported and participated in the creation of exciting, fun-filled programs and events to educate and communicate the unique story that is San Gabriel and celebrate San Gabriel's diversity such as the Alhambra-San Gabriel Lunar New Year Parade and Festival, Christmas in April, Three-day San Gabriel Birthday & Festival, California History Day, Mission District Mercado, National Night Out, and Kids Day.

Dominic Polimeni retired from the County of Los Angeles as Administrator of Alhambra Municipal Court in 1996 after a distinguished career spanning 36 years. Mayor Polimeni and

his wife Barbara, will celebrate 39 years of marriage this year, and have three children and five grandchildren.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in congratulating Dominic Polimeni on a truly exemplary professional and public service career, and for his dedication and unwavering commitment to the city of San Gabriel.

ERITREA: A FRIEND THAT DESERVES RECOGNITION

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the small nation of Eritrea occupies a very strategic location on the coast of the Red Sea. This is an area that is and will continue to be very important to our country's security interests. Fortunately, Eritrea is a stable, reliable friend of the United States. Practically alone in its region and in its continent of Africa, Eritrea is developing a democratic, accountable, and responsible government.

I have been privileged to know many of Eritrea's leaders, since the time that they were freedom fighters struggling against the communist Mengistu regime in Ethiopia. Over all these years, they have been consistent in advocating, and implementing decent values. I am especially gratified that Eritrea is one of the countries standing shoulder to shoulder with us now in the ''Coalition of the Willing''. I might add that they are one of only two countries in all of Africa to do so.

I would like to insert into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD an excerpt of an article written by Robert Kaplan, which appeared in the April issue of the Atlantic monthly and focuses on Eritrea. I commend this article to all my colleagues in Congress who want to know which countries of the world are deserving of the label ''U.S. ally'' and worthy of American support.

ERITREA

On the Horn of Africa, just a forty-five-minute flight from Yemen, across the Red Sea choke point of the Bab el Mandeb (''The Gate of Lament''), is the newly independent, sleepily calm, and remarkably stable state of Eritrea. While the West promotes democracy, market liberalization, military demobilization, and the muting of ethnic hatreds as necessary to domestic tranquillity, Eritrea, at least for the moment, provides a rejoinder to all that. The country has achieved a degree of non-coercive social discipline and efficiency enviable in the developing world and particularly in Africa—and it has done so by ignoring the West's advice on democracy and development, by cultivating a sometimes obsessive and narcissistic dislike of its neighbors, and by not demobilizing its vast army, built up during a thirty-year conflict with Ethiopia, unless there are jobs waiting for the troops.

Whereas Yemen's streets and shops are plastered with photos of President Saleh (whose cult of personality is mild compared with those of other Arab and African leaders), one never sees such photos of the Eritrean President, Isaias Afewerki, the veritable founder of this country. For decades Afewerki led a low-intensity guerrilla movement that finally wrested independence from Ethiopia in 1991. ''Photos of me would create an air of mystery and distance from the people,'' he told me in December. ''It's the lack of photos that liberates you. I hate high walls and armed guards.'' While other leaders in the region live inside forbidding military compounds, Afewerki lives in a modest suburban-style house and greets people in his secretary's office, which sits at the end of an undistinguished corridor. He moves around the capital in the passenger seat of a four-wheel-drive vehicle, with only one escort car, stopping at red lights. Western diplomats here say they have seen him disappear into large crowds of Eritreans without any security detail at all. ''It's easy to put a bullet in him, and he knows it,'' one foreign diplomat said to me.

Security, which consumes the Western diplomatic and aid communities in Sana'a (and everywhere else in the Middle East), is barely an issue in Asmara, Eritrea's capital. Despite its tattered storefronts, Asmara not only is one of the cleanest capital cities in Africa but also may be the only capital south of the Sahara where one can leave the car doors unlocked or prowl the back streets at all hours without fear of being robbed, even though the police are barely in evidence. American, Israeli, and other resident diplomats and aid administrators in Eritrea move freely around the country without guards or other escorts, as if they were at home.

Desperately poor and drought-stricken, with almost three quarters of its 3.5 million inhabitants illiterate, Eritrea nonetheless has a surprisingly functional social order. Women run shops, restaurants, and hotels; handicapped people have shiny new crutches and wheelchairs; people drive slowly and even attend driving school; scrap-metal junkyards are restricted to the urban outskirts; receipts are given for every transaction; there are few electricity blackouts from sloppy maintenance or badly managed energy resources. Foreign diplomats in Asmara praise the country's lack of corruption and its effective implementation of aid projects. Whereas rural health clinics in much of Africa have empty shelves and unexplained shortages of supplies, clinic managers in Eritrea keep ledgers documenting where all the medicine is going.

An immense fish farm near the port of Massawa testifies to Eritrea's ability to utilize foreign aid and know-how. The 1,500-acre complex channels salt water from the Red Sea, purifies it, and then uses it to raise shrimp in scores of circular cement tanks. The nutrient-rich excess of that process is used for breeding tilapia, a freshwater fish. The remaining waste water is pumped into asparagus and mangrove fields and artificially created wetlands. Though the operation was initially overseen by a firm from Phoenix, Arizona, and for a time employed an Israeli consultant, the consultant is now only rarely used. The Eritreans themselves run the operation in every respect.

Such initiative and communal discipline are the result of an almost Maoist degree of mobilization and an almost Albanian degree of xenophobia—but without the epic scale of repression and ideological indoctrination that once characterized China and Albania. The Eritrean xenophobia and aptitude for organization are, as Eritreans never cease to explain, products of culture and historical experience more than they are of policy choices. Eritrea never had feudal structures, sheikhs, or warlords. Villages were commonly owned and were governed by councils, or *baitos*, of elders. ''It was not a society deferential to individual authority,'' I was told by Yemane Ghebre Meskel, the director of President Afewerki's office, ''so we didn't need Marxist ideology to achieve a high stage of communalism.'' Wolde-Ab Yisak, the president of the University of Asmara, observed, ''Communal self-reliance is our dogma, which in turn comes from the knowledge that we Eritreans are different from our neighbors.'' (On my flight out of Eritrea, I overheard a teenage Eritrean girl from the diaspora lecturing her younger siblings in American English about how ''the Ethiopians murdered our people.'')

A monument in downtown Asmara definitively symbolizes such self-reliance, collectivity, and rudimentary survival. The monument celebrates not an individual, or even a generic guerrilla fighter, but a giant pair of sandals—shedas, in the native Tigrinya language. Such sandals, worn by every Eritrean fighter during the long struggle with Ethiopia, were homemade from recycled tire rubber, and gave fighters the ability to move quickly in the stony desert war zone. The monument shows what mythic proportions the conflict with Ethiopia has achieved in the minds of Eritreans; it has come to supersede the power of religion itself, in a society split evenly between Islam and Orthodox Christianity. This is an impressive achievement on a continent where Muslims and Christians are forming increasingly antagonistic group identities.

Eritrea's clarified sense of nationhood, rare in a world of nation-states rent by tribalism and globalization, is in part a legacy of Italian colonialism. ''We acknowledge that the legacy of colonialism was not all negative,'' says Yemane Ghebreab, the political-affairs officer of the People's Front for Democracy and Justice—successor to the country's guerrilla force, the Eritrean People's Liberation Front. Having conquered Eritrea in the late nineteenth century, the Italians had by the late 1930s turned their new colony into one of the most highly industrialized places in Africa, with road and railway networks that united a people previously divided by mountains and deserts. To drive from Asmara to Massawa—a descent of more than 7,500 feet in only seventy miles, down tangled vertebrae of coppery-green peaks, on a road of never-ending switchbacks, bridges, and embankments, built by Mussolini in the mid-1930s and kept in excellent condition by Eritrean highway crews working seven days a week—is to experience the historical energy of the industrialized West transplanted successfully to an African nation.

Another benefit of Italian colonialism, according to Ghebre Meskel, was town planning. Rather than concentrate everything in Asmara, the Italians developed Massawa and similar towns so as to prevent the overcentralization that now plagues other developing countries. To stem migration into Asmara and preserve this legacy, the Eritrean government has tried to improve life in rural areas; thus Asmara is not surrounded by shantytowns that might breed political extremism.

Following the defeat of Fascist Italy in World War II, and the dissolution of its East African empire, the new United Nations voted to incorporate Eritrea into Ethiopia. The Eritreans, unhappy with this decision, finally revolted in 1961. For thirteen years Eritrean guerrillas fought an Ethiopia backed by the United States. In 1974, when Ethiopia's Emperor Haile Selassie was overthrown, leading to a Marxist regime headed by Mengistu Haile Mariam, Eritrean guerrilla activity did not cease, and from then on the Eritreans fought an Ethiopia backed by the Soviet Union. Despite their ability to grind away at a Soviet-supplied war machine, which featured MiG fighter jets in the air and Soviet generals on the battlefield, the secretive and independent-minded Eritreans received no aid under the Reagan Doctrine (a U.S. program for arming Third World anti-communist insurgencies). Nevertheless, in 1991 Eritrean and Tigrean guerrillas, fighting on separate fronts, defeated

Mengistu, and Eritrean tanks rolled triumphantly into the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa. In the minds of the Eritreans, they had fought and won a three-decade struggle against a state ten times as populous, with no help from either of the superpowers or anyone else in the outside world. They now feel that they owe nothing to anybody, and they are filled with disdain for international opinion. (A taxi driver berated me for the West's focus on the crimes of the former Yugoslav dictator Slobodan Milosevic; Mengistu, he said, was responsible for at least twice as many deaths through his collectivization programs, but now lives in lavish exile in Zimbabwe.)

In 1996, following a long series of town meetings, the Eritreans drafted what one foreign diplomat has called ''an impeccable constitution.'' But a second war with Ethiopia erupted in 1998, and the constitution has never been implemented. That war lasted until 2000; by some estimates it left 19,000 Eritreans and 60,000 Ethiopians dead, after tanks and fighter jets engaged in desert combat reminiscent of the Arab-Israeli wars of 1967 and 1973. A U.S.-brokered ceasefire has resulted in the current demarcation of the disputed border under UN auspices.

Since this latest war the very stubbornness and social discipline that continue to make Eritrea the most civil of societies, in ways rarely considered by Western journalists and policy elites, have also made it a pariah in Europe and the United States—and for good reason. In 2001 national elections were postponed indefinitely (though free and fair elections at the village level were under way at the time of my visit). Far more disturbing, though, is that Eritrea now has the worst press repression in Africa. And in a widespread government crackdown on political dissent, eleven high-ranking officials, nine journalists, several businessmen, and two Eritreans working for the political and economic sections of the U.S. embassy were arrested; they are still being held without charges. Moreover, a campaign of national mobilization requires young men and women to spend eighteen months in the military or the civil service: a good idea in principle, but they are often kept much longer, with no guaranteed release date. That, together with the political repression and the exceedingly slow pace of economic reform, has induced young people to quietly leave the country. An increasingly disaffected diaspora has refused to invest substantial amounts in Eritrea until conditions have been liberalized.

''We're not asking all that much,'' one foreign diplomat told me. ''They don't even have to hold national elections. If they would just implement a version of China's economic reforms, this place could bloom overnight, like Singapore, given its social control and small population.'' But several diplomats admitted that the sense of patriotism is so strong here, except among some of the urban elite in Asmara, that they detect no widespread unhappiness with the regime. ''The change would have to come at the top,'' one foreign resident told me. ''It's not altogether impossible that we will wake up tomorrow morning and learn that Isaias is no longer around.'' Another outside expert told me that he has not given up on the President, but if 2003 goes by without some political and economic reforms, he will consign Afewerki to the ranks of boorish African strongmen.

My first interview with Afewerki was in 1986, in a cave in northern Eritrea, during the war with Ethiopia. That meeting had been scheduled for ten in the morning—and at ten exactly he walked in and said, ''You have questions for me?'' He hasn't changed. He was just as punctual when we met this time, and he spoke in the same blunt and remote tone, with the same shy asceticism. He spoke in intense, spare bursts of cold analysis—in contrast to the gasbag homilies one hears from many Arab and African politicians—for more than two hours. Afewerki may be the most intellectually interesting politician in the history of postcolonial Africa.

''All that we have achieved we did on our own,'' he said. ''But we have not yet institutionalized social discipline, so the possibility of chaos is still here. Remember, we have nine language groups and two religions. No one in Africa has succeeded in copying a Western political system, which took the West hundreds of years to develop. Throughout Africa you have either political or criminal violence. Therefore we will have to manage the creation of political parties, so that they don't become means of religious and ethnic division, like in Ivory Coast or Nigeria.'' He went on to say that China was on the right path—unlike Nigeria, with its 10,000 dead in communal riots since the return of democracy, in 1999. ''Don't morally equate the rights of Falun Gong with those of hundreds of millions of Chinese who have seen their lives dramatically improve,'' he told me.

Yemen, Afewerki thinks, is ''a medievalist society and tribal jungle going through the long transition to modernity.'' He accused it of advancing an ''Arab national-security strategy against Israel,'' a country he openly supports. However, he accepted the international arbitration that awarded the disputed Hanish Islands, in the Red Sea, to Yemen. As for Ethiopia, he said it could fragment, because it is controlled by minority Tigreans who have created a Balkanized arrangement of ethnic groups (Amharas, Oromos, and so on) rather than trying to forge an imperial melting pot, in the way of Halle Selassie.

Despite Afewerki's refreshing, undiplomatic brilliance, a few hours with him can be troubling. His very austerity, personal efficiency, and incorruptibility are mildly reminiscent of Mengistu himself (who also suffered from a seeming excess of pride), even though the latter was a mass murderer and Afewerki could yet turn out to be among Africa's most competent rulers. Civilization in the Home of Africa has often bred sharp political minds that, with cold efficiency, dealt with their intellectual enemies not through written attacks but by imprisoning or killing them. And it is said repeatedly in Asmara that the President has closed himself off since arresting the very people who challenged him intellectually.

General Franks, on several visits here, and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, during a visit last December, have held long talks with Afewerki. ''The meetings were superb,'' Afewerki told me. ''I mean that they were frank, without pretensions or flattery on either side. I share the strategic view of the Americans in the region. French forces in Djibouti have been a stabilizing factor, and U.S. troops will add to that. You need outside powers to keep order here. It sounds colonialist, but I am only being realistic.''

When I pressed Afewerki about human-rights abuses, which Rumsfeld had pointedly raised in their meeting two weeks earlier, he said, ''If you just leave us alone, we will handle these matters in a way that won't damage our bilateral relationship and won't embarrass us or you.'' He indicated that he would be more likely to satisfy U.S. demands on human rights in the context of a growing military partnership, but would not do so if merely hectored by the State Department.

I worried that Afewerki, like many other realists, is obsessed with everything that could go wrong in his country rather than with what could go right. True realism requires a dose of idealism and optimism, or else policy becomes immobilized. And that might be Afewerki's problem. He seemed more comfortable when I first met him, in a state of wartime emergency, than he does now, in a state of peacetime possibility. He analyzes brilliantly what he knows, but he gives in to paranoia about what he doesn't know. He did not seem to understand that U.S. foreign policy is often a synthesis of what the State and Defense Departments are comfortable with, and that therefore Foggy Bottom alone cannot be blamed for Eritrea's image problems in the United States.

Nevertheless, Afewerki has essentially offered the United States exactly what it wants: bases enabling its military to strike at anyone in the region at any time, without restrictions. Although the World Bank has questioned the economic viability of a new airport at Massawa with a long jet runway, Afewerki reportedly told Rumsfeld, ''The runway can handle anything the U.S. Air Force wants to land on it.'' Eritrea also boasts deepwater port facilities at Massawa and Assab, both strategically placed near the mouth of the Red Sea.

Afewerki told me, ''The increasing social and economic marginalization of Africa will be a fact of life for a very long time to come.'' Ethiopia in particular, he said, will weaken internally as the Oromos and others demand more power. Its Tigrean Prime Minister, Meles Zenawi, already lives inside a vast security apparatus designed for his protection. Meanwhile, across the Red Sea in Yemen, not only water but oil, too, is running out even as the armed young population swells, potentially threatening the political order of significant parts of Arabia. And with fighting terrorism now a permanent strategic priority of the United States, the stability and discipline of Eritrea make it the perfect base for projecting American power and helping Israel in an increasingly unstable region. That, in turn, might foster the Singaporean kind of development for which, according to some, Eritrea appears suited.

So there you have it: Yemen and Eritrea, two case studies in the war on terrorism. In Yemen the United States has to work with unsavory people in a tribalized society in order to prevent more-unsavory people from destabilizing it to the benefit of Osama bin Laden. In Eritrea the United States may have to use a bilateral military relationship to nudge the country's President toward prudent political and economic reform, so that Eritrea, too, won't be destabilized. Thus our military involvement with both nations will mean political involvement in their domestic affairs-and throughout the ages that has been the essence of imperialism.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT AND APPRECIATION FOR THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES PARTICIPATING IN OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

SPEECH OF

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 2003

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the courageous men and women serving in our Armed Forces.

As we speak tonight, over 200,000 American soldiers are facing the reality of war straight in the eye. Thousands more here at

home and around the world are also protecting us from harm and defending our freedoms. We honor all of them today for their dedicated service to our country.

Two weeks ago, I was proud to join my colleagues in voting for a resolution to commend our troops. The resolution was passed unanimously.

With the outbreak of war upon us, we should send another clear message to the troops that we stand united behind them. I am very disappointed, however, that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have chosen to use this resolution not simply as an opportunity to express our gratitude to the troops, but also as a political tactic to bolster the President's war agenda. This resolution contains political praise for policies that have brought us to war. This language was unnecessary in a resolution designed to commend our troops.

Last fall, I joined over 120 of my colleagues in voting against authorizing the President to use military force against Iraq. The concerns that led me to oppose that authorization remain.

I continue to be troubled by the policies that have led to this war, particularly the doctrine of preemption and the lack of broad international support. We need to repair our diplomatic relations with our allies and countries with which we have had good relations.

We will need a strong coalition of allies to rebuild Iraq. These partnerships are also valuable to our global war on terrorism.

In my home state of California, over 8,000 National Guard members and 10,000 reservists have been called to duty. These individuals have left their Jobs, postponed their education, and said goodbyes to their loved ones to serve their country in a time of war. They've put their lives on hold to go to serve their country during a time of war.

Recently, I visited some of these reservists who were being deployed from my district. They were men and women from diverse backgrounds and cultures. Men and women who never imagined that they would find themselves being deployed to fight war. I could see the fear of war in their eyes. I also saw determination, the strength of a soldier ready for battle.

Tonight, I think of these men and women and the thousands of others that have left their homes and families to serve their country. They're our husbands and wives, mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, nieces and nephews, and granddaughters and grandsons.

We must let our loved ones know that we support them, especially at this critical stage in this military conflict. That is why I will support this resolution despite my strong disagreement with some aspects of it. I want the troops to know that I stand behind them and commend them for their commitment to defending freedoms here and abroad.

I hope and pray that this military conflict will be brief and with the least possible loss of human lives. I extend my special prayers to men and women in uniform and their families during this difficult time, and I look forward to welcoming them home soon.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO CERTAIN JOINT COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2003

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support H. Res. 134, which elects Members of the House to serve on the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library and the Joint Committee on Printing, as provided for in the applicable statutes relating to these two entities.

All of these members also serve on the Committee on House Administration, except in the case of the Joint Library Committee, where we will again be joined, pursuant to a new statute enacted in 2000, by the chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on the Legislative Branch.

The House and Senate will each have three Majority and two Minority members on both panels. The Senate passed a resolution, S. Res. 84, electing its members to the two joint committees on March 13.

The subject matter under the jurisdiction of the joint committees requires bicameral oversight which neither chamber can exercise alone.

The Joint Committee on the Library, created originally in 1802, currently oversees the Library of Congress, the Congressional Research Service and the Botanic Gardens. It operates much like a ''board of trustees'' in relation to the Librarian of Congress, who is a presidential appointee, and other key Library personnel.

It supervises the Architect of the Capitol in his administration of the Botanic Gardens.

It supervises works of fine arts, including the National Statuary Hall Collection in the Capitol, and directs the Architect in his role in administering fine arts issues within the joint committee's jurisdiction.

The Joint Committee on Printing, created in 1846, establishes rules for congressional printing and generally oversees operations of the Government Printing Office (GPO).

In the 107th Congress, the JCP held hearings on the Administration's misguided proposal to allow executive agencies to bypass GPO and procure printing elsewhere, in violation of Federal law. Congress subsequently moved to block implementation of this proposal, and I anticipate further oversight on this subject during the current Congress.

The two joint committees do not have authority to receive or report legislation. However, both can hold hearings, issue reports and directives, and take other actions which have a substantial impact on the entities within their control, including matters relating to the expenditure of funds.

Mr. Speaker, since the three Minority members of the House Administration Committee are all new to that panel, none of us has ever served on a joint committee of Congress. I look forward to serving as ranking minority member of the Joint Committee on the Library once the joint committee has organized itself and, as expected, chooses Senator STEVENS of Alaska to once again serve as the chairman under the traditional rotation between the two chambers.

Rep. JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD will also serve on the panel. As a former city councilwoman, mayor, and state assemblywoman with a professional background in education, she brings a significant breadth of experience to the committee's work. I have also served with her on the Digital Divide Caucus in the House, and look forward to working with her to support initiatives the Library of Congress has taken to make information more broadly available to the public.

On the Joint Committee on Printing, where Rep. NEY will again be chairman in the 108th Congress under the rotation, I will be joined by Rep. BOB BRADY of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, who succeeds another Member from that city serving on the panel, Rep. FATTAH.

It is fitting that we will have BOB on the JCP since he represents Philadelphia, where Benjamin Franklin established an innovative printing business at age 22, publishing newspapers, pamphlets and cartoons. BOB BRADY is a cross between Ben Franklin and Rocky Balboa.

WOMEN'S CANCER RECOVERY ACT

HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on behalf of the Women's Cancer Recovery Act, a bill I introduced today with my colleague, Representative SUE MYRICK. This important piece of legislation would provide a significant measure of relief for women across our Nation who are confronted by breast cancer. We introduce this bill on behalf of women who are now fighting the battle against breast cancer, and for any friends and relatives who may have lost a loved one to this terrible disease.

According to the National Breast Cancer Foundation, this year 182,000 new breast cancer diagnoses are expected in the United States. Fortunately, with increased early detection through mammography and improved surgery options, the past two decades have seen large improvements in the treatment of breast cancer. However, although some of the trauma associated with breast cancer treatment has been reduced, in recent years there has been a sharp rise in the number of outpatient, or ''drive-through,'' mastectomies. Of particular concern to me is that insurance plans, rather than the patient and her physician, have been determining the appropriate length of postoperative hospital stay.

Specifically, our legislation would address these concerns by requiring insurance plans that provide breast cancer medical and surgical benefits to guarantee medically appropriate and adequate inpatient care following a mastectomy, lumpectomy or lymph node dissection. This legislation will help to end the practice of ''drive-through'' mastectomies and will also protect doctors from any penalties or reductions in reimbursement from insurance plans when they follow their judgment on what is medically appropriate and necessary for the patient.

Most importantly, group health insurers will not be able to provide ''bonuses'' or any other financial incentives to a physician in order to keep in-patient stays below certain limits, or limit referrals to second opinions.

Our legislation also requires health care providers to pay for secondary consultations when test results come back either negative or positive. This provision will give all patients the benefit of a second opinion in relation to diagnosing all types of cancer, not just breast cancer.

I am proud to say that the Women's Cancer Recovery Act will empower women to determine the best course of care. Recovery time from a mastectomy will not be decided by an insurance company actuary. Rather, it will be decided by someone with medical expertise, which, in most cases, is the familiar face of the woman's doctor.

I hope that this legislation will at least ease some of the fear associated with mastectomies. Breast cancer is devastating enough for a woman and her family to cope with, without the added burden of overcoming obstacles to treatment.

I urge my colleagues to support and adopt the Women's Cancer Recovery Act of 2003.

HONORING ASSISTANT CHIEF DOUGLAS P. MACDONALD ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join the many family, friends, and colleagues who have gathered to celebrate the retirement of one of our community's most outstanding citizens and my dear friend—Assistant Chief Douglas P. MacDonald. Doug has devoted over thirty years of dedicated service to the City of New Haven and its residents, for which we extend our deepest thanks and appreciation.

As a thirty-one year veteran of the New Haven Department of Police Service, Doug is a tremendous example of what it is to be a law enforcement official. Throughout his career, Doug has worked hard to ensure the safety and security of our families. Since he first joined the Department in 1972, he has held the ranks of Detective, Sergeant, and Lieutenant. Appointed Assistant Chief six years ago, Doug has served in various positions including District Manager, Supervisor of the Hostage Negotiation Unit, the Narcotics Enforcement Unit, and the Manager of the Family Services Unit. Doug has demonstrated a unique commitment to public service—leaving a legacy that many will strive to match.

Perhaps even more telling of his commitment has been his work with the Yale Child Study Center in the development of the Child Development—Community Policing Program. This collaboration between the Yale Child Study Center and the New Haven Police Department gave birth to what has become a national model for addressing the needs of children exposed to violence. Doug has been locally and nationally recognized as an advocate for youth and the need for government, municipal agencies, and community organizations to work together to address the issues of youth violence. His work has made a real difference in the lives of thousands of children across the country.

I consider myself fortunate to have been able to work so closely with Doug—especially on issues concerning children and youth violence. Doug has been a source of inspiration to me and many others throughout the community. It is rare that you find an individual who demonstrates such dedication to our most vulnerable citizens. His experience, knowledge, and generosity has been an invaluable asset to both myself and my staff and for that I am truly grateful.

His retirement marks the end of a proud and respected career—a standard to which many will be held in the future. Community leader, advocate, and public servant, I am honored to call him my friend and, though Doug may be retiring from the New Haven Police Department, I will continue to look to him for his advice and counsel. His work in this community is far from completed. For all of his good work, I am proud to rise today to pay tribute to Assistant Chief Douglas MacDonald and to extend my very best wishes to him and his family for many more years of health and happiness.

THE ARTS & EDUCATION CENTER OF GREATER MIDDLESEX COUNTY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Arts Advocacy Week to recognize an organization in my district that works to encourage arts appreciation and education among children in Central New Jersey.

The Arts and Education Center of Greater Middlesex County is committed to enriching the artistic and cultural lives of youths, especially adolescents, through its wide range of innovative arts education programs. To successfully fulfill this mission the Center encourages close cooperation with local community groups and area businesses to advance established programs and foster new and creative arts programming.

The Arts and Education Center was established in 1969 and was tasked with meeting the distinctive artistic and cultural needs of the diverse residents of Central New Jersey. The Center has served as a cultural pioneer and has successfully administered a series of programs that have provided a much-needed outlet for a blossoming local artistic community.

In 1979, the Center established a county-level program that, to this date, allows talented adolescents to attend accredited arts study classes during regular school hours, The Middlesex County Arts High and Middle School provides talented students with an accelerated program of quality arts education. It provides students with the opportunity to work in a stimulating environment under direction of master artists, alongside talented students from around the country. The program works in unison with the local school district and provides a unique opportunity for students to expand their artistic study beyond the classroom.

Mr. Speaker, our nation's educators agree that arts education has a tremendous impact on the developmental growth of our children. Artistic study has been proven to help level the ''learning field'' across socio-economic borders and many believe that artistic study can deter delinquent behavior and increase overall academic performance. The study of the arts is an important aspect of general education that should not be overlooked and it is critical that we continue to support arts education in our schools and in our local communities.

I urge my colleagues to join with me to commemorate Arts Advocacy Week and continue to recognize The Arts and Education Center and other organizations that are committed to broadening the artistic and cultural horizons of our Nation's youth.

TRIBUTE TO CELIA ''CELI'' STEIN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Celia ''Celi'' Stein born January 27, 1912, in Cleveland, Ohio. She was the daughter of immigrants who fled their native Minsk in what was then Czarist Russia to escape persecution of Jews. The family settled in Cleveland, Ohio because one of the city's three Yiddish-language newspapers knew her father Bernard Leikind's reputation as a typesetter and offered him a job.

Despite tradition and her father's insistence that women should not attend college, Celia eventually pursued her degree and attended Western Reserve, where she received a BA in French.

As a teenager, Celi met her future husband, David, while playing tennis at a local park. She refused to speak to him because they had not been formally introduced. Later he visited her father and received permission to court her. They were married in 1935.

The couple arrived in Riverdale in 1944 and faced a wartime housing shortage. They were finally able to move into her cousin's apartment building, where they lived ever since.

Celi helped her husband David found the Riverdale Press and continued working in its newsroom for over five decades. As a mentor, she helped talented reporters achieve their dreams. Her civic engagement runs the gamut, from her infamous culinary skills to her leadership in building PS, JHS 141 and several other educational facilities in the Bronx.

Celi was a prominent community leader outside the newspaper office as well, crusading for schools and on behalf of neighborhood social service organizations. She was also first president of PS 24 Parents Association and a leader of the parents associations of each of her son's schools—from the Spuyten Duyvil Infantry to PS 81, JHS 141, Bronx Science and Horace Mann. Also, she served on the board of directors of the Riverdale Mental Health Association for 41 years.

Her long-running recipe column made her the most famous cook in Riverdale. In hundreds of local kitchens, especially during holidays, Riverdalians still pull yellowing copies of ''Celi selects'' from file boxes and scrapbooks.

Celi's work has been recognized by a wide variety of prestigious organizations such as: Riverdale Neighborhood House, Riverdale Senior Center, Riverdale Community Council, the Anti-Defamation League, among many others. She was also a pioneer of women's rights, and when becoming the first female admitted to Riverdale's Kiwanis Club.

The people of New York lost Celi just 16 days shy of her 91st birthday. Celi's tireless

service and commitment to our community won her a place in all of our hearts. She will be sorely missed.

TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR EDWARD ZIGLER

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dear friend and colleague, Dr. Edward Zigler, who has recently retired after over 40 years as a distinguished professor of psychology at Yale University. Dr. Zigler has been a tireless and effective advocate for children for four decades. I, and many others in this Congress, have counted on his impeccable knowledge of children's development, his wisdom about its application to the Nation's most significant issues facing children and families, and his unassailable honesty and integrity.

Edward Zigler is a Sterling Professor of Psychology, Emeritus, Head of the psychology section of Yale's Child Study Center at the School of Medicine, and Director of Yale's Center in Child Development and Social Policy. He is the author, co-author, and editor of hundreds of scholarly publications and has conducted extensive investigations on topics related to normal child development, child psychopathology and mental retardation. He is the founder of the School of the 21st Century, which has been adopted by more than 1300 schools nationwide.

Because of Dr. Zigler's expertise and his commitment to our Nation's children, he has been asked to assist every Administration, both Republican and Democratic, since the term of President Lyndon B. Johnson. He was one of the planners of Project Head Start during the Johnson Administration. From 1970 to 1972, Dr. Zigler was the first director of the U.S. Office of Child Development (now the Administration on Children, Youth, and Families) and Chief of the U.S. Children's Bureau. President Ford then asked him to consult on the resettling of Vietnamese children following the ''Baby Lift''. President Carter asked him to write the 15-year report on Head Start.

In his ongoing role as an advisor on the Head Start program, he has worked with several Secretaries of Education, Health and Human Services, Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW); and Labor, including Secretary Bennett in the Reagan Administration and Secretary Riley in the Clinton Administration. Currently, he is on Secretary Tommy Thompson's Head Start Research Committee.

His work extends well beyond the Federal level to his own State of Connecticut, where he has played an instrumental role in establishing high quality school readiness programs for low-income children, and the city of New Haven, where he enlisted the police department in child abuse prevention efforts. The fact that his counsel has been sought consistently by both parties, and by decision-makers at all levels of government through the years is a testament to his nonpartisan focus on what research indicates is best for children.

Even a brief review of Zigler's research and writing makes it abundantly clear why his advice has been sought by so many for so long. Starting with an interest in mental retardation, Zigler's theory that children who experience an inordinate amount of failure would do better in school if they believed they had a chance to succeed, captured the imagination of the Planning Committee for Head Start in 1965. It was not long before Zigler was asked to head the agency responsible for Head Start. Thus began his sojourn into public policy. Since then, in addition to his sustained commitment to ensuring that Head Start offers young children living in poverty the comprehensive services they require to enter school ready to learn, Zigler has worked on issues ranging from child abuse to child care to children exposed to the trauma of war. He and his students have surveyed child care standards in the States as well as their preschool programs to raise awareness of the importance of quality and to guide policy makers in mandating better programs. He has been a pioneer in the development of effective family support programs. His work on child abuse and neglect has guided significant Federal and State legislation aimed at preventing this tragic social problem. During the Vietnam era, he worked relentlessly to assist with the resettlement of Vietnamese children. He was a member of the Advisory Committee on Head Start Quality and Expansion and of the planning committee for the Early Head Start program for families and children ages zero to three. Recently, Zigler completed work on a revision of the Head Start Program Performance Standards, and is currently serving as the Honorary Chair of the National Advisory Panel for the Head Start 2010 Project. Children always come first for Edward Zigler.

If children come first to this distinguished academician, Zigler's students follow as a close second. He has played a more central role than any other developmental psychologist in creating the field of child development and social policy. He was the major figure behind the creation of the Bush Centers in Child Development and Social Policy, which stimulated the development of several cross-disciplinary doctoral and post-doctoral training programs. He was also a key player in the establishment of the Congressional Science Fellows programs of the Society for Research in Child Development, from which many in the House and Senate have benefited through placement in our offices of outstanding post-doctoral experts in child policy. All told, he has mentored over 70 graduate and postdoctoral students and countless hundreds of undergraduates who are now following in his large footsteps to ensure that our public policies for children and families are guided by the best available science.

Dr. Zigler's many honors include awards from the American Psychological Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Society for Research in Child Development, the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, the American Academy on Mental Retardation, the American Orthopsychiatric Association, the National Head Start Association, the Heinz Foundation, and Teachers College, Columbia University. He has also received honorary degrees from Park University in Missouri and McGill University in Canada.

Throughout his career, Dr. Zigler has exemplified the socially responsible scientist. He is honest even when it angers the advocates; he is outraged when outrage is called for; and he never gives up on even the most stubborn problems. He is rare in his dual commitment to scholarly research and to public service. The Nation's children have benefited vastly.

I am pleased to honor him and to express my gratitude for all he has done and continues to do to ensure both happy childhoods and promising futures for our Nation's most vulnerable citizens.

FUND PORT SECURITY NOW

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the President requested $74.7 billion for supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2003. Although $1.5 billion is requested for the Department of Homeland Security's Counterterrorism Fund, the Administration's proposal fails to address one of the major weaknesses in our national security strategy—port and maritime security. The Administration continues its abysmal track record of short-changing our Nation's port security needs. The Supplemental Appropriations request includes no specific funding for assessing the security vulnerabilities of vessels and facilities along the navigable waterways of the United States. At current funding levels, the Coast Guard will not complete vulnerability assessments at the Nation's 55 largest ports until 2009. The Administration's request also includes no specific funding for port security grants.

On November 25, 2002, President Bush signed into law the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002 (MTSA). This landmark legislation is designed to improve security in our seaports, on vessels operating on our navigable waters, and in the entire maritime transportation system to protect our Nation from a security incident resulting in significant loss of life or economic disruption. Under MTSA, the Federal government is required to conduct a vulnerability assessment of each vessel, port, and facility to assess any security weaknesses. Moreover, by July 1, 2004, the Coast Guard must review and approve a security plan for each port, facility, and vessel. If a port or vessel does not have an approved security plan by this date, it cannot operate.

I am extremely concerned that this Administration is not taking the potential threat to port security or this responsibility seriously. Pursuant to MTSA, on December 30, 2002, the Coast Guard published a Federal Register notice that detailed its cost estimates for ports and vessel owners to comply with security standards that the Coast Guard will prescribe under the Maritime Transportation Security Act. The Coast Guard estimates that it will cost approximately $1.4 billion to comply with the Act in the first year and $6 billion over the next 10 years, including:

Facility security: $4.4 billion;

Vessel security: $1.1 billion; and

Port security plans: $477 million.

The Administration has proposed nothing to address these enormous security needs. The Administration has neither requested nor provided adequate resources to conduct the Coast Guard vulnerability assessments quickly and secure our ports, facilities, and vessels. To date, the Administration has requested only $11 million for vulnerability assessments and

not one dime for port security grants. Despite the Administration's unwillingness to provide any substantial resources for port security, Congress has appropriated almost $350 million for port security grants. Nevertheless, Congress has provided only six percent of the necessary funding and the Administration has awarded only $92 million, less than one-third, of the available funds.

Mr. Speaker, we have a long way to go to secure out maritime system. To date, the Coast Guard has completed vulnerability assessments at only eight of our Nation's 350 ports. Moreover, the Coast Guard has conducted vulnerability assessments at only three of the top 25 ports. It has not conducted vulnerability assessments at any out largest ports, including Los Angeles/Long Beach, New Orleans, Houston, New York, San Francisco, Philadelphia, or Seattle/Tacoma. At current funding levels, the Coast Guard will not complete assessments at the 55 largest ports until 2009. In addition, the Administration proposes to transfer the responsibility for conducting vulnerability assessments from the Coast Guard to the new Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). I am concerned about transferring these responsibilities for vital security plans to a DHS agency that has been in operation for just three weeks and has few staff members. The Administration must dedicate the personnel and financial resources to get these vulnerability assessments done quickly and efficiently.

Moreover, the Administration must support funding to secure our ports and facilities. The Coast Guard has estimated that facility security will cost $4.4 billion over the next 10 years. To date, the Administration has only awarded $92.3 million of the available port security grant funds. When the Maritime Administration solicited requests for these grants, it received requests totaling seven times the available amount. Although Congress has provided an additional $254 million for port security, no further grants have been awarded.

Last week, the U.S. House of Representatives considered H. Con. Res. 95, the FY2004 Budget Resolution. Cong. Spratt, Ranking Democratic Member of the Committee on Budget, offered a substitute amendment to H. Con. Res. 95 that included $1.5 billion specifically for port security grants. Regrettably, the Republicans defeated this amendment. However, in the Senate, Senator HOLLINGS offered an amendment to its FY2004 Budget Resolution that would provide $2 billion ($1 billion in FY2004 and $1 billion in FY2005) to fund the security requirements of the Maritime Transportation Security Act. It passed by voice vote. As the Budget Resolution goes to Page 4 conference, I urge this Administration and this Congress to strongly support Senator HOLLINGS' amendment and ensure that we begin to provide the necessary resources to secure our national maritime system.

I continue to believe that securing our Nation's ports and the cargo that moves through them is a Federal responsibility. All Americans, whether you live in a port city or whether you live in Boise, Idaho will benefit from that security. The impact on our economy and on all Americans if our Nation's ports are closed down for a few weeks because of a terrorist attack is simply too great. Factory lines will close down. Refineries will run out of oil. Stores will run out of goods.

I urge this Administration and this Congress to act now to ensure that we provide the necessary resources to secure our ports, facilities, and vessels.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT AND APPRECIATION FOR THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES PARTICIPATING IN OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

SPEECH OF

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 2003

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, men and women in our armed forces are engaged in battle in Iraq. These volunteers pledged their lives to protect and defend the United States of America.

No words can express the gratitude that I have for their willingness to sacrifice and to risk their lives in a foreign land, far from home. No words can express the compassion and empathy I have for their families and friends, who must carry on with their lives while worrying about their loved ones. Our country must always recognize and honor the loyalty, courage, and commitment of our soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines. I do so today and every day that they are in harm's way.

It is not only our regular military forces who are engaged in this war. National Guard and Reserve units from every state in the union have been called to active duty to serve our country. They have left their jobs and their homes, their husbands and wives, their daughters and sons. They join a long American tradition of citizen soldiers. From the Revolutionary War's Minute Men to the Doughboy's of World War I, from Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders to Vietnam's Green Berets, Americans have answered the call to serve. I am thankful for their courage and sacrifice.

Honoring our men and women in uniform is absolutely the right thing to do. This Congress must recognize and praise our fellow citizens who are placing their lives on the line. It is for this reason that I voted in favor of H. Con. Res. 104. I completely agree with the main message of the resolution: ''unequivocal support and appreciation of the Nation . . . to the members of the United States Armed Forces serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom, who are carrying out their missions with excellence, patriotism, and bravery; and to the families of the United States military personnel serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom, who are providing support and prayers for their loved ones currently engaged in military operations in Iraq.''

I do have significant reservations about other language contained in the resolution, particularly language in the preamble. I strongly disagree with the section of the resolution that notes the President's notice to Congress that ''reliance by the United States on further diplomatic and other peaceful means alone will neither adequately protect the national security of the United States against the continuing threat posed by Iraq nor likely lead to enforcement of all relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions regarding Iraq.'' In the absence of an imminent threat to the United States, working with our allies and other nations to address this threat is the appropriate way to proceed. While the Administration made efforts to engage the world in support of weapons inspections, they did not exhaust means short of war, prior to commencing military action.

I do not support the concept of preemptive military action, without an imminent threat to our national security and American lives. The Administration's preemption doctrine sets a dangerous precedent, and dramatically lowers the threshold for the use of military force. Is a first strike how we will approach the nearly 30 other countries that possess or are developing weapons of mass destruction or the means to deliver them? And how will we speak with any moral authority to other sovereign nations who seek to take things into their own hands against other states?

I also disagree with the President's linkage of war in Iraq to the September 11 terrorist attacks. The Administration has failed to establish this linkage with any convincing evidence. It is wrong to continue to cloud this critical distinction in the minds of the American people. It also undermines our nation's credibility in the world. I reject the assertion in the resolution's preamble that the ''use of military force against Iraq is consistent with necessary ongoing efforts by the United States and other countries against international terrorists and terrorist organizations, including those nations, organizations, or persons who planned, authorized, committed, or aided the terrorist attacks that occurred on September 11, 2001.''

Mr. Speaker, I am very disappointed that the Majority chose to politicize this resolution in support of the troops. This should have been a clean resolution that focused solely on our deep appreciation for our men and women in uniform and their families. Such a resolution would have commanded a unanimous vote of this House, showing our national unity, and conveyed to our troops our unequivocal support for them.

I voted in favor of the resolution, despite my fundamental disagreement with these extraneous provisions, because I felt it was more important to stand in solidarity with our soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines. My vote is not an endorsement of any other sentiments contained within the resolution, nor should it be construed that way.

I continue to believe that war is not the answer to the threat of Saddam Hussein. I have taken an oath to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States. I cannot, and will not, simply delegate the responsibility to the President of the United States. As a Member of Congress, I have a responsibility to review the conduct of the war, engage in the policy debate, and cast my vote in the best interests of my constituents.

Mr. Speaker, some will say that questioning the Administration in a time of war is unpatriotic and dangerous to the war effort. My oath compels me to disagree. A democratic country must always have a debate, must always have questions raised, and Congress must never become a rubber stamp.

I am not the first patriotic American to believe this, and I will not be the last. I would like to quote a man known as ''Mr. Republican'' when he served honorably in the U.S. Senate for many, many years. Senator Robert Taft of Ohio understood that maintaining democracy in time of war requires debate. Two weeks after the attack on Pearl Harbor, on December 19, 1941, he said:

Of course that criticism should not give any information to the enemy. But too many people desire to suppress criticism simply because they think that it will give some comfort to the enemy to know that there is such criticism. If that comfort makes the enemy feel better for a few moments, they are welcome to it as far as I'm concerned, because the maintenance of the right of criticism in the long run will do the country maintaining it a great deal more good than it will do the enemy, and will prevent mistakes which might otherwise occur.

I fervently hope for a short military engagement, minimal civilian casualties, and the safe return of American men and women in uniform. Over the past several months, I have heard from thousands of people from throughout my district concerning the situation in Iraq. Nearly everyone expressed their concerns about the uncertainties of a pre-emptive war with Iraq. It is my belief that, before young American men and women are sent to fight in any war, we should work with the international community to exhaust every alternative short of war. Now that war has begun, all Americans—those who favored military action and those who favored alternative approaches—think of our troops and wish for their quick victory and safe return.

Our work as citizens and policy makers does not stop with this expression of our support for the troops. The start of war does not end the debate and it does not end the dissent. It is imperative that the President and our nation not only honor our commitment to rebuild Iraq following the war, but also rebuild our relations with the nations of this world so that we might once again work closely together to avoid war and maintain peace in solving global challenges.

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2003

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 182nd anniversary of Greek independence. Greece is a nation with a great democratic tradition. Athens and the United States share the same values of freedom and democracy. We are both part of what the distinguished scholar Karl Deutsch aptly labeled a ''pluralistic security community,'' a community based on shared values and common interests. Indeed, despite all the current differences, the Euro-Atlantic Alliance, in which our nations are firmly embedded, remains the cornerstone of the zone of the democratic peace.

Maintaining and extending the zone of peace is the most important task for democracies. Greece and the United States have been united in this endeavor for decades. We were allies in the fight against Naziism during World War II, we were allies in the victorious fight against Soviet Communism. After the end of the Cold War, we have also been allies in confronting new threats to world peace. When the powder keg on the Balkans exploded, for example, the Greek and the U.S. governments worked together by promoting peace and supporting humanitarian aid. Particularly with respect to Kosovo, the Greek government's help was essential.

We are also allies in the war against terror, the greatest threat to global peace. Following the September 11 attacks, Greece immediately assured us of its support, and Greek aircrews secured our skies with NATO AWACS. Greece also joined the International Assistance Force in Afghanistan by dispatching a frigate with a crew of over 200. Athens further successfully fought terrorism on its own soil by arresting members of the November 17 group. The arrest and trial of these terrorists has created a sense of security not only among Greek society but—when we look to the Olympic Games in Athens in 2004—among the wider international community that threats of this kind can be mastered.

We are also allies in the goal of helping achieve a just a permanent solution to the Cypriot conflict. I applaud the work of the Greek government in working with their colleagues in the Republic of Cyprus along with the leaders of Turkey to promote a peaceful settlement of the situation in Cyprus and reunification of the island. I regret that the negotiations failed but I hope that a solution can be achieved in the near future.

Finally, let me conclude by stressing that good U.S.-Greek relations are not merely achieved at governmental and official levels. Instead, the Greek Americans in our country enrich our lives and provide for a better cultural understanding. The area of Queens in New York City, parts of which I represent, is home to the largest Greek population outside of Greece. These people are well integrated in our society. As their interactions form the basis for a healthy relationship at all levels, I am optimistic that the U.S.-Greek relationship will remain marked by friendship and trust.

IN MEMORY OF MAJOR GREGORY STONE

HON. C.L. ''BUTCH'' OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express the deep sorrow I share with every Idahoan at the loss of Maj. Gregory Stone. Maj. Stone died early Tuesday at an Army field hospital in Kuwait, the second man to die from wounds suffered in a grenade attack last Saturday on soldiers at Camp Pennsylvania. Maj. Stone was the Air Liaison Officer there with the Army's 101st Airborne Division.

He was a highly trained military officer with 20 years of distinguished Air Force and Idaho Air National Guard service. Maj. Stone died in a theater of war on the other side of the world, fighting to free a foreign people from tyranny and his own countrymen from fear. In that, he was true to America's most cherished values and traditions. The example of his citizenship and dedication to duty, and how we all seek to emulate it, will be his enduring legacy.

Yet it was as a son and father of two young boys living in Boise that Gregory Stone will be best and most dearly remembered. The sadness felt by the people of a proud and grateful state pales by comparison with his family's grief at his passing. I can only offer them my humble condolences, and the hope that a sure knowledge of Gregory's self-sacrifice and heroism will provide some succor in the difficult days to come.

Maj. Stone embodied the best of America. I am proud to represent the family of such a man. They have my personal thanks, and a promise to preserve those virtues for which their loved one gave the last full measure of devotion.

SHOCK AND AWE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in ''shock and awe.'' I am in shock and awe of the courage and bravery that our military women and men have shown overseas in the fight to liberate Iraq. They fight our fight, and they do it without question because their Commander-in-Chief asked them to.

I rise today also in ''shock and awe'' of the actions this past Thursday on the House floor. Late in the night, the budget resolution passed by the skin of its teeth, but those teeth still cut deep. They cut deep to the tune of $14.6 billion in unspecified cuts to mandatory veterans' benefits programs with $463 million of that coming in the next year. Ninety percent of those cuts come from cash payments to service-disabled veterans, low income wartime veterans and their survivors. Montgomery G.I. Bill education benefits, vocational rehabilitation and independent living programs for service-disabled veterans, and subsidies for VA home loans also face cuts at the very time when troops fight through sandstorms and fierce enemy resistance. While at war, their benefits are stripped down to avoid ''waste, fraud and abuse.'' Do government programs helping low-income veterans or service-disabled veterans fall under ''waste, fraud and abuse?'' According to the Republican Leadership in the House, they do.

Along with mandatory spending, VA discretionary spending takes a tremendous cut as well: $14.2 billion over the next ten years, and 96 percent of discretionary spending is veterans' health care. Priority 8 veterans have already been declared ineligible, and co-payments will increase for pharmaceutical drugs and primary care. In reducing discretionary spending, the Republican budget prevents more veterans from receiving health care and makes room for its tax cuts benefiting the wealthiest Americans, Americans who probably don't have children in fatigues. During wartime, this is shameful and disrespectful to the military women and men who make secure the very freedom that we enjoy.

The ''shock and awe'' campaign apparently is not limited to military conflict in Iraq. It has engaged the budgetary process and threatens the ability of the U.S. government to care for its own. If we all support our troops and wish the swift return home of American daughters and sons, how can we find it in ourselves to cut funding to programs that extend a hand to the soldiers that said, ''No, you stay here. I'll go?'' There is no justice in it, and no pair of night-vision goggles will see justice in the budget passed last Thursday night.

TRIBUTE TO RITA BOWLING

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an invaluable public servant, Mrs. Rita Bowling. Mrs. Bowling recently retired from her post as a member of the Board of Supervisors for San Benito County, which is located in my Central California District. Mrs. Bowling has been a beacon of public service who sought to make San Benito County a better place by tirelessly advocating for the principles of the county residents whom she served.

Mrs. Bowling was born in Rouyn, Quebec, Canada. She moved to Hollister, California, with her family in 1946. She has lived in San Benito County continuously since then and attended local schools. In 1964, she married Mr. Linden Bowling.

For 30 years, Mrs. Bowling began working in the insurance business, and eventually owned her own agency, reminding this community that the American dream is possible through hard work and integrity.

Mrs. Bowling not only set an example for the residents of this county, but opened doors for future generations of women when she was the first woman to serve as the Foreperson of the San Benito County Grand Jury. She sprung those doors open again when she became the first woman elected to the San Benito County Board of Supervisors in 1987. Mrs. Bowling represented San Benito County's 3rd District on the Board from 1987 to January 2003, a 16–year record of public service. Mrs. Bowling served as Chairperson to the Board of Supervisors in 1991, 1995, 1998, and again in 2002. She presided over that body with great skill and with an immense sense of responsibility to the people of San Benito County. Her decision not to seek election to a 5th term means a gain for her family, but a loss to the community. She leaves a legacy of achievement that we all can admire.

In addition to her service on the board, Mrs. Bowling participated with the San Benito County of Governments (COG) where she diligently worked to improve San Benito County's transportation infrastructure. Mrs. Bowling also served on the Veterans Memorial park Commission for nearly 14 years during which time she was instrumental in obtaining funding and community support for improvements to the park, including, ball fields and restrooms benefiting the community.

Widely respected for her uncommon common sense, for speaking with candor and clarity and for her principled stands on the issues, Mrs. Bowling never withdrew from an opportunity to speak directly to the Issues at hand. San Benito County will miss her ''Ritaisms''. All those who worked with Mrs. Bowling, share my admiration for the unmatched dignity and professionalism that she brought to her four terms on the board.

Through her enormous sense of decency, fairness, generosity, and commitment to the residents of San Benito County, Mrs. Rita Bowling has made it a better place for all residents. Mr. Speaker, it is truly an honor to recognize Rita Bowling.

TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR EDWARD ZIGLER ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to join in paying tribute to one of New Haven's most respected and treasured citizens and my dear friend, Dr. Edward Zigler, as he celebrates his retirement from a most distinguished and impressive career. For over 4 decades, Ed, a professor of psychology at Yale University, has devoted his talent and energies to the smallest of our Nation's citizens—our children. Nationally recognized for his contributions, Ed's vision and tenacity has made the safety and security of our children and families a national priority.

As policy makers, we often look to those with field expertise for advise and counsel. There are few that have served in these halls in the last thirty years who will not recognize the name Dr. Edward Zigler. A member of the National Planning and Steering Committee for Project Head Start, Ed was instrumental in the development and implementation of this tremendous program and has been asked to serve as an advisor to each succeeding Administration since President Johnson. His efforts on a national committee of professionals charged with examining the possibility of making infant care leaves a reality in America directly inspired the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993. Founder of the School of the 21st Century, which has been adopted by over thirteen hundred schools nationwide, Ed saw his vision of adding child care to the mission of public schools become a national model. It is not often that you find an individual whose efforts have so effectively changed public policy.

Through each of his accomplishments, Ed's work has dramatically changed the face of public policy concerning our children. He has made a real difference in how we, not only as legislators but as a society, view the importance of early childhood education programs, child care standards, addressing the needs of abused children and those exposed to traumatic violence, as well as the critical need for effective family support programs. A pioneer in his field, Ed has touched the lives of millions of children across the country—giving them a strong voice and ensuring that their interests are heard at every level of government.

As a professor, Ed has taught many who have gone on to hold significant positions as policy makers and teachers themselves. Those he has trained will go on to teach others, for his is a legacy not just of books and articles but of ideas and inspiration. Through his position with the Yale Child Study Center and as Director of the Bush Center in Child Development and Social Policy, these institutions have become recognized leaders in addressing the most significant issues facing today's children and families. This weekend, leading researchers and policy-makers in the fields of child development and social policy will gather for a Festschrift entitled Child Development and Social Policy: Knowledge for Action in celebration of Ed's lifetime of work—a reflection of the impact his career has made. Ed has left an indelible mark on our community and our nation and we have certainly been fortunate to have him call New Haven home.

It is my great privilege to join all of those gathered in extending my sincere thanks and appreciation to Dr. Edward Zigler for his invaluable contributions. I have been honored to have the opportunity to work closely with Ed on issues both here in Washington as well as in Connecticut. He has been an invaluable resource and I look forward to continuing to look to him as we continue to work to improve the quality of life for all of America's children.

SYMPATHY EXPRESSED FOR TEAL FAMILY IN DALLAS, TEXAS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, just 7 days ago, many Members in this House, including myself, supported the continuation of diplomacy in the Iraqi crisis as an alternative to immediate war. This House and the Senate, however, voted to authorize the use of force last October, and we have now used that force.

We will never know what result might have come from having stayed the diplomatic course. We do know now, however, that our Nation is at war. We do know that the sons and daughters of all our many communities are engaged in the dangerous and unpredictable duties that are carried by the Armed Forces in a time of war.

Our purpose here today is not to revisit the debate over the policies that lead us to war. My position on a peaceful solution to the Iraqi crises has not diminished. My conviction that untold and unwanted consequences await us in the future has not receded. My heartache over the potential loss of innocent lives, on all sides of this conflict, has not lessened.

But, our purpose now is to unite solidly behind our troops and all those who are commanding our Armed Forces.

Let no one, least of all Saddam Hussein, doubt that whatever the nature of our democratic debate may have looked like last October, today, or even next week, we are all united in prayer for a swift conclusion to hostilities. We are also united in our support for our soldiers and their families. Congress will not deny our men and women in the field whatever they need to accomplish their mission, including moral support from Capitol Hill.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot let this moment pass without honoring one of our constituents from Dallas Metroplex. On Monday, I was informed that our community has suffered a great and tragic loss in the person of John Teal of Dallas, Texas. Staff Sergeant Teal was one of the 6 U.S. Air Force Members whose lives were lost on Sunday evening in the Ghazni area of Afghanistan.

The HH–60G Pave Hawk helicopter, from the 41st Rescue Squadron at Moody Air Force Base, crashed Sunday in the Afghan. The two medics and four-person crew were on their way to rescue two Afghan children with serious head injuries. Though this is not the war that is so heavily covered in the media right now, Staff Sergeant Teal and the rest of that helicopter crew were at war protecting innocence and our well-being right here at home.

Mr. Teal will always be remembered by his friends, family and loved ones and will surely be honored by the entire constituency of the Dallas/Forth Worth Metroplex community for his bravery and heroism.

Our hearts go out to all of the families who have lost a loved one. I also hope and pray for the safe and quick return of our Prisoners of War and all members of U.S. Armed Forces engaged in overseas conflicts.

Mr. Speaker, I join with this House and with the people of Dallas/Forth Worth Metroplex and Americans all across the country in declaring our unequivocal support for the brave young men and women in the Persian Gulf.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 95) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2003 and 2005 through 2013:

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to express my strong opposition to the Fiscal Year 2004 budget resolution.

The Republican budget is completely divorced from reality, and operates under the fantasy that our country can afford a tax cut of $1.35 trillion as the United States embarks upon a necessary mission to liberate Iraq. The attempt to proceed with new tax cuts during a time of war is without precedent in American history, and for good reason; past administrations and Congresses have understood that our country cannot have its cake and eat it too. The Republican budget resolution does not take into account our country's current economic and military situations, and is stubbornly stuck in the past. The majority's efforts to pile new tax cut upon new tax cut are not without costs or consequences, and many groups in our society and in my district in East Texas will pay for these efforts.

In their attempts to provide new tax cuts while simultaneously balancing the budget, the majority will succeed only in balancing the budget on the backs of our Nation's senior citizens, veterans, students, farmers, and economically disadvantaged. How the majority can propose spending cuts in veterans' health care during a time of war is beyond me, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Paralyzed Veterans of America share my amazement at that effort.

Further, Chairman NUSSLE's original FY04 budget required nearly every authorizing committee to cut 1 percent in spending from last year's levels. The reconciliation instructions to the House Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce committees would have resulted in cuts of $260 billion and $110 billion, respectively, over the next decade. These draconian cuts would have drained funds from both Medicare and Medicaid, and would have balanced the budget at the expense of seniors and the poor.

The original Republican budget was so harmful and irresponsible that it had to be changed before it came to floor for consideration. Yet even after the Republicans ''improved'' their budget, the majority required spending cuts of $169 billion, with much of that total being slashed from the federal government's share of Medicaid funding. These required cuts are outrageous, and undermine the majority's persistent claims of pursuing an agenda of compassionate conservatism.

Mr. Chairman, I believe that tax relief is important, and I have supported the president's efforts to cut taxes in the past. I was one of only 28 House Democrats who voted for the president's $1.35 trillion tax cut package in May 2001, and one of only 9 House Democrats to support an effort to make these cuts permanent. Since the time of those votes, however, our economy and fiscal situations have deteriorated significantly, and the United States is now engaged in a potentially lengthy and costly war. Our country simply cannot afford to press ahead with the effort to pass new tax cuts, totaling $726 billion, on top of the continuing effort to make the president's 2001 tax cuts permanent.

I am pleased that the Rules Committee made in order the Blue Dog budget alternative, and I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to take this opportunity to support a responsible budget. By allowing the Blue Dogs to offer our budget substitute, the Republican leadership has finally acknowledged that the House needs to have an honest debate on a sensible alternative to the majority's unrealistic and irresponsible budget resolution.

The Blue Dog substitute will balance the federal budget in ten years without relying on the Social Security surplus and without sacrificing our nation's veterans and seniors for new tax cuts. At the same time, the Blue Dogs provide both immediate and long-term tax relief to American taxpayers. This tax relief consists largely of an acceleration of cuts already scheduled under current law, with the exception of rate cuts in the top two marginal brackets. It is both reasonable and necessary to defer reductions in the top two upper brackets until the costs of our current war effort are paid for and the federal budget is back in balance.

Further, the Blue Dogs are committed to sticking with the president's overall funding levels for defense and non-defense discretionary spending. I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to join the Blue Dogs in our support of the president's total funding levels, and I urge every member of the House to support the reasonable, responsible Blue Dog budget alternative.

TRIBUTE TO CHUCK NORRIS

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay special tribute to a true American patriot and civic leader from Oregon's Second Congressional District. Mr. Chuck Norris has served his country honorably in the United States Army, his State in the Oregon State Legislature, and his community as a volunteer in many capacities. His dedicated spirit and devotion to his fellow citizens has been his most enduring trait over the years, and I'm proud to call Chuck and his wonderful wife, Betty Lou, my friends.

Chuck Norris was born in Pasadena, California, in 1925. Shortly after his birth Chuck's family moved to a 160-acre farm in east-central Kansas, where he was raised. In July of 1943, following his graduation from high school, Chuck left Kansas and the family farm to serve our country as an officer in the U.S. Army. After his commissioning as a 2nd Lieutenant, Chuck was stationed around the globe, from Japan and Turkey to Germany and Vietnam. He commanded a platoon, company, and battalion before being stationed in Umatilla, Oregon, where he served as the commander of the Umatilla Army Depot. During Chuck's service he attended the Army Command and General Staff College, the Armed Forces Industrial College and the Executive Program of the University of Chicago.

In times of crisis the soldier is revered by one and all, but quickly forgotten about when danger passes. Today as we find ourselves at war and we shower our troops with well-deserved praise, we would do well to also remember the men like Chuck Norris who quietly and stoically served our country in uniform and protected our freedom with little thanks in return.

In 1971, Chuck Norris retired from the Army, but not from public service. In 1986 Chuck was elected to the Oregon State Legislature, were he represented the people of eastern Oregon for five terms. Among his many accomplishments was his effectiveness in shaping natural resource policies, especially water management. As Chairman of the House Committee on Water Policy, Chuck crafted legislation creating voluntary local watershed councils across the State, providing local citizens an opportunity to work with one another in managing and preserving Oregon's many watersheds. As everyone who hails from a Western State understands, where I come from water is among the most precious commodities. Those who help us conserve water and put it to wise uses are particularly deserving of our praise and gratitude.

Following retirement from the State Legislature, Chuck Norris continued his distinguished career of public service and his devotion to improving the way we use our natural resources in eastern Oregon. As a volunteer and member of the Umatilla Watershed Council and as an advisor to the Oregon Water Coalition, he selflessly devoted his time and energy to helping his fellow Oregonians. Since I have served in the U.S. House, Chuck has also taken the time to keep me informed about issues of concern on the ground in eastern Oregon and I value the input he offers. I would like to extend my personal thanks to Chuck for all that he has done for the people of Umatilla County, the Second District, the State of Oregon and the United States.

Holding true to his proud role as a father and grandfather, Chuck and Betty Lou, his wife of 57 years, are about to embark permanently to Florida to be with their children and grandchildren. Countless eastern Oregonians will miss them, but will always count them as lifelong friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in saluting Chuck Norris, an extraordinary man and great American. I wish Chuck and Betty Lou the very best in the years ahead.

TRIBUTE TO GARRON LAMOREAU

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to convey my deepest appreciation to a member of my Washington, D.C. staff for his tireless efforts on behalf of the good people of Oregon's 2nd Congressional District. Garron Lamoreau will soon conclude his internship and head back to Eastern Oregon University to pursue his degree in History.

Mr. Speaker, Garron has been an excellent addition to my office. He arrived in Washington, D.C. just after the New Year, and has done a great job transitioning from recess to the current congressional ''March Madness.'' He has not only handled his intern responsibilities efficiently, but has also received outstanding reviews on the Capitol tours he has provided for constituents and drafted correspondence to help me address the needs of district residents. My staff came to rely on Garron, and they knew that he would successfully tackle any task he was given. I'm sure his strong work ethic and intellectual curiosity will serve him well in any path he chooses to pursue.

Garron hails from La Grande, Oregon, a small town in my district along the Grand Ronde River. As the son of Union County Commissioner John Lamoreau and Nena Jones, politics is in his blood. He was valedictorian of his La Grande High School class despite graduating a year early. During his prep years he was a truly well-rounded student, excelling not only in his studies, but also as an athlete, playing basketball, soccer and running track, and as a member of the state championship choir. After graduation, Garron made the wise choice to attend my alma mater, the University of Oregon, where he has maintained a 3.9 GPA. Garron is transferring to Eastern Oregon University for the coming term, and plans to tour this summer with his band, Again United, singing lead vocals and playing the guitar.

Mr. Speaker, my office has been lucky to have an intern like Garron. His calm demeanor and dry sense of humor will truly be missed around the office, but I have no doubt that he has a bright future ahead of him. Best of luck, Garron, and keep up the good work.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ANDREW SHEPARD

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute today to Mr. Andrew Shepard, a lifelong California resident and dedicated community banker.

Last fall, Andrew Shepard retired after more than 53 years with Exchange Bank and Doyle Trust in Santa Rosa, California. In 1949, he joined Exchange Bank as a teller, receiving continual promotions through years of dedication and hard work. He served as Chief Executive Officer from 1969 until 1991, presiding over tremendous growth at the Bank and increasing its asset size more than 800 percent. In 1991, Mr. Shepard was named Chairman of the Board.

In addition to his duties at Exchange Bank and Doyle Trust, Mr. Shepard has been an active leader in the banking industry. He served as President of the California Bankers Association and has held many positions with the American Bankers Association, including service on the Board of Directors and as Treasurer. Mr. Shepard is also a Past Chairman of the Conference of State Bank Supervisors Advisory Board.

He has received many honors in recognition of his leadership. In 1999, he was inducted into the Pacific Coast Banking School Hall of Fame, an elite group of 18 graduates of the School. In 1999, he received the California Human Development Corporation Aztec Award. For 3 years in a row (1986, 1987, and 1988), he was recognized by his peers and awarded the CEO—A Best Managed Independent Bank in Northern California honor.

One of Mr. Shepard's proudest achievements has been the support of Santa Rosa Junior College students. Since 1969, Exchange Bank and Doyle Trust have sponsored the education of countless students with donations of approximately $47 million in scholarship funds. In 1993, Santa Rosa Junior College recognized Mr. Shepard's dedication to the school and presented him with the President's Medallion. Mr. Shepard has also served as the Chairman of the Santa Rosa United Way, a member of the Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce Economic Advisory Committee, and a founding member of the Sonoma County Community Foundation. An enthusiastic outdoorsman, he has served as the CEO of Elktrout, Inc., for more than 2 decades and is the Past Chairman of the Ladies Professional Golf Association.

Any tribute to Mr. Shepard would be incomplete without mentioning his service to our country. During World War II, Mr. Shepard enlisted in the U.S. Army and served with the 100th Infantry Division from 1943 to 1946. As a First Mortar Gunner, he saw combat in Europe and was awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge. Upon his discharge, Mr. Shepard began his education at Stanford University, receiving a B.A. with Distinction in Economics in 1949. Later he graduated from the Pacific Coast Banking School and the Advanced Management College at Stanford University.

Throughout his career, Andrew Shepard has been a dedicated advocate for his company, the banking industry at large, and his community. I thank him for his service, and send my best wishes on a wonderful retirement to him and his lovely wife, Mardi.

STANDING UP FOR OUR VETERANS

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to shed light on an attack committed under cover of darkness and to praise our heroes who turned back that assault.

I am speaking of the dishonorable conduct of the members of this House, which at 3 o'clock in the morning on March 21 voted for devastating cuts to the Department of Veterans Affairs—totaling $14 billion over 10 years—including cutting health care and compensation for disabled veterans. Under ordinary circumstances, this would simply be the wrong thing to do. But to cut this funding while hundreds of thousands of our soldiers—soon to be war veterans—are thousands of miles away fighting for our freedom, is hypocritical in the extreme and displays a shocking lack of gratitude for the sacrifice and selflessness of our troops.

I am proud to support our veterans. And I believe that in war and peace, we must show veterans the utmost respect. Many people come to this floor and say they respect our veterans and say that our veterans are their priority. However, I believe that a priority is only a priority when it is adequately funded. In other words, we need to put our money where our mouth is and give veterans the resources they need. It is particularly offense that we are not giving veterans what they need and deserve in order to fund hundreds of billions of dollars of tax cuts which will disproportionately benefit the already very wealthy.

This assault on our veterans did not escape the notice of the vigilant veterans' watchdog groups. The Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion and Disabled American Veterans were outspoken in their opposition. I was particularly struck by the words of Edward R. Heath, Sr., National Commander of the Disabled American Veterans, who said:

> Cutting already under funded veterans' programs to offset the costs of tax cuts is indefensible and callous. It is unconscionable to cut benefits and services for disabled veterans at a time when we have thousands of our service members in harm's way fighting terrorism around the world and when we are sending thousands more of our sons and daughters to fight a war against Iraq.

Fortunately, thanks to the forceful opposition of veterans' groups and pressure from congressional advocates in Congress, I am optimistic we may not only prevent cuts to veterans programs, but possibly even increase funding. The Chairman of the House Budget Committee has reversed course and stated that he will follow the lead of the Senate, which has approved increases for veterans.

While I am encouraged by this change of heart, until the Chairman's words are enacted into law, it is vital that advocates for veterans remain vigilant and ensure he keeps his promise.

Mr. Speaker, our veterans are watching, and the American people are watching. Now more than ever, let's show our troops that this Nation will always support them. Let's put actions ahead of words and make funding our veterans a real priority of this Congress.

TRIBUTE TO MS. DEBORAH A. YOW

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, on March 26, 2003, Ms. Deborah A. Yow, who is currently serving in her ninth year as director of athletics at the University of Maryland, will be inducted into the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame.

The Maryland Women's Hall of Fame was established to honor Maryland women who

have made unique and lasting contributions to the economic, political, cultural and social life of the State and to provide visible models of achievement for tomorrow's female leaders. Ms. Yow's contribution to Maryland and her role as a prominent female leader in an area traditionally dominated by males more than qualifies her for this honor.

Throughout her distinguished career in collegiate athletics, Ms. Yow has been known for her unrivalled energy and dedication. She has demonstrated a long-standing commitment not only to athletic success but also to the academic excellence of the students. A focused manager, fund-raiser, and promoter, she is known as a ''coach's AD'' with an impressive sense of management and knowledge of fiscal operations. Over the course of her career she has emerged as a leader in all facets of collegiate athletics.

After playing basketball herself at Elon College in North Carolina, Ms. Yow excelled for nearly a decade in coaching women's basketball. She began coaching at the University of Kentucky in 1976, and in 1980, Ms. Yow moved to Oral Roberts University in Oklahoma, posting an impressive 26–1 record in 1983. She then served as the women's basketball coach at the University of Florida from 1983 to 1987. Ms. Yow retired from coaching after her tenure at the University of Florida with a winning percentage of .700 and a career average of 20 victories per season.

Ms. Yow moved her career into the administrative field by serving as an associate athletic director at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro from 1987 to 1990, where she increased alumni support by more than 128 percent. In 1990, Ms. Yow assumed the position of athletic director at St. Louis University, becoming the fourth female athletic director of an NCAA Division I program and the only one active at the time. She was credited with revitalizing the men's basketball program and achieved an impressive 92 percent graduate rate for its athletes, ranking I0th among the 300 Division I schools.

In 1994, Ms. Yow began her new role as athletic director at the University of Maryland, the first woman to hold such a position in Atlantic Coast Conference history. She was faced with the challenge of a program ranked last competitively and last in fund-raising in the ACC, and a staggering operating deficit of $6.7 million. She took this position with a pledge to pay off the debt and improve both the athletic and academic standards in the Maryland athletic program. Under her leadership, every budget in the department has been balanced, and the debts she inherited from past administrations have been paid off. The Maryland Terrapins have streaked up the all-sports ranking to be in the top 15 percent of all NCAA Division I institutions. The graduation rate of athletes has risen to an impressive 85 percent, and improvements have been made in a variety of areas such as management, facilities and customer care.

Last year, 2002, demonstrated unprecedented successes for Ms. Yow's efforts in Maryland athletics. U.S. News and World Report selected the University of Maryland as one of the top 20 athletic programs in the Nation for overall quality and competitive excellence. The football team won the ACC championship and played in the Orange Bowl. The men's basketball team won the ACC regular season and topped that off with the NCAA national championship. These successes made Maryland one of a handful of schools to have achieved such high-level successes in both football and men's basketball in the same year. And success was not limited to just these two sports; the women's lacrosse team won their 7th consecutive national championship, the field hockey team played for the national championship, and a total of 10 teams competed in post-season play.

Ms. Yow's success has been honored by a variety of awards and leadership positions in college athletics. In 1998, she was elected the second vice president of the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics, the second woman to serve as an officer of the NACDA. By 2000, she was the president of that organization. Also in 2000, Street and Smith's Sports Business Journal, a leading industry publication, named her female sport executive of the year. More recently, she has been an important voice on the Commission on Opportunity in Athletics, a group assembled by U.S. Education Secretary Rod Paige to review Title IX.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to extend congratulations to Ms. Yow for her well-deserved inauguration into the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame. Mr. Speaker, I know the Members of the House join me in thanking Ms. Yow for her contribution to the University of Maryland, its fans and the citizens of the great State of Maryland, as well as for her wider contribution to collegiate athletics.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT AND APPRECIATION FOR THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES PARTICIPATING IN OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

SPEECH OF

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 2003

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD the attached statement of Colombian President Alvaro Uribe supporting U.S. action in Iraq.

EXCERPTS OF A TELEVISED ADDRESS TO THE COLOMBIAN NATION BY HIS EXCELLENCY ALVARO URIBE, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA ON IRAQ

The Government has openly supported the use of force in Iraq in order to disarm its regime and prevent its weapons of mass destruction from continuing to threaten mankind and the Iraqi people, who have been a victim of horrid crimes perpetrated by Iraqi authorities. The world still remembers images of the mothers of Halabja, dying while embracing their children in a last effort to protect them from the deadly effects of Saddam Hussein's poisonous gas.

This international action should protect civilians and respect the legitimate rights of the population of Iraq.

We belong to a coalition formed of countries like the United States, Spain, England, Italy, Denmark, Holland, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Bolivia. As in the case of Colombia, the people in many of these countries have suffered from terrorism and have learned, as we have, that this scourge has to be defeated by force in order for citizens to be able to live in peace.

Colombia has been requesting the world's support in its fight against terrorism and we cannot refuse to support actions aimed at defeating terror wherever it takes place. We have demanded global solidarity to avoid the suffering brought about by terrorism and we must fight together to stop terrorism from causing havoc here and there—in the Twin Towers of New York, in the streets of Great Britain, in Spanish cities, in Bogota's Club El Nogal, in Cuouta and Neiva, in the humble town of Ricaurte just last night, or in Arauca, nearly on a daily basis.

Neither state terrorism nor terrorism by armed groups of any kind can be tolerated. Our Government is committed to the fight against terrorism until terrorist networks are dismantled. Only then will we see full compliance with human rights. The dignity of our open democracy requires this and only when it is realized will we be able to maintain international credibility, which is our defense against unilateral intervention of any kind.

We will overcome the terrorist's deceit: Terrorists in Colombia advance their agenda through illegal drugs, kidnappings, arms and technology while misleading well-intentioned analysts and seeking sinister alliances. We cannot remain in doubt, lacking determination and mistaking weakness for legality, which has prevented us from gaining effective allies against terrorism.

By participating in this alliance against terrorism, Colombia strengthens its ability to gain international allies who can help us defeat terrorism internally. We have also learned that international cooperation cannot remain solely in the realm of words, but must translate into concrete support, good offices and effective military action.

We feel for the victims of terrorism in Colombia and other countries. To demand solidarity, we must show solidarity.

LET'S COMPLETE NEW YORK'S RECOVERY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, with the Nation at war, our first thoughts today are with American servicemen and women . . . that they get home quickly and safely, and that Iraq is liberated with as little tragedy as possible.

This week the President asked Congress to authorize $75 billion mostly to cover war operations, with reports that he will request an additional $70 billion more to help Iraq rebuild. I am supporting these funds and understand the President's commitment to rebuild Iraq.

We are here today with a similar message about New York. Mr. President, New York's recovery is not yet complete. Billion dollar losses from the attacks remain unaddressed. Like our commitment to rebuild Iraq, we should also commit to New York's full recovery. To be sure, New York is grateful for the initial aid received.

Those funds—part of the $16 to $20 billion in initial federal aid—helped tremendously with the material recovery efforts, costs for overtime to rescue workers, and additional costs of the emergency response.

But the wider economic impacts of 9/11 were not small ripples, they were crushing aftershocks.

Total costs from the disaster are estimated as high as $95 billion, with only about $40 billion in estimated insurance payments, and

under $20 billion in federal aid. That leaves a big gap of remaining needs.

The largest losses still unaddressed are direct tax revenue losses to New York City and State estimated at $8.8 billion for just 2 years.

And we are not alone in making this point . . . The non-partisan investigative branch of Congress—the General Accounting Office—has confirmed that this estimate from New York budget offices is reasonably approximate.

New York shared the pain of the national recession, but in all reality, the Nation never experienced the full magnitude of 9/11's economic impacts.

If some people think we're asking too much, just think what New York has already suffered: Fully Half of almost 200,000 jobs lost in the last two years can be traced to 9/11's impacts, according to the Fiscal Policy Institute.

Largely because of the massive budget shortfalls from 9/11, the city has already cut more than $71 million in child care aid programs, and over $25 million for HIV prevention programs, infant mortality reduction programs, libraries, and other community needs.

$2.7 billion in service cuts are planned for 2003, with multiple firehouse closures and thousand person headcount reductions projected for police and fire departments in 2004.

Now, because New York is almost universally recognized as target #1 for future terrorist attempts, the Mayor and Police Commissioner have implemented Operation Atlas at a cost of $5 million per WEEK.

While Mayor Bloomberg asks the President for $900 million to help, he's slated to get only about $30 million.

New York's fighting the front lines of terrorism, but its hands are tied by limited federal support and billions lost from 9/11's economic impacts.

That's why we are announcing the introduction today the 'Whatever It Takes' To Rebuild Act of 2003' named after the President's decisive pledge after 9/11 to do ''whatever it takes'' to help New York recover.

The bill would authorize the President to provide $8.8 billion to New York City and State for lost tax revenues or an amount that he determines is needed to fill the gap created by the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

It would also remove the $5 million cap on federal aid for lost tax revenues following major disasters. This arbitrary cap was added by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000.

Additionally, the bill makes State Governments eligible for this assistance.

And finally it authorizes grants for lost tax revenues following a future terrorist attack.

There may be no precedent for the scale of aid we're requesting, but there was no precedent for 9/11, or its vast economic impacts.

There is, however, plenty of precedent for federal assistance with lost tax revenues after other national disasters.

For instance, the U.S. Virgin Islands received $90 million dollars after Hurricane Hugo for losses to its revenue base. This may be smaller in scale than aid for 9/11, but so too were the economic impacts from that hurricane.

This is an issue vital to New York's future. We need the Governor to speak up in support of this bill, and to call on the President for the administration's support as well.

The Governor finally recognized that the Bush plan for homeland security funds would hurt New York, now we need him to stand up for New York on the issue of full recovery from 9/11.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 27, 2003 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 31

2 p.m.
Armed Services
Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed legislation authorizing funds for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2004 focusing on the science and technology program and the role of the Department of Defense laboratories.
SR–222

APRIL 1

9 a.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Carolyn B. Kuhl, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Cecilia M. Altonaga, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, and Patricia Head Minaldi, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana.
SD–226

Armed Services
Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee
To resume hearings to examine proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2004 for the Department of Defense, focusing on impacts of environmental laws on readiness and the related Administration Legislative Proposal.
SD–106

9:30 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Ricky Dale James, of Missouri, and Rear Adm. Nicholas Augustus Prahl, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, both to be a Member of the Mississippi River Commission, and Richard W. Moore, of Alabama, to be Inspector General, Tennessee Valley Authority.
SD–406

Appropriations
Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine Alzheimer's Disease.
SH–216

10 a.m.
Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2004 for the Department of Justice.
SD–192

Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting to consider comprehensive energy legislation.
SD–366

Finance
To hold hearings to examine tax payer issues, focusing on public accountants and charitable car donations.
SD–215

2:30 p.m.
Armed Services
SeaPower Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2004 for the Department of Defense and the Future Years Defense Program, focusing on Navy and Marine Corps development and procurement priorities.
SR–232A

APRIL 2

9:30 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
To hold oversight hearings to examine issues relating to military encroachment.
SD–406

Foreign Relations
To resume hearings to examine foreign assistance oversight.
SD–419

10 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine an overview of the fiscal year 2004 Navy Budget.
SD–192

Appropriations
District of Columbia Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the status of foster care in the District of Columbia.
SD–138

Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting to consider comprehensive energy legislation.
SD–366

Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Clay Johnson III, of Texas, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget, Albert Casey, of Texas, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service, and James C. Miller III, of Virginia, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service.
SD–342

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider S. 231, to authorize the use of certain grant funds to establish an information clearinghouse that provides information to increase public access to defibrillation in schools, proposed legislation entitled ''Genetics Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2003'', ''Smallpox Emergency Personnel Protection Act of 2003'', ''The Improved Vaccine Affordability and Availability Act'', ''Caring for Children Act of 2003'', and pending nominations.
SD–430

Indian Affairs
To hold hearings to examine S. 556, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to revise and extend that Act.
SR–485

APRIL 3

10 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine proposed legislation authorizing funds for child nutrition programs.
SR–328A
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold oversight hearings to examine the Federal Reserve Board proposal on check truncation.
SD–538
Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting to consider comprehensive energy legislation.
SD–366

2:30 p.m.
Armed Services
Airland Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force aviation and air-launched weapons programs in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2004 and the Future Years Defense Program.
SR–232A

APRIL 8

9:30 a.m.
Rules and Administration
To hold oversight hearings to examine the operations of the Sergeant at Arms, the Library of Congress and the Congressional Research Service.
SR–301

10 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting to consider comprehensive energy legislation.
SD–366
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine the Mammography Quality Standards Act.
SD–430

2:30 p.m.
Foreign Relations
International Economic Policy, Export and Trade Promotion Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine global energy security issues.
SD–419

APRIL 9

10 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting to consider comprehensive energy legislation.
SD–366

2:30 p.m.
Armed Services
Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed legislation authorizing funds fiscal year 2004 for the Department of Defense, focusing on the readiness of the military services to conduct current operations and execute contingency plans.
SR–222

APRIL 10

9:30 a.m.
Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Peter Eide, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority.
SD–342

10 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting to consider comprehensive energy legislation.
SD–366

1:30 p.m.
Appropriations
Legislative Branch Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2004 for the Library of Congress and the Open World Leadership Center.
SD–116

MAY 1

10 a.m.
Appropriations
Legislative Branch Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2004 for the U.S. Capitol Police Board and the Sergeant-at-Arms.
SD–124

MAY 8

1:30 p.m.
Appropriations
Legislative Branch Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimate for the Secretary of the Senate and the Architect of the Capitol.
SD–124

POSTPONEMENTS

MARCH 31

2 p.m.
Armed Services
Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2004 for the Department of Defense, focusing on the science and technology program and the role of Department of Defense laboratories.
SR–222

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 95, Congressional Budget Resolution.

The House passed H.R. 14, Keeping Children and Families Safe Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4397–S4458

Measures Introduced: Sixteen bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 708–723, S. Res. 98–100, and S. Con. Res. 30. **Pages S4433–34**

Measures Reported:

Report to accompany S. 253, to amend title 18, United States Code, to exempt qualified current and former law enforcement officers from State laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed handguns. (S. Rept. No. 108–29) **Page S4433**

Measures Passed:

Congressional Budget Resolution: By 56 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 108), Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 23, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2003 and for fiscal years 2005 through 2013, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Page S4422**

Adopted:

Boxer Modified Amendment No. 383, to ensure that the number of children in after-school programs does not decrease. **Page S4408**

Inhofe Amendment No. 403, to increase Impact Aid. **Pages S4409–10**

By a unanimous vote of 100 yeas (Vote No. 105), Landrieu Amendment No. 429, to provide additional pay and benefits for active duty, National Guard and Reserve forces, such as augmenting Imminent Danger pay and Family Separation allowances, and for modernization of equipment, weapons, and technology needs of the National Guard and Reserves in recognition of those currently involved in conflict operations and the needs of their family members left behind. **Page S4411**

By 99 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. 107), Lincoln Amendment No. 431, to express the sense of the Senate regarding extending the $1,000 child credit for three additional years (2011–2013). **Pages S4412–13**

Stabenow Amendment No. 407, to express the sense of the Senate that the final budget conference agreement should not take or propose any actions that reduce the level of funding provided for domestic nutrition assistance programs administered by the Secretary of Agriculture below current baseline spending levels for the programs. **Page S4413**

Nickles (for McConnell) Amendment No. 432, to provide for future consideration of a possible free trade agreement with the United Kingdom. **Pages S4414–15**

Rejected:

By 28 yeas to 70 nays (Vote No. 103), Dayton Amendment No. 409, to provide full and mandatory funding for IDEA beginning in FY2004. **Page S4408**

By 47 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 104), Kerry Amendment No. 281, to increase the budget allocation for programs to combat the global HIV/AIDS epidemic and to reduce the deficit. **Page S4409**

By 48 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 106), Murkowski Amendment No. 430, to extend the child tax credit until the year 2013. **Page S4412**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for the following rollcall vote change:

On Tuesday, March 25, 2003, by 47 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 94), Senate rejected Bunning Amendment No. 413, to repeal a 1993 tax increase on Social Security benefits, to S. Con. Res. 23 (listed above).

Subsequently, the adoption of S. Con. Res. 23 (listed above) was vitiated and the measure was then returned to the Calendar. **Page S4454**

Congressional Budget Resolution: Pursuant to the order of March 21, 2003, Senate agreed to H.

Con. Res. 95, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2003 and 2005 through 2013, after striking all after the resolving clause and inserting in lieu thereof the text of S. Con. Res. 23, Senate companion measure, as amended. **Page S4422**

Senate insisted on its amendment, requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair appointed the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators Nickles, Domenici, Grassley, Gregg, Conrad, Hollings, and Sarbanes. **Page S4422**

Relative to the Death of Former Senator Moynihan: Senate agreed to S. Res. 99, relative to the death of Daniel Patrick Moynihan, former United States Senator for the State of New York. **Pages S4452–53**

Financial Literacy for Youth Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 48, designating April 2003 as ''Financial Literacy for Youth Month''. **Page S4453**

Child Abuse Awareness: Senate agreed to S. Res. 52, recognizing the social problem of child abuse and neglect, and supporting efforts to enhance public awareness of the problem, after agreeing to a committee amendment. **Pages S4453–54**

National Citizen Soldier Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 58, expressing the sense of the Senate that the President should designate the week beginning June 1, 2003, as ''National Citizen Soldier Week''. **Page S4454**

Armed Forces Tax Fairness Act: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for consideration of H.R. 1307, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a special rule for members of the uniformed services in determining the exclusion of gain from the sale of a principal residence and to restore the tax exempt status of death gratuity payments to members of the uniformed services, at 11 a.m., on Thursday, March 27, 2003; that there be three hours for debate; that an amendment (in the nature of a substitute), intended to be proposed by Senator Grassley, being the text of S. 351, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve tax equity for military personnel, be the only amendment in order to be proposed, and that, upon conclusion of debate, the amendment be agreed to, and the bill, as amended, be read the third time, and the Senate then vote on final passage of the bill. **Page S4453**

Appointments:

United States Holocaust Memorial Council: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, and upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 96–388, as amended by Public Law 97–84 and Public Law 106–292, appointed the following Senators to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council for the 108th Congress: Hatch, Collins, and Coleman. **Page S4454**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Marsha E. Barnes, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Suriname.

John Francis Bardelli, of Connecticut, to be United States Marshal for the District of Connecticut for the term of four years.

Adam Noel Torres, of California, to be United States Marshal for the Central District of California for the term of four years.

Michael J. Garcia, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security. (New Position)

Robert N. Davis, of Florida, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims for the term prescribed by law.

2 Army nominations in the rank of general.

1 Marine Corps nomination in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps. **Pages S4455–58**

Messages From the House: **Page S4433**

Measures Referred: **Page S4433**

Measures Held at Desk: **Page S4433**

Measures Read First Time: **Page S4433**

Executive Communications: **Page S4433**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S4433**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S4434–36**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S4436–47**

Additional Statements: **Pages S4432–33**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S4447–52**

Authority for Committees to Meet: **Page S4452**

Privilege of the Floor: **Page S4452**

Record Votes: Six record votes were taken today. (Total—108) **Pages S4408–09, S4411–13, S4422**

Adjournment: Senate met at 9:30 a.m., and as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late former Senator Patrick Moynihan, of New York, in accordance with S. Res. 99, adjourned at 7:35 p.m., until 10 a.m., on Thursday, March 27, 2003. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4455.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATION

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Vernon Bernard Parker, of Arizona, to be an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Civil Rights.

APPROPRIATIONS: AIR FORCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense concluded hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2004 for the Air Force, after receiving testimony from James G. Roche, Secretary of the Air Force; and General John P. Jumper, Chief of Staff of the Air Force.

AERIAL FIRE FIGHTING SAFETY

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests held oversight hearings to examine issues uncovered as a result of the Blue Ribbon Panel's report of findings on Aerial Fire Fighting Safety and responses to the report, after receiving testimony from Tony Kern, Assistant Director of Aviation, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Larry Hamilton, National Director, Office of Fire and Aviation, Bureau of Land Management, National Interagency Fire Center, Department of the Interior; James Hall, Hall and Associates, Washington, D.C., former Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, and James B. Hull, Texas Forest Service, College Station, both on behalf of the Blue Ribbon Fact Finding Panel on Aviation; William R. Broadwell, Aerial Firefighting Industry Association, Springfield, Virginia; and Duane A. Powers, Hawkins and Powers Aviation, Inc., Greybull, Wyoming.

FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee held hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2004 for United States foreign assistance concerning security and economic assistance programs to the Near East, East Asia and the Pacific, and South Asia, focusing on the development of child survival programs, Economic Support Fund, Freedom Support Act, International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement Program, Nonproliferation, Antiterrorism, Demining, and Related Programs, Peace Corps, Refugees, Foreign Military Financing, International Military Education and Training Program, voluntary peacekeeping activities, and Title II food assistance grants, receiving testimony from William J. Burns, Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs, Christina B. Rocca, Assistant Secretary for South Asian Affairs, and James A. Kelly, Assistant Secretary for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, all of the Department of State; and Wendy Chamberlin, Assistant Administrator for Asia and the Near East, United States Agency for International Development.

Hearings will continue on Wednesday, April 2.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Measures Introduced: 16 public bills, H.R. 1440–1455; 2 private bills, H.R. 1456–1457; and 9 resolutions, H.J. Res. 43; H. Con. Res. 118–123, and H. Res. 163–164, were introduced.

Pages H2400–01

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H2401–02**

Reports Filed: No reports were filed today.

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Otter to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. **Page H2313**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Rev. Ed Sears, Pastor, Grace Baptist Temple of Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Page H2313

Child Abduction Prevention Act Rule: The House agreed to H. Res. 160, the rule that is providing for consideration of H.R. 1104, to prevent child abduction by voice vote. Earlier agreed to order the previous question by yea-and-nay vote of 218 yeas to 198 nays, Roll No. 86. **Pages H2319–25**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Supporting Efforts To Recognize the Problem of Child Abuse and Neglect: H. Res. 113, amended, recognizing the social problem of child abuse and neglect, and supporting efforts to enhance public awareness of the problem. **Pages H2316–19**

National Runaway Prevention Month: H. Res. 57, recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of ''National Runaway Prevention Month'';

Pages H2325–27

150th Anniversary of the Grand Excursion of 1854: H. Con. Res. 44, to express support for the celebration in 2004 of the 150th anniversary of the Grand Excursion of 1854; **Pages H2327–30**

Michael J. Healy Post Office Building in Bridgeview, Illinois: H.R. 825, to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7401 West 100th Place in Bridgeview, Illinois, as the ''Michael J. Healy Post Office Building'';

Pages H2330–31

Floyd Spence Post Office Building in Lexington, South Carolina: H.R. 917, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1830 South Lake Drive in Lexington, South Carolina, as the ''Floyd Spence Post Office Building''; and

Pages H2331–33

James R. Merry Post Office in Linesville, Pennsylvania: H.R. 981, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 141 Erie Street in Linesville, Pennsylvania, as the ''James R. Merry Post Office''. **Pages H2333–34**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House completed debate on the following motions to suspend the rules. Further proceedings were postponed until Thursday, March 27.

Public Need for Fasting and Prayer: H. Res. 153, recognizing the public need for fasting and prayer in order to secure the blessings and protection of Providence for the people of the United States and our Armed Forces during the conflict in Iraq and under the threat of terrorism at home; and

Pages H2334–36

Treatment of Prisoners of War Held by Iraqi Authorities: H. Con. Res. 118, concerning the treatment of members of the Armed Forces held as prisoner of war by Iraqi authorities. **Pages H2336–44**

Recess: The House recessed at 1:22 p.m. and reconvened at 2:16 p.m. **Page H2336**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:17 p.m. and reconvened at 5:32 p.m. **Page H2336**

Expenses of Standing and Select Committees: The House agreed to H. Res. 163, providing amounts from the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives for continuing expenses of standing and select committees of the House from April 1, 2003, through April 11, 2003. **Pages H2344–45**

Keeping Children and Families Safe Act: The House passed H.R. 14, to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to make improvements to and reauthorize programs under that Act. Subsequently the House passed S. 342, a similar Senate passed measure, after amending it to contain the text of H.R. 14, as passed the House. H.R. 14 was then laid on the table. **Pages H2345–52**

The bill was considered pursuant to the order of the House of March 25 and pursuant to that order, the amendment recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce now printed in the bill (H. Rept. 108–26) modified by the amendments placed at the desk were considered as adopted. After passage of H.R. 14, the House shall be considered to have taken from the Speaker's table S. 342, stricken all after the enacting clause of the Senate bill and inserted in lieu thereof the provisions of H.R. 14, as passed the House. **Pages H2352–60, H2363–72**

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote developed during the proceedings of the House today. There were no quorum calls. **Pages H2324–25**

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

Committee Meetings

U.S. AGRICULTURAL TRADE AND FOREIGN ASSISTANCE—ARTIFICIAL BARRIERS

Committee on Agriculture: Held a hearing to review Artificial Barriers to United States Agricultural Trade and Foreign Food Assistance. Testimony was heard from Speaker Hastert; Representative Wolf; and public witnesses.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary and Related Agencies held a hearing on State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Justice: Deborah J. Daniels, Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice; and Carl R. Peed, Director, Community Oriented Policing Services.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on Secretary of State. Testimony was heard from Colin L. Powell, Secretary of State.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Army: Les Brownlee, Under Secretary and Acting Assistant Secretary; Maj. Gen. Robert H. Griffin,

USA., Director, both with Civil Works; Lt. Gen. Robert B. Flowers, USA, Chief of Engineers and Commanding General, Army Corps of Engineers; and Robert Vining, Chief, Civil Works Programs Management Division.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs held a hearing on the following: Export-Import Bank; U.S. Trade and Development Agency; and Overseas Private Investment Corporation. Testimony was heard from Philip Merrill, Chairman, Export-Import Bank; Peter Watson, President, OPIC; and Thelma Askey, Director, U.S. Trade and Development Agency.

INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior held an oversight hearing on Everglades. Testimony was heard from Linda Blum, National Academy of Science; and Barry T. Hill and Susan Lott, both with GAO; and Ann Klee, South Florida Ecosystem Task Force.

LABOR, HHS, EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Health Resources and Services Administration and on Substance Abuse Mental Health Services. Testimony was heard from the following officials of NIH, Department of Health and Human Services, Elizabeth J. Duke, M.D., Administrator, Health Resources and Services Administration; and Charles G. Curie, Administrator, Substance Abuse Mental Health Services.

TRANSPORTATION AND TREASURY, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation and Treasury, and Independent Agencies continued appropriations hearings. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress.

VA, HUD AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on VA and HUD and Independent Agencies held a hearing on Department of Veterans Affairs. Testimony was heard from Anthony J. Principi, Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BUDGET REQUEST—UNMANNED COMBAT VEHICLES PROGRAMS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces held a hearing on the fiscal year 2004 national defense authorization budget request for Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicle (UCAV) and Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) programs. Testimony was heard from Dyke Weatherington, UAV Planning Task Force, Defense Systems, Air Warfare, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense.

WORKFORCE REINVESTMENT AND ADULT EDUCATION ACT

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Began markup of H.R. 1261, Workforce Reinvestment and Adult Education Act of 2003.

Will continue tomorrow.

MEDICARE REGULATORY AND CONTRACTING REFORM ACT

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 810, Medicare Regulatory and Contracting Reform Act of 2003.

ACCOUNTANT, COMPLIANCE, AND ENFORCEMENT STAFFING ACT; DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Financial Services: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 658, Accountant, Compliance, and Enforcement Staffing Act of 2003; and H.R. 1280, amended, Defense Production Act Reauthorization Act of 2003.

''MANAGEMENT AND THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET''

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Government Efficiency and Financial Management held an oversight hearing on ''Management and The President's Budget.'' Testimony was heard from Representative Sessions; Patricia A. Dalton, Director, Strategic Issues, GAO; Edward R. McPherson, Chief Financial Officer, USDA; and the following officials of the OMB: Angela B. Styles, Administrator, Federal Procurement Policy; and Mark A, Forman, Associate Director, Information Technology and E-Government.

U.S. POLICY TOWARD SOUTHEAST ASIA

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on East Asia and the Pacific held a hearing on U.S. Policy Toward Southeast Asia. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of State: Matthew P. Daley, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs; and Gordon

West, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Asia and the Near East, AID.

INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS OVERVIEW

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on International Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Human Rights held a hearing on Overview of International Terrorist Organizations. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of State: J. Cofer Black, Ambassador-at-Large, Coordinator, Office of Counterterrorism; and E. Anthony Wayne, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs.

PARTIAL BIRTH ABORTION ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Ordered reported H.R. 760, Partial-Birth Abortion Act of 2003.

The Committee also considered pending Committee business.

COLUMBIA ORBITER CREW MEMORIAL—ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY; ENHANCED SECURITY: POLICIES AND IMPLICATIONS FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS

Committee on Science: Ordered reported H.R. 1297, to require the construction at Arlington National Cemetery of a memorial to the crew of the *Columbia* Orbiter.

The Committee also held a hearing on Enhanced Security: Policies and Implications for Foreign Students and Scholars. Testimony was heard from Janis Jacobs, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Visa Services, Department of State; and public witnesses.

CERTAIN STEEL PRODUCTS—IMPACT OF SAFEGUARD ACTION

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Trade held a hearing on the impact of the section 201 safeguard action on certain steel products. Testimony was heard from Representatives Visclosky, Hoekstra, Knollenberg, Manzullo, Stupak, Strickland, Kucinich, McCotter; Ney and Acevedo-Vilá; and public witnesses.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2003

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2004 for the Department of Education, 9 a.m., SD–138.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine proposed legislation making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, 10 a.m., SD–106.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2004 for the General Accounting Office, Government Printing Office, and Congressional Budget Office, 1:30 p.m., SD–124.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the future of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization; to be followed by closed hearings (in Room SH–219), 10 a.m., SH–216.

Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings to examine compensation for disabled military retirees in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2004, 2:30 p.m., SH–216.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold closed hearings to examine intelligence support to warfighters, in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2004, 2:30 p.m., SR–232A.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Space, to hold hearings to examine the implications of cloning on women's health, 9:30 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine certain proposals with respect to electricity, including S. 475, to reform the nation's outdated laws relating to the electric industry, improve the operation of our transmission system, enhance reliability of our electric grid, increase consumer benefits from whole electric competition, and restore investor confidence in the electric industry, 9:30 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to resume hearings to examine NATO Enlargement, focusing on qualifications and contributions, 2:30 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine health care transmission of global AIDS in Africa, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 274, to amend the procedures that apply to consideration of interstate class actions to assure fairer outcomes for class members and defendants, the nominations of Priscilla Richman Owen, of Texas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, Mary Ellen Coster Williams, of Maryland and Victor J. Wolski, of Virginia, each to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, Ricardo H. Hinojosa, of Texas and Michael E. Horowitz, of Maryland, each to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission, and McGregor William Scott, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of California, 9:30 a.m., SD–226.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Edward C. Prado, of Texas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, Cecilia M. Altonaga, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, Richard D. Bennett, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maryland, Dee D. Drell, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana, J. Leon Holmes, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of

Arkansas, and Susan G. Braden, of the District of Columbia, and Charles F. Lettow, of Virginia, each to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, 2 p.m., SD–226.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and State, the Judiciary and Related Agencies, on FBI, 10 a.m., and on Federal Judiciary, and U.S. Marshals Service, 3 p.m., H–309 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Defense, on Fiscal Year 2003 Emergency Supplemental, 1:15 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs, on Supplemental Request for Iraq and the Global War on Terrorism, 3:30 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, on Border Security, 10 a.m., 2362 Rayburn, and on Transportation Security, 2 p.m., H–140 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, on Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 10:15 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury and Independent Agencies, on U.S. Postal Service Retirement Payments, 10 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on VA, HUD and Independent Agencies, on National Institute of Environmental Health and Services, 10 a.m., and on Consumer Product Safety Commission, 11 p.m., H–143 Capitol.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Projection Forces, hearing on the fiscal year 2004 national defense authorization budget request for Navy Projection Forces, 1 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities, hearing on Department of Defense science and technology policy and programs for fiscal year 2004, 4 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Total Force, hearing on the fiscal year 2004 national defense authorization budget request for the defense health program and the next generation of TRICARE contracts and TRICARE retail pharmacy contracts, 1:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, to continue markup of H.R. 1261, Workforce Reinvestment and Adult Education Act of 2003, 9:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health and the Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness and Response of the Select Committee on Homeland Security, joint hearing entitled ''Furthering Public Health Security: Project Bioshield,'' 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Financial Services Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing on H.R. 1375, Financial Services Regulatory Relief Act of 2003, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform, to consider recommendations to the House regarding Oversight Plans for the 108th Congress for all House Committees; followed by a hearing entitled ''Point, Click, Self-Medicate: A Review of Consumer Safeguards on Internet Pharmacy Sites,'' 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources, hearing entitled ''ONDCP Reauthorization: The National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign,'' 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on International Relations, Subcommittee on Europe, hearing on U.S. Assistance Programs in Europe: An Assessment, 1:30 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property, hearing on H.R. 1417, Copyright Royalty and Distribution Act of 2003, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Resources, Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 958, Hydrographic Services Amendments of 2003; H.R. 959, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Oceanography Amendment Act of 2003; and H.R. 984, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Act of 2003, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Water and Power, oversight hearing on Water Supply and Reliability: The Role of Water Recycling, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing on Reauthorization of the Federal Aviation Administration and the Aviation Programs, 9:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Health, oversight hearing on the status of the implementation of Public Law 107–287, Department of Veterans Affairs Emergency Preparedness Act of 2002, and post deployment health care for veterans, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, hearing on Consolidated Crytologic Program, 1 p.m., H–405 Capitol.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Thursday, March 27

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 11 a.m.), Senate will begin consideration of H.R. 1307, Armed Forces Tax Fairness Act, with a vote on final passage to occur at approximately 2 p.m.

Also, Senate may consider and vote on certain judicial nominations.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, March 27

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of H.R. 1104, Child Abduction Prevention Act (structured rule, one hour of debate).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Baldwin, Tammy, Wisc., E585
Ballenger, Cass, N.C., E590
Bishop, Timothy H., Jr., N.Y., E589
Burton, Dan, Ind., E577, E580
Crowley, Joseph, N.Y., E586
DeLauro, Rosa L., Conn., E583, E587
Edwards, Chet, Tex., E579
Engel, Eliot L., N.Y., E583
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Kucinich, Dennis J., Ohio, E579
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LoBiondo, Frank A., N.J., E582
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Miller, George, Calif., E584
Oberstar, James L., Minn., E584
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