

“(ii) the protection of intellectual property; and

“(iii) the resolution of bilateral trade and investment disputes;

“(D) economic policies to reduce poverty, increase the availability of health care and educational opportunities, expand physical infrastructure, promote the development of private enterprise, and encourage the formation of capital markets through microcredit or other programs;

“(E) a system to combat corruption and bribery, such as signing and implementing the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions; and

“(F) protection of internationally recognized worker rights, including the right of association, the right to organize and bargain collectively, a prohibition on the use of any form of forced or compulsory labor, a minimum age for the employment of children, and acceptable conditions of work with respect to minimum wages, hours of work, and occupational safety and health;

“(2) does not engage in activities that undermine United States national security or foreign policy interests; and

“(3) does not engage in gross violations of internationally recognized human rights or provide support for acts of international terrorism and cooperates in international efforts to eliminate human rights violations and terrorist activities.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendment made by subsection (a) applies with respect to goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after October 1, 2003.

(2) RETROACTIVE APPLICATION TO CERTAIN ENTRIES.—Notwithstanding section 514 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1514) or any other provision of law, upon proper request filed with the Customs Service before the 90th day after the date of the enactment of this Act, any entry or withdrawal from warehouse for consumption, of any goods described in the amendment made by subsection (a)—

(A) that was made on or after October 1, 2003, and before the date of the enactment of this Act, and

(B) with respect to which there would have been no duty if the amendment made by subsection (a) applied to such entry or withdrawal,

shall be liquidated or reliquidated as though such amendment applied to such entry or withdrawal.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED & PROPOSED

SA 2944. Ms. CANTWELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 4, to reauthorize and improve the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families, improve access to quality child care, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2945. Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. BIDEN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 4, supra.

SA 2946. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 4, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2947. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 4, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2948. Mr. BIDEN (for himself and Mrs. BOXER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2949. Mr. FEINGOLD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him

to the bill H.R. 4, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2950. Mr. BIDEN (for himself and Mrs. BOXER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2951. Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2952. Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. CORZINE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2953. Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. CORZINE, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2954. Mr. ALEXANDER (for Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. HOLLINGS, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. KERRY)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2443, to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2004, to amend various laws administered by the Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

SA 2955. Mr. ALEXANDER (for Mr. MCCAIN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2443, supra.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2944. Ms. CANTWELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 4, to reauthorize and improve the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families, improve access to quality child care, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 212, strike line 12 and all that follows through page 213, line 6, and insert the following:

“(D) LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO MAY BE TREATED AS ENGAGED IN WORK BY REASON OF PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (1)(C)(ii)(I) and clause (ii), for purposes of subsection (b)(1)(B)(i), not more than 30 percent of the number of individuals in all families in a State who are treated as engaged in work for a month may consist of individuals who are—

“(I) determined (without regard to individuals participating in a program established under section 404(1)) to be engaged in work for the month by reason of participation in vocational educational training (but only with respect to such training that does not exceed 12 months with respect to any individual); or

“(II) deemed to be engaged in work for the month by reason of subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

“(ii) EXCEPTION FOR EDUCATION IN PREPARATION FOR SECTOR-SPECIFIC, HIGH-SKILL OCCUPATIONS TO MEET EMPLOYER DEMAND.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding clause (i) and subsection (d)(8), for purposes of determining monthly participation rates under subsection (b)(1)(B)(i) with respect to an individual who is enrolled, in preparation for a sector-specific, high-skill occupation to meet employer demand (as defined in subclause (II)), in a postsecondary 2- or 4-year degree program or in vocational educational training—

“(aa) the State may count the number of hours per week that the individual attends such program or training for purposes of determining the number of hours for which a family is engaged in work for the month

without regard to the 30 percent limitation under clause (i); and

“(bb) the individual shall be permitted to complete the requirements of the degree program or vocational educational training within the normal timeframe for full-time students seeking the particular degree or completing such vocational educational training.

“(II) SECTOR-SPECIFIC, HIGH-SKILL OCCUPATION TO MEET EMPLOYER DEMAND DEFINED.—In subclause (I), the term ‘sector-specific, high-demand, high-skill occupation to meet employer demand’ means an occupation—

“(aa) that has been identified by the State workforce investment board established under section 111 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2821) as within the needs of the State with regard to current and projected employment opportunities in specific industry sectors or that has been defined by the State agency administering the State program funded under this part as within the needs of the State with regard to current and projected employment opportunities in specific industry sectors and is consistent with high demand jobs identified in the State plan in accordance with section 402(a)(1)(A)(vi)(I);

“(bb) that requires occupational training; and

“(cc) that provides a wage of at least 75 percent of the State median hourly wage, as calculated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics on the basis of the most recent Occupational Employment and Wage Survey.

SA 2945. Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. BIDEN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 4, to reauthorize and improve the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families, improve access to quality child care, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ FAIR MINIMUM WAGE.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the “Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2004”.

(b) INCREASE IN THE MINIMUM WAGE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 6(a)(1) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 206(a)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) except as otherwise provided in this section, not less than—

“(A) \$5.85 an hour, beginning on the 60th day after the date of enactment of the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2004;

“(B) \$6.45 an hour, beginning 12 months after that 60th day; and

“(C) \$7.00 an hour, beginning 24 months after that 60th day;”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) APPLICABILITY OF MINIMUM WAGE TO THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 6 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 206) shall apply to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(2) TRANSITION.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the minimum wage applicable to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands under section 6(a)(1) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 206(a)(1)) shall be—

(A) \$3.55 an hour, beginning on the 60th day after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(B) increased by \$0.50 an hour (or such lesser amount as may be necessary to equal the minimum wage under section 6(a)(1) of such Act), beginning 6 months after the date of