

Whereas the international community has provided insufficient encouragement and resources to the Government of Lebanon to enable the Government to comply with the relevant provisions of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1559;

Whereas Hezbollah launched an unprovoked attack against Israel on July 12, 2006, killing 7 Israeli soldiers and taking 2 soldiers hostage, its fifth provocative act against Israel since the summer of 2005;

Whereas the Government of Israel, as reaffirmed in S. Res. 534, has the right to defend itself and to take appropriate action to deter aggression by terrorist groups and their state sponsors;

Whereas fighting between Israel and Hezbollah to date has caused significant damage to Lebanon's and Israel's infrastructures that will necessitate the expenditure of significant sums to rebuild;

Whereas more than 400 citizens of Israel and Lebanon have already lost their lives in the ongoing conflict;

Whereas over 14,000 United States citizens have been evacuated from Lebanon at a cost of over \$60,000,000;

Whereas more than 1,000,000 Israelis living in northern Israel are under threat of Hezbollah rockets;

Whereas more than 700,000 Lebanese civilians have been displaced by the fighting, and the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator is seeking more than \$170,000,000 in donations from international donors to pay for food, medicine, water, and sanitation services over the next 3 months;

Whereas the United States Government has pledged \$30,000,000 in short-term humanitarian assistance to address the humanitarian crisis in Lebanon;

Whereas the fragile democracy of Lebanon is in jeopardy of collapsing without significant international support to address the humanitarian crisis in the country and to strengthen the capacity of the army and security forces of the Government of Lebanon to gain effective control of all territory in Lebanon; and

Whereas continued fighting between Hezbollah and Israel is a threat to the peace and security of the peoples of Israel and Lebanon;

Now, therefore, be it  
Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the Governments of Syria and Iran should—

(A) end all material and logistical support for Hezbollah, including attempts to replenish Hezbollah's supply of weapons; and

(B) use their significant influence over Hezbollah to disarm the group and release all kidnapped prisoners;

(2) the United States Government and the international community must work urgently with the Governments of Israel and Lebanon—

(A) to attain a cessation in the hostilities between Hezbollah and Israel based on—

(i) effectuating the safe return of Israeli soldiers held in Lebanon;

(ii) the disarmament of Hezbollah, the removal of all Hezbollah forces from southern Lebanon, and the replacement of those forces with army and security forces of the Government of Lebanon; and

(iii) reaching an agreement to fully implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 1559 and to create and deploy an international stabilization force with a clear mandate to enforce a permanent ceasefire;

(B) to organize an international donors conference to solicit and ensure the provision of international resources for the reconstruction of roads, bridges, hospitals, electrical and communications systems, and other civilian infrastructure damaged or destroyed in Lebanon during the hostilities;

(C) to remain engaged to promote sustainable peace and security for Israel and Lebanon and the greater Middle East; and

(D) to assist the Government of Lebanon on its path to democracy by promoting necessary internal political reforms; and

(3) the territorial integrity, sovereignty, unity, and political independence of Lebanon should be strongly supported.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREE-  
MENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR  
NO. 819

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 5, the Senate proceed to executive session and proceed to the immediate consideration of Executive Calendar No. 819, Kimberly Ann Moore, to be U.S. circuit judge, with 1 hour of debate equally divided, to be followed by a vote on confirmation at 5:30 p.m., with no intervening action or debate. Finally, I ask unanimous consent that following that vote the President be immediately notified of the Senate's previous action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

YOUTHBUILD TRANSFER ACT

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 472, S. 3534.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3534) to amend the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 to provide for a YouthBuild program.

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

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the passage of the YouthBuild Transfer Act, S. 3534, as amended. I am pleased at the widespread support that this bill has received and want to especially thank Senator KENNEDY, the ranking member of the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, and Senators DEWINE, KERRY and MURRAY.

This bill transfers the Youth Build program from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to the Department of Labor, as an amendment to the Workforce Investment Act, WIA. YouthBuild was enacted in 1992. It provides programs for young adults aged 16 to 24 to build or rehabilitate housing for homeless or low-income individuals in their communities while they study to earn their high school diploma or GED. These youth gain occupational and technical skills while building their knowledge to help them become and remain productive participants in the workplace.

By transferring YouthBuild to DOL, the program will be more closely aligned with and benefit from collaboration with the larger workforce system at the State and local levels. It will continue to serve those young adults most in need of these services, and enable them to serve their commu-

nities by building affordable housing, and assist them in transforming their own lives and roles in society.

YouthBuild assists young adults not currently enrolled in school gain needed education, skills and knowledge. The skill and literacy requirements of today's and tomorrow's workplace cannot be met if we do not provide everyone access to lifelong education, training and retraining.

I am hopeful that this bill will be signed into law quickly so that the YouthBuild program can continue to successfully help young adults across the country acquire the knowledge and skills they need in the 21st century global economy.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Enzi amendment at the desk be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The amendment (No. 4879) was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

The bill (S. 3534), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

CHILD PROTECTION AND FAMILY  
VIOLENCE PREVENTION ACT  
AMENDMENTS OF 2006

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 436, S. 1899.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1899) to amend the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act to identify and remove barriers to reducing child abuse, to provide for examinations of certain children, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill which had been reported from the Committee on Indian Affairs, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

*This Act may be cited as the "Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act Amendments of 2006".*

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

*Section 402 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3201) is amended—*

*(1) in subsection (a)—*

*(A) in paragraph (1)—*

*(i) by redesignating subparagraphs (E) and (F) as subparagraphs (F) and (G), respectively; and*

*(ii) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following:*

“(E) the Federal Government and certain State governments are responsible for investigating and prosecuting certain felony crimes, including child abuse, in Indian country, pursuant to chapter 53 of title 18, United States Code;” and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “two” and inserting “the”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and” at the end;

(iii) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) identify and remove any impediment to the immediate investigation of incidents of child abuse in Indian country.”; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(3) provide for a background investigation for any employee or volunteer who has access to children;” and

(B) in paragraph (6), by striking “Area Office” and inserting “Regional Office”.

### SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

Section 403 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3202) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (6) through (18) as paragraphs (7) through (19), respectively;

(2) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following:

“(6) ‘final conviction’ means the final judgment on a verdict or finding of guilty, a plea of guilty, or a plea of nolo contendere, but does not include a final judgment that has been expunged by pardon, reversed, set aside, or otherwise rendered void;”;

(3) in paragraph (13) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)), by striking “that agency” and all that follows through “Indian tribe” and inserting “the Federal, State, or tribal agency”;

(4) in paragraph (14) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)), by inserting “(including a tribal law enforcement agency operating pursuant to a grant, contract, or compact under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.))” after “State law enforcement agency”;

(5) in paragraph (18) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)), by striking “and” at the end;

(6) in paragraph (19) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(7) by adding at the end the following:

“(20) ‘telemedicine’ means a telecommunications link to an end user through the use of eligible equipment that electronically links health professionals or patients and health professionals at separate sites in order to exchange health care information in audio, video, graphic, or other format for the purpose of providing improved health care diagnosis and treatment.”.

### SEC. 4. REPORTING PROCEDURES.

Section 404 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3203) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “(1) Within” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking “(2)(A) Any” and inserting the following:

“(2) INVESTIGATION OF REPORTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Any”;

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by striking “(B) Upon” and inserting the following:

“(B) FINAL WRITTEN REPORT.—On”; and

(II) by inserting “including any Federal, State, or tribal final conviction, and provide to the Federal Bureau of Investigation a copy of the report” before the period at the end; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) MAINTENANCE OF FINAL REPORTS.—The Federal Bureau of Investigation shall maintain

a record of each written report submitted under this subsection or subsection (b) in a manner in which the report is accessible to—

“(i) a local law enforcement agency that requires the information to carry out an official duty; and

“(ii) any agency requesting the information under section 408.

“(D) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, and annually thereafter, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, in coordination with the Secretary and the Attorney General, shall submit to the Committees on Indian Affairs and the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committees on Resources and the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report on child abuse in Indian country during the preceding year.

“(E) COLLECTION OF DATA.—Not less frequently than once each year, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Attorney General, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and any Indian tribe, shall—

“(i) collect any information concerning child abuse in Indian country (including reports under subsection (b)), including information relating to, during the preceding calendar year—

“(I) the number of criminal and civil child abuse allegations and investigations in Indian country;

“(II) the number of child abuse prosecutions referred, declined, or deferred in Indian country;

“(III) the number of child victims who are the subject of reports of child abuse in Indian country;

“(IV) sentencing patterns of individuals convicted of child abuse in Indian country; and

“(V) rates of recidivism with respect to child abuse in Indian country; and

“(ii) to the maximum extent practicable, reduce the duplication of information collection under clause (i).”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(e) CONFIDENTIALITY OF CHILDREN.—No local law enforcement agency or local child protective services agency shall disclose the name of, or information concerning, the child to anyone other than—

“(1) a person who, by reason of the participation of the person in the treatment of the child or the investigation or adjudication of the allegation, needs to know the information in the performance of the duties of the individual; or

“(2) an officer of any other Federal, State, or tribal agency that requires the information to carry out the duties of the officer under section 406.

“(f) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Indian Affairs and the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committees on Resources and the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report on child abuse in Indian country during the preceding year.

“(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011.”.

### SEC. 5. REMOVAL OF IMPEDIMENTS TO REDUCING CHILD ABUSE.

Section 405 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3204) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 405. REMOVAL OF IMPEDIMENTS TO REDUCING CHILD ABUSE.

“(a) STUDY.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Attorney General and the Service, shall conduct a study under which the Secretary shall identify any impediment to the reduction of child abuse in Indian country and on Indian reservations.

“(b) INCLUSIONS.—The study under subsection (a) shall include a description of—

“(1) any impediment, or recent progress made with respect to removing impediments, to reporting child abuse in Indian country;

“(2) any impediment, or recent progress made with respect to removing impediments, to Federal, State, and tribal investigations and prosecutions of allegations of child abuse in Indian country; and

“(3) any impediment, or recent progress made with respect to removing impediments, to the treatment of child abuse in Indian country.

“(c) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act Amendments of 2006, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Indian Affairs and the Judiciary of the Senate, and the Committees on Resources and the Judiciary of the House of Representatives, a report describing—

“(1) the findings of the study under this section; and

“(2) recommendations for legislative actions, if any, to reduce instances of child abuse in Indian country.”.

### SEC. 6. CONFIDENTIALITY.

Section 406 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3205) is amended to read as follows:

#### “SEC. 406. CONFIDENTIALITY.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any Federal, State, or tribal government agency that treats or investigates incidents of child abuse may provide information and records to an officer of any other Federal, State, or tribal government agency that requires the information to carry out the duties of the officer, in accordance with section 552a of title 5, United States Code, section 361 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 264), the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. 1232g), part C of title XI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320d et seq.), and other applicable Federal law.

“(b) TREATMENT OF INDIAN TRIBES.—For purposes of this section, an Indian tribal government shall be considered to be an entity of the Federal Government.”.

### SEC. 7. WAIVER OF PARENTAL CONSENT.

Section 407 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3206) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by inserting “or forensic” after “psychological”; and

(2) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

“(c) PROTECTION OF CHILD.—Any examination or interview of a child who may have been the subject of child abuse shall—

“(1) be conducted under such circumstances and using such safeguards as are necessary to minimize additional trauma to the child;

“(2) avoid, to the maximum extent practicable, subjecting the child to multiple interviews during the examination and interview processes; and

“(3) as time permits, be conducted using advice from, or under the guidance of—

“(A) a local multidisciplinary team established under section 411; or

“(B) if a local multidisciplinary team is not established under section 411, a multidisciplinary team established under section 410.”.

### SEC. 8. CHARACTER INVESTIGATIONS.

Section 408 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3207) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting “, including any voluntary positions,” after “authorized positions”; and

(ii) by striking the comma at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by inserting “(including in a volunteer capacity)” after “considered for employment”; and

(ii) by striking “, and” and inserting “; and”;

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “guilty to” and all that follows and inserting the following: “guilty to, any felony offense under Federal, State, or tribal law, or 2 or more misdemeanor offenses under Federal, State, or tribal law, involving—

- “(1) a crime of violence;
- “(2) sexual assault;
- “(3) child abuse;
- “(4) molestation;
- “(5) child sexual exploitation;
- “(6) sexual contact;
- “(7) child neglect;
- “(8) prostitution; or
- “(9) another offense against a child.”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(d) **EFFECT ON CHILD PLACEMENT.**—An Indian tribe that certifies that the tribe has conducted an investigation under this section shall be considered to have satisfied the background investigation requirements of any Federal law requiring such an investigation for the placement of an Indian child in a tribally-licensed or tribally-approved foster or adoptive home, or an institution.”.

#### **SEC. 9. INDIAN CHILD ABUSE TREATMENT GRANT PROGRAM.**

Section 409 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3208) is amended by striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

“(e) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011.”.

#### **SEC. 10. INDIAN CHILD RESOURCE AND FAMILY SERVICES CENTERS.**

Section 410 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3209) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “area office” and inserting “Regional Office”;

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “The Secretary” and all that follows through “Human Services” and inserting “The Secretary, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the Attorney General”;

(3) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (4), by inserting “, State,” after “Federal”; and

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking “agency office” and inserting “Regional Office”;

(4) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking the comma at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(B) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(3) adolescent mental and behavioral health (including suicide prevention and treatment).”;

(C) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at the end and inserting “and sexual assault.”; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) criminal prosecution; and

“(6) medicine.”;

(5) in subsection (f)—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking “The Secretary” and all that follows through “Human Services” and inserting the following:

“(1) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary, in consultation with the Service and the Attorney General”;

(B) in the second sentence—

(i) by striking “Each” and inserting the following

“(2) **MEMBERSHIP.**—Each”; and

(ii) by striking “shall consist of 7 members” and inserting “shall be”;

(C) in the third sentence, by striking “Members” and inserting the following:

“(3) **COMPENSATION.**—Members”; and

(D) in the fourth sentence, by striking “The advisory” and inserting the following:

“(4) **DUTIES.**—Each advisory”;

(6) in subsection (g)—

(A) in the first sentence—

(i) by striking “Indian Child” and inserting the following:

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Indian Child”; and

(ii) by striking “Act” and inserting “and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.)”;

(B) by striking the second sentence and inserting the following:

“(2) **CERTAIN REGIONAL OFFICES.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), if a Center is located in a Regional Office of the Bureau that serves more than 1 Indian tribe, an application to enter into a grant, contract, or compact under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.) to operate the Center shall contain a consent form signed by an official of each Indian tribe to be served under the grant, contract, or compact.

“(B) **ALASKA REGION.**—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), for Centers located in the Alaska Region, an application to enter into a grant, contract, or compact described in that subparagraph shall contain a consent form signed by an official of each Indian tribe or tribal consortium that is a member of a grant, contract, or compact relating to an Indian child protection and family violence prevention program under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.); and

(C) in the third sentence, by striking “This section” and inserting the following:

“(3) **EFFECT OF SECTION.**—This section”; and

(7) by striking subsection (h) and inserting the following:

“(h) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011.”.

#### **SEC. 11. INDIAN CHILD PROTECTION AND FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM.**

Section 411 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3210) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c), by striking the subsection heading and inserting “COORDINATING INVESTIGATION, TREATMENT, AND PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND FAMILY VIOLENCE”;

(2) in subsection (d)(3)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking the comma at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “, and” and inserting “; and”; and

(C) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “with respect to appropriate safety measures for child protection workers carrying out this Act” before the semicolon at the end;

(3) by redesignating subsections (f) through (i) as subsections (e) through (h), respectively; and

(4) by striking subsection (h) (as redesignated by paragraph (3)) and inserting the following:

“(h) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011.”.

#### **SEC. 12. USE OF TELEMEDICINE.**

The Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3201 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

##### **“SEC. 412. USE OF TELEMEDICINE.**

“(a) **CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS.**—The Service is authorized to enter into any contract or agreement for the use of telemedicine with a public or private medical university or facility, or any private practitioner, with experience relating to pediatrics, including the diagnosis and treatment of child abuse, to assist the Service with respect to—

“(1) the diagnosis and treatment of child abuse; or

“(2) methods of training Service personnel in diagnosing and treating child abuse.

“(b) **ADMINISTRATION.**—In carrying out subsection (a), the Service shall, to the maximum extent practicable—

“(1) use existing telemedicine infrastructure; and

“(2) give priority to Service units and medical facilities operated pursuant to grants, contracts, or compacts under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.) that are located in, or providing service to, remote areas of Indian country.

“(c) **INFORMATION AND CONSULTATION.**—On receipt of a request, for purposes of this section, the Service may provide to public and private medical universities, facilities, and practitioners described in subsection (a) any information or consultation on the treatment of Indian children who have, or may have, been subject to abuse or neglect.

“(d) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011.”.

#### **SEC. 13. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

(a) **OFFENSES COMMITTED WITHIN INDIAN COUNTRY.**—Section 1153(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting “felony child neglect,” after “robbery.”.

(b) **REPORTING OF CHILD ABUSE.**—Section 1169 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “or volunteering for” after “employed by”;

(B) in subparagraph (D)—

(i) by inserting “or volunteer” after “child day care worker”; and

(ii) by striking “worker in a group home” and inserting “worker or volunteer in a group home”;

(C) in subparagraph (E), by striking “or psychological assistant,” and inserting “psychological or psychiatric assistant, or person employed in the mental or behavioral health profession.”;

(D) in subparagraph (F), by striking “child” and inserting “individual”;

(E) by striking subparagraph (G), and inserting the following:

“(G) foster parent; or”; and

(F) in subparagraph (H), by striking “law enforcement officer, probation officer” and inserting “law enforcement personnel, probation officer, criminal prosecutor”; and

(2) in subsection (c), by striking paragraphs (3) and (4) and inserting the following:

“(3) ‘local child protective services agency’ has the meaning given the term in section 403 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3202); and

“(4) ‘local law enforcement agency’ has the meaning given the term in section 403 of that Act.”.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment at the desk be agreed to, the committee-reported amendment, as amended, be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The amendment (No. 4880) was agreed to, as follows:

On page 24, line 4, strike “extend” and insert “extent”.

On page 27, line 16, strike “or forensic” and insert “and forensic”.

On page 28, line 2, strike “interviews” and insert “interviewers”.

On page 29, strike lines 18 through 24 and insert the following:

“(d) **EFFECT ON CHILD PLACEMENT.**—An Indian tribe that submits a written statement to the applicable State official documenting that the Indian tribe has conducted a background investigation under this section for the placement of an Indian child in a tribally-licensed or tribally-approved foster care or adoptive home, or for another out-of-home placement, shall be considered to have satisfied the background investigation requirements of any Federal or State law requiring such an investigation.”.

On page 32, strike lines 8 through 16 and insert the following:

(A) by striking “(g)” and all that follows through “Indian Child Resource” and inserting the following:

“(g) APPLICATION OF INDIAN SELF-DETERMINATION AND EDUCATION ASSISTANCE ACT TO CENTERS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Indian Child Resource”;

(B) in the first sentence, by striking “Act” and inserting “and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.)”;

(C) by striking the second sentence and inserting the following:

On page 33, line 15, strike “(C)” and insert “(D)”.

On page 34, strike lines 1 through 25.

On page 35, strike lines 6 through 11 and insert the following:

“(a) DEFINITION OF MEDICAL OR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL.—In this section, the term ‘medical or behavioral health professional’ means an employee or volunteer of an organization that provides a service as part of a comprehensive service program that combines—

“(1) substance abuse (including abuse of alcohol, drugs, inhalants, and tobacco) prevention and treatment; and

“(2) mental health treatment.

“(b) CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS.—The Service is authorized to enter into any contract or agreement for the use of telemedicine with a public or private university or facility, including a medical university or facility, or any private medical or behavioral health professional, with experience relating to pediatrics, including the diagnosis and treatment of child abuse, to assist the Service with respect to—

On page 35, line 16, strike “(b)” and insert “(c)”.

On page 35, line 17, strike “(a)” and insert “(b)”.

On page 35, line 25, strike “(c)” and insert “(d)”.

On page 36, lines 1 and 2, strike “medical universities, facilities, and practitioners described in subsection (a)” and insert “universities and facilities, including medical universities and facilities, and medical or behavioral health professionals described in subsection (b)”.

On page 36, line 5, strike “(d)” and insert “(e)”.

On page 36, line 12, strike “felony child neglect,” and insert “felony child abuse, felony child neglect,”.

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended, was agreed to.

The bill (S. 1899), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1899

*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 “Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act Amendments of 2006”.

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

Section 402 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3201) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by redesignating subparagraphs (E) and (F) as subparagraphs (F) and (G), respectively; and

(ii) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following:

“(E) the Federal Government and certain State governments are responsible for investigating and prosecuting certain felony

crimes, including child abuse, in Indian country, pursuant to chapter 53 of title 18, United States Code;” and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “two” and inserting “the”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and” at the end;

(iii) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) identify and remove any impediment to the immediate investigation of incidents of child abuse in Indian country.”; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(3) provide for a background investigation for any employee or volunteer who has access to children;” and

(B) in paragraph (6), by striking “Area Office” and inserting “Regional Office”.

#### SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

Section 403 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3202) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (6) through (18) as paragraphs (7) through (19), respectively;

(2) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following:

“(6) ‘final conviction’ means the final judgment on a verdict or finding of guilty, a plea of guilty, or a plea of nolo contendere, but does not include a final judgment that has been expunged by pardon, reversed, set aside, or otherwise rendered void;”;

(3) in paragraph (13) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)), by striking “that agency” and all that follows through “Indian tribe” and inserting “the Federal, State, or tribal agency”;

(4) in paragraph (14) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)), by inserting “(including a tribal law enforcement agency operating pursuant to a grant, contract, or compact under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.))” after “State law enforcement agency”;

(5) in paragraph (18) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)), by striking “and” at the end;

(6) in paragraph (19) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(7) by adding at the end the following:

“(20) ‘telemedicine’ means a telecommunications link to an end user through the use of eligible equipment that electronically links health professionals or patients and health professionals at separate sites in order to exchange health care information in audio, video, graphic, or other format for the purpose of providing improved health care diagnosis and treatment.”.

#### SEC. 4. REPORTING PROCEDURES.

Section 404 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3203) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “(1) With-” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking “(2)(A) Any” and inserting the following:

“(2) INVESTIGATION OF REPORTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Any”;

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by striking “(B) Upon” and inserting the following:

“(B) FINAL WRITTEN REPORT.—On”; and

(II) by inserting “including any Federal, State, or tribal final conviction, and provide to the Federal Bureau of Investigation a copy of the report” before the period at the end; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) MAINTENANCE OF FINAL REPORTS.—The Federal Bureau of Investigation shall maintain a record of each written report submitted under this subsection or subsection (b) in a manner in which the report is accessible to—

“(i) a local law enforcement agency that requires the information to carry out an official duty; and

“(ii) any agency requesting the information under section 408.

“(D) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, and annually thereafter, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, in coordination with the Secretary and the Attorney General, shall submit to the Committees on Indian Affairs and the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committees on Resources and the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report on child abuse in Indian country during the preceding year.

“(E) COLLECTION OF DATA.—Not less frequently than once each year, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Attorney General, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and any Indian tribe, shall—

“(i) collect any information concerning child abuse in Indian country (including reports under subsection (b)), including information relating to, during the preceding calendar year—

“(I) the number of criminal and civil child abuse allegations and investigations in Indian country;

“(II) the number of child abuse prosecutions referred, declined, or deferred in Indian country;

“(III) the number of child victims who are the subject of reports of child abuse in Indian country;

“(IV) sentencing patterns of individuals convicted of child abuse in Indian country; and

“(V) rates of recidivism with respect to child abuse in Indian country; and

“(ii) to the maximum extent practicable, reduce the duplication of information collection under clause (i).”;

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(e) CONFIDENTIALITY OF CHILDREN.—No local law enforcement agency or local child protective services agency shall disclose the name of, or information concerning, the child to anyone other than—

“(1) a person who, by reason of the participation of the person in the treatment of the child or the investigation or adjudication of the allegation, needs to know the information in the performance of the duties of the individual; or

“(2) an officer of any other Federal, State, or tribal agency that requires the information to carry out the duties of the officer under section 406.

“(f) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Indian Affairs and the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committees on Resources and the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report on child abuse in Indian country during the preceding year.

“(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011.”.

#### SEC. 5. REMOVAL OF IMPEDIMENTS TO REDUCING CHILD ABUSE.

Section 405 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3204) is amended to read as follows:

**“SEC. 405. REMOVAL OF IMPEDIMENTS TO REDUCING CHILD ABUSE.**

“(a) **STUDY.**—The Secretary, in consultation with the Attorney General and the Service, shall conduct a study under which the Secretary shall identify any impediment to the reduction of child abuse in Indian country and on Indian reservations.

“(b) **INCLUSIONS.**—The study under subsection (a) shall include a description of—

“(1) any impediment, or recent progress made with respect to removing impediments, to reporting child abuse in Indian country;

“(2) any impediment, or recent progress made with respect to removing impediments, to Federal, State, and tribal investigations and prosecutions of allegations of child abuse in Indian country; and

“(3) any impediment, or recent progress made with respect to removing impediments, to the treatment of child abuse in Indian country.

“(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act Amendments of 2006, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Indian Affairs and the Judiciary of the Senate, and the Committees on Resources and the Judiciary of the House of Representatives, a report describing—

“(1) the findings of the study under this section; and

“(2) recommendations for legislative actions, if any, to reduce instances of child abuse in Indian country.”.

**SEC. 6. CONFIDENTIALITY.**

Section 406 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3205) is amended to read as follows:

**“SEC. 406. CONFIDENTIALITY.**

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any Federal, State, or tribal government agency that treats or investigates incidents of child abuse may provide information and records to an officer of any other Federal, State, or tribal government agency that requires the information to carry out the duties of the officer, in accordance with section 552a of title 5, United States Code, section 361 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 264), the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. 1232g), part C of title XI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320d et seq.), and other applicable Federal law.

“(b) **TREATMENT OF INDIAN TRIBES.**—For purposes of this section, an Indian tribal government shall be considered to be an entity of the Federal Government.”.

**SEC. 7. WAIVER OF PARENTAL CONSENT.**

Section 407 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3206) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by inserting “and forensic” after “psychological”; and

(2) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

“(c) **PROTECTION OF CHILD.**—Any examination or interview of a child who may have been the subject of child abuse shall—

“(1) be conducted under such circumstances and using such safeguards as are necessary to minimize additional trauma to the child;

“(2) avoid, to the maximum extent practicable, subjecting the child to multiple interviewers during the examination and interview processes; and

“(3) as time permits, be conducted using advice from, or under the guidance of—

“(A) a local multidisciplinary team established under section 411; or

“(B) if a local multidisciplinary team is not established under section 411, a multidisciplinary team established under section 410.”.

**SEC. 8. CHARACTER INVESTIGATIONS.**

Section 408 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3207) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting “, including any voluntary positions,” after “authorized positions”; and

(ii) by striking the comma at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by inserting “(including in a volunteer capacity)” after “considered for employment”; and

(ii) by striking “, and” and inserting “; and”;

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “guilty to” and all that follows and inserting the following: “guilty to, any felony offense under Federal, State, or tribal law, or 2 or more misdemeanor offenses under Federal, State, or tribal law, involving—

“(1) a crime of violence;

“(2) sexual assault;

“(3) child abuse;

“(4) molestation;

“(5) child sexual exploitation;

“(6) sexual contact;

“(7) child neglect;

“(8) prostitution; or

“(9) another offense against a child.”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(d) **EFFECT ON CHILD PLACEMENT.**—An Indian tribe that submits a written statement to the applicable State official documenting that the Indian tribe has conducted a background investigation under this section for the placement of an Indian child in a tribally-licensed or tribally-approved foster care or adoptive home, or for another out-of-home placement, shall be considered to have satisfied the background investigation requirements of any Federal or State law requiring such an investigation.”.

**SEC. 9. INDIAN CHILD ABUSE TREATMENT GRANT PROGRAM.**

Section 409 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3208) is amended by striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

“(e) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011.”.

**SEC. 10. INDIAN CHILD RESOURCE AND FAMILY SERVICES CENTERS.**

Section 410 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3209) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “area office” and inserting “Regional Office”;

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “The Secretary” and all that follows through “Human Services” and inserting “The Secretary, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the Attorney General”;

(3) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (4), by inserting “, State,” after “Federal”; and

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking “agency office” and inserting “Regional Office”;

(4) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking the comma at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(B) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(3) adolescent mental and behavioral health (including suicide prevention and treatment);”;

(C) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at the end and inserting “and sexual assault;”;

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) criminal prosecution; and

“(6) medicine.”;

(5) in subsection (f)—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking “The Secretary” and all that follows through

“Human Services” and inserting the following:

“(1) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary, in consultation with the Service and the Attorney General”;

(B) in the second sentence—

(i) by striking “Each” and inserting the following

“(2) **MEMBERSHIP.**—Each”; and

(ii) by striking “shall consist of 7 members” and inserting “shall be”;

(C) in the third sentence, by striking “Members” and inserting the following:

“(3) **COMPENSATION.**—Members”; and

(D) in the fourth sentence, by striking “The advisory” and inserting the following:

“(4) **DUTIES.**—Each advisory”;

(6) in subsection (g)—

(A) by striking “(g)” and all that follows through “Indian Child Resource” and inserting the following:

“(g) **APPLICATION OF INDIAN SELF-DETERMINATION AND EDUCATION ASSISTANCE ACT TO CENTERS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Indian Child Resource”;

(B) in the first sentence, by striking “Act” and inserting “and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.)”;

(C) by striking the second sentence and inserting the following:

“(2) **CERTAIN REGIONAL OFFICES.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), if a Center is located in a Regional Office of the Bureau that serves more than 1 Indian tribe, an application to enter into a grant, contract, or compact under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.) to operate the Center shall contain a consent form signed by an official of each Indian tribe to be served under the grant, contract, or compact.

“(B) **ALASKA REGION.**—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), for Centers located in the Alaska Region, an application to enter into a grant, contract, or compact described in that subparagraph shall contain a consent form signed by an official of each Indian tribe or tribal consortium that is a member of a grant, contract, or compact relating to an Indian child protection and family violence prevention program under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.)”;

(D) in the third sentence, by striking “This section” and inserting the following:

“(3) **EFFECT OF SECTION.**—This section”; and

(7) by striking subsection (h) and inserting the following:

“(h) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011.”.

**SEC. 11. USE OF TELEMEDICINE.**

The Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3201 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“SEC. 412. USE OF TELEMEDICINE.**

“(a) **DEFINITION OF MEDICAL OR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL.**—In this section, the term ‘medical or behavioral health professional’ means an employee or volunteer of an organization that provides a service as part of a comprehensive service program that combines—

“(1) substance abuse (including abuse of alcohol, drugs, inhalants, and tobacco) prevention and treatment; and

“(2) mental health treatment.

“(b) CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS.—The Service is authorized to enter into any contract or agreement for the use of telemedicine with a public or private university or facility, including a medical university or facility, or any private medical or behavioral health professional, with experience relating to pediatrics, including the diagnosis and treatment of child abuse, to assist the Service with respect to—

“(1) the diagnosis and treatment of child abuse; or

“(2) methods of training Service personnel in diagnosing and treating child abuse.

“(c) ADMINISTRATION.—In carrying out subsection (b), the Service shall, to the maximum extent practicable—

“(1) use existing telemedicine infrastructure; and

“(2) give priority to Service units and medical facilities operated pursuant to grants, contracts, or compacts under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.) that are located in, or providing service to, remote areas of Indian country.

“(d) INFORMATION AND CONSULTATION.—On receipt of a request, for purposes of this section, the Service may provide to public and private universities and facilities, including medical universities and facilities, and medical or behavioral health professionals described in subsection (b) any information or consultation on the treatment of Indian children who have, or may have, been subject to abuse or neglect.

“(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011.”

#### SEC. 12. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) OFFENSES COMMITTED WITHIN INDIAN COUNTRY.—Section 1153(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting “felony child abuse, felony child neglect,” after “robbery.”

(b) REPORTING OF CHILD ABUSE.—Section 1169 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “or volunteering for” after “employed by”;

(B) in subparagraph (D)—

(i) by inserting “or volunteer” after “child day care worker”; and

(ii) by striking “worker in a group home” and inserting “worker or volunteer in a group home”;

(C) in subparagraph (E), by striking “or psychological assistant,” and inserting “psychological or psychiatric assistant, or person employed in the mental or behavioral health profession.”;

(D) in subparagraph (F), by striking “child” and inserting “individual”;

(E) by striking subparagraph (G), and inserting the following:

“(G) foster parent; or”; and

(F) in subparagraph (H), by striking “law enforcement officer, probation officer” and inserting “law enforcement personnel, probation officer, criminal prosecutor”;

(2) in subsection (c), by striking paragraphs (3) and (4) and inserting the following:

“(3) ‘local child protective services agency’ has the meaning given the term in section 403 of the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act (25 U.S.C. 3202); and

“(4) ‘local law enforcement agency’ has the meaning given the term in section 403 of that Act.”

#### PRESERVING EXISTING JUDGESHIPS ON THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 559, S. 2068.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2068) to preserve existing judgeships on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

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

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

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

The bill (S. 2068) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2068

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

#### SECTION 1. COMPOSITION OF SUPERIOR COURT.

Section 903 of title 11 of the District of Columbia Code is amended by striking “fifty-eight” and inserting “61”.

#### PETS EVACUATION AND TRANSPORTATION STANDARDS ACT OF 2005

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3858 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3858) to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to ensure that State and local emergency preparedness operational plans address the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals following a major disaster or emergency.

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

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the amendment at the desk be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the measure be printed in the RECORD.

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

The amendment (No. 4881) was agreed to, as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006”.

#### SEC. 2. STANDARDS FOR STATE AND LOCAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS OPERATIONAL PLANS.

Section 613 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5196b) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (h); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (f) the following:

“(g) STANDARDS FOR STATE AND LOCAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS OPERATIONAL PLANS.—In approving standards for State and local emergency preparedness operational plans pursuant to subsection (b)(3), the Director shall ensure that such plans take into account the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals prior to, during, and following a major disaster or emergency.”

#### SEC. 3. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS MEASURES OF THE DIRECTOR.

Section 611 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5196) is amended—

(1) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking the period and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) plans that take into account the needs of individuals with pets and service animals prior to, during, and following a major disaster or emergency.”; and

(2) in subsection (j)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (8) as paragraphs (3) through (9), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

“(2) The Director may make financial contributions, on the basis of programs or projects approved by the Director, to the States and local authorities for animal emergency preparedness purposes, including the procurement, construction, leasing, or renovating of emergency shelter facilities and materials that will accommodate people with pets and service animals.”

#### SEC. 4. PROVIDING ESSENTIAL ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS WITH HOUSEHOLD PETS AND SERVICE ANIMALS FOLLOWING A DISASTER.

Section 403(a)(3) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170b(a)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (H), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (I), by striking the period and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(J) provision of rescue, care, shelter, and essential needs—

“(i) to individuals with household pets and service animals; and

“(ii) to such pets and animals.”.

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill (H.R. 3858), as amended, was read the third time and passed.

#### VETERANS' CHOICE OF REPRESENTATION ACT OF 2006

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 540, S. 2694.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2694) to amend title 38, United States Code, to remove certain limitations on attorney representation of claimants for veterans benefits in administrative proceedings before the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

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