have gone unpaid for their services due to bankruptcy of the corporation and an error in the Navy’s disbursement of monies due the corporation.

I am introducing the amendment in response to constituent requests. In addition, the Navy is willing to make the needed payments. The legislative authority is needed to disburse the funds.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the full Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet on Tuesday, June 16, 1998, at 10 a.m. in open session, to consider the nominations of Mr. Louis E. Caldera, to be Secretary of the Army and Mr. Daryl Jones, to be secretary of the Air Force.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Tuesday, June 16, 1998, at 2:30 p.m. on music lyrics.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 16, 1998, at 10 a.m., 2:30 p.m., and 4 p.m. to hold three hearings.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 16, 1998, at 10 a.m. in room 216 of the Senate Hart office building to hold a hearing on: ‘Mergers and Corporate Consolidation in the New Economy.’

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

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Water and Power of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 16, for purposes of conducting a subcommittee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 2:30 p.m. The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1398, the Irrigation Project Contract Extension Act of 1997; S. 2041, a bill to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act; S. 2043, an Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the design, planning, and construction of the Willow Lake Natural Treatment System Project for the reclamation and reuse of water, and for other purposes; S. 2067, the Wellton-Mohawk Title Transfer Act of 1998; S. 2140, a bill to amend the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the design, planning, and construction of the Denver Water Reuse project; S. 2142, the Pine River Project Conveyance Act; H.R. 2165, an Act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act applicable to the construction of FERC Project Number 3862 in the State of Iowa, and for other purposes; H.R. 2217, an Act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act applicable to the construction of FERC Project Number 9248 in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes; and H.R. 2841, an Act to extend the time required for the construction of a hydroelectric project.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TELEMARKETING FRAUD

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I would like to say a few words on the subject of telemarketing fraud. In particular, I will discuss the problem of telemarketing fraud, the House and Senate telemarketing fraud bills, and the United States Sentencing Commission’s recently proposed amendments to the sentencing guidelines.

At the outset, I would like to commend Representative Goodlatte for his sponsorship of H.R. 1847 and for his leadership in combating telemarketing fraud.

TELEMARKETING FRAUD IS A SERIOUS PROBLEM

Mr. President, I would like to take a few minutes to describe the severity of the problem of telemarketing fraud. According to Maryland Attorney General J. Joseph Curran, Jr., telemarketing fraud is probably the fastest growing illegal activity in this country. Senior citizens appear to be the most vulnerable to chicanery of this kind. Fred Schulte, an investigating editor for the Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel and an expert on telemarketing fraud, has pointed out that senior citizens are often too polite or too lonely not to listen to the voice on the other end of the line. As one telemarketing con man who has worked all over the country put it: “People are so lonely, so tired of life, they can’t wait for the phone to ring. It’s worth the $300 to $400 to make the phone ring that they got a friend. That’s what you play on.”

These criminals prey on the vulnerable of our society. In one case, Nevada authorities arrested a Las Vegas telemarketer on a charge of attempted theft. The telemarketer was convicted of trying to persuade a 92-year-old Kansas man who had been fraudulently declared the winner of $100,000 to send $1,900 by Western Union in advance to...
collect his prize. Another example: a Maine company showed real telemarketing creativity. For $250, the so-called Consumer Advocate Group offered to help consumers recover money lost to fraudulent telemarketers—but it provided no services, according to Wisconsin Attorney General James Doyle, who sued the Maine firm plus four other telemarketers.

In 1996, more than 400 individuals were arrested by law-enforcement officials working on Operation Senior Sentinel. Retired law-enforcement officers and volunteers, recruited by AARP, went undercover to record sales pitches from dishonest telemarketers. Volunteers from the 2-year-long Operation Senior Sentinel discovered various telemarketing schemes. Some people were victimized by phony charities or investment schemes. Others were taken in by so-called premium promotions in which people were guaranteed to win a car or five valuable prizes. But they were induced to buy an overpriced product in exchange for a cheap prize. One of the most vicious scams preyed on those who already had lost money. Some telemarketers charged a substantial fee for the money for those who had already been victimized previously—and proceeded to renego on the promised assistance. By the time the dust settled, it took the Justice Department, the FBI, the FTC, a dozen U.S. attorneys and state attorneys general, the Postal Service, the IRS, and the Senate to Service to arrest over 400 tele-marketers in five states, including my home state of Arizona.

Clearly telemarketing fraud is on the rise. It is estimated that eight out of ten households are targets for telemarketing scams that bilk us of up to $40 billion annually. There are many seniors in my state and across the country who must be protected against this type of fraudulent activity. According to General Renual, it is not uncommon for senior citizens to receive as many as five or more high-pressure phone calls a day. Mr. President, malicious criminal activity like this must be punished appropriately.

The House and Senate have passed bills which direct the U.S. Sentencing Commission to increase penalties for telemarketing fraud. The Senate-passed bills provide for substantially increased penalties for those convicted of telemarketing fraud offenses. I repeat: substantially increased penalties. This language was carefully chosen; a two level increase is not substantial. The Senate-passed bill also requires the Commission to "provide an additional appropriate sentencing enhancement if the offense involved sophisticated means, including but not limited to sophisticated concealment efforts, such as perpetrating the offense from outside the United States." For the House-passed bill requires the Commission to provide an additional appropriate sentencing enhancement for cases in which a large number of vulnerable victims . . . are affected by a fraudulent scheme or schemes. These provisions were carefully crafted to ensure that perpetrating telemarketing scams would be severely punished.

The United States Sentencing Commission recently issued an amendment that would increase by two offense levels—the smallest possible increase—the penalties for fraud offenses that use mass-marketing to carry out fraud. The amendment would also provide a two level enhancement in the fraud guideline if (i) the defendant relocated, or participated in relocating, a fraudulent scheme to another jurisdiction to evade law enforcement or regulatory officials; (ii) a substantial part of a fraudulent scheme was committed from outside the United States; or (iii) the offense otherwise involved sophisticated concealment.

These proposed amendments are a step in the right direction, but the step is too small. In addition to these enhancements, the Sentencing Commission should, as the Senate-passed bill says, substantially increase the penalties for telemarketing fraud.

CONCLUSION

Telemarketing fraud is a serious problem. The Sentencing Guidelines should reflect this but they do not. From the House- and Senate-passed bills, it should have been clear to the Sentencing Commission that Congress wanted significant increases in the guidelines, not the minor ones included in the Commission’s proposed amendments.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS RETIRING PRESIDENT, BECKY CAIN

• Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Becky Cain as she prepares to retire from an outstanding six year term as president of the League of Women Voters. Becky Cain has shown remarkable leadership for the League and her community of Charleston, West Virginia as well as a strong dedication for the well being of the people of her state and her nation.

For generations, the League of Women Voters has had a tradition of working for campaign finance reform, defending the National Voter Registration Act, working for consumer protection legislation for health care, ensuring strong representation for seniors by protecting and enhancing Medicare, and protecting Clean Air standards, and strengthening the United Nations by providing adequate funding. This is an organization of leaders, and Becky Cain is certainly a great leader among leaders.

As the volunteer head of the League of Women Voters, Becky Cain has been a vocal spokesperson for citizens' interests in government. Under her direction, the League has been the leader in the passage of the National Voter Registration Act and has been stalwart in continuing efforts to preserve and strengthen this important legislation.

Under her leadership one of the priorities of the League has been a comprehensive, nationwide campaign entitled, "Making Democracy Work." This effort, involving different branches of the League and civic leaders, in over 1,000 communities across the nation, is a long term effort to engage citizens in the important issues affecting them, to strengthen our democracy at the community level as well as bringing a diverse group of citizens together to face a larger challenge that faces us as a nation.

Finally, I would like to thank Becky Cain and volunteers like her who give of themselves so selflessly for the good of their community, their state, and our nation.

RUTHERFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

• Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. President, on May 30, the Rutherford Elementary School Memorial Committee commemorated the history of the Rutherford Elementary School. I rise today to mark the closing of this building.

The community of Rutherford has been served by 89 years by the current elementary school, which is scheduled for demolition. Amidst music, civic organizational displays, and food vendors, students past and present gathered to mark the closing of this building. Members of Rutherford's first class still fondly reminisce about the "good old days."

Mr. President, the Rutherford Elementary School symbolizes strength of their community, their state, and of themselves so selflessly for the good of their community, their state, and our nation.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF GREENWICH SCHOOL AGED CHILD CARE, INC.

• Mr. DODD, Mr. President, I rise today in honor of the tenth anniversary of the founding of Greenwich School Age Child Care in my home state of Connecticut.

As you know, child care has been a top legislative priority for me during my tenure in the Senate. After numerous hearings, debates, forums, and even passage of the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act that I authored in 1990, I know that our country's working families continue to struggle with the issue of child care.

Thousands of low-income children are