

delay would unnecessarily put the woman's health at risk.

Mr. President, opponents to the amendment argue that many Americans oppose abortion and that their tax dollars should not be used to support this medical procedure. But health benefits are earned benefits, they are a part of compensation package for all Federal employees. We do not judge the way Federal employees spend their earned income—it is their right to make that decision. Neither should we judge or restrict their choice of insurance plan. Taxpayer money goes to Federal workers to compensate them for the job they do. Part of that compensation is comprehensive health insurance that covers legal medical procedures.

Others speaking against this amendment have argued that those Federal employees who are morally opposed to abortion and should not have to contribute to plans that cover the service. They argue that providing coverage under the FEHBP forces federally employed abortion opponents to contribute to others' insurance coverage through their health insurance premiums. But only about half of the FEHBP plans provide coverage for this medical procedure, so those who do not want to participate in a plan that covers this reproductive health services have ample alternatives.

We should not, de facto, make reproductive health decisions for any woman who is employed by or is a dependent of an employee of the Federal Government. Her reproductive health decisions should be a decision made by her and her health professional. I regret the Senate adopted the Nickles amendment.●

FREDDIE MAC'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I rise to offer my congratulations to the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation as it celebrates its 25th anniversary. The Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, known as Freddie Mac, has served as a vital source of mortgage capital for 2½ decades.

Since its Congressional charter in 1970, Freddie Mac has purchased over \$1.2 trillion in mortgage loans. After purchase, mortgage loans are packaged into securities and sold to investors. Freddie Mac has developed an efficient and liquid secondary mortgage market that has ensured a continuous and reliable flow of funds to the primary mortgage market.

Freddie Mac steadfastly continues to fulfill its important mission to make a reality of the American dream of decent, safe and affordable housing. Since its creation, Freddie Mac has assisted 16 million hard working American families by financing one out of every six homes in the United States. This is a tremendous accomplishment which deserves our commendation.

Freddie Mac is working to enhance the existing mortgage finance delivery

system through efforts to ensure fair lending, revitalize neighborhoods and expand affordable housing opportunities. These efforts should enable Freddie Mac to continue to serve Americans for generations to come.

It is with pleasure that I recognize the success story of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation. I applaud Freddie Mac for a job well done and wish them a happy anniversary.●

COMMEMORATION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

● Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, the enfranchisement of women 75 years ago contributed to remarkable changes in the lives and well being, not just of women in our society, but of our Nation as a whole.

On August 26 our Nation will celebrate the 75th anniversary of the 19th amendment to the Constitution. With the passage of this amendment, over a century after ratification of the U.S. Constitution, the right to vote was extended to women.

This occasion is a time to reflect upon the many contributions made by women as a result of being enfranchised to vote, and I am proud to say that I am both a beneficiary of this historic amendment and a product of its legacy.

In seeking the right to vote, the women who preceded me in political arena sought more than mere representation at the polls. Gaining the right to vote was the first critical step toward women becoming full and equal partners in every aspect of American society.

The 19th amendment, in addition to enfranchising women, was a tacit declaration of a woman's right to hold office. In the first elections held after the ratification of the 19th amendment, women won public office in 23 States.

The impact of women voting was felt even before the 19th amendment was ratified. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson, embroiled in a hotly contested reelection campaign, faced the first known gender-gap in a Presidential election. At the time, there were 12 States which allowed women to vote, and the newly formed Women's Party had mounted an aggressive campaign in those States to defeat Wilson because of his stiff opposition to women's suffrage. In Illinois, the only State where votes were tallied by sex, women voted against Wilson by a ratio of 2 to 1. And, in California, another equal suffrage State, Wilson won by only .3 percent of the vote. The women's vote nearly cost Woodrow Wilson the election.

Although the Women's Party could not deny President Wilson a second term, an important goal had been accomplished—women were noticed as a significant force at the polls. Democrats put out as much campaign literature on women's suffrage that year as they did on peace.

Today, although still grossly underrepresented in numbers, women hold office in all levels of government. Fifty-five women serve in Congress today, including 7 in the U.S. Senate. Women hold the office of mayor in 178 cities with populations larger than 30,000. And, since 1925, 13 women have served as Governor of their State.

In the past 75 years numerous women have broken the glass ceiling with many firsts. Janet Reno as the first woman Attorney General; Hazel O'Leary as the first woman Secretary of Energy; Jeane Kirkpatrick as the first woman Ambassador to the United Nations; Sandra Day O'Connor as the first woman Supreme Court Justice. I look forward to the day, however, when women no longer make news for being the first appointed, but for what they do. Then our Nation can say we have attained the level of equality the voters of 75 years ago began working toward.

As a Member of the U.S. Senate, I stand before you as a direct descendant of the tireless efforts of Alice Paul, Lucy Burns and Dorothy Day—women who went to prison for picketing for the right to vote. These trailblazers, and many others whose names have escaped the history books, devoted their lives to make women full and equal partners in American society.

I know that with every vote I cast as a Member of this body, I honor their legacy. It is in recognition of those women, and the progress made over the last 75 years, that we commemorate the 75th anniversary of the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution.●

ACADEMY OF RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION

● Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I rise today to support and recognize the significant achievements of the Academy of Residential Construction [ARC], a major training effort in my State to teach noncollege bound high school students a trade in the homebuilding industry. As ARC prepares for its second year of skilled carpentry framer training, it is refreshing to see a partnership that is free from Government funds and enthusiastically embraced by both the business community and educators.

ARC is an ambitious collaboration between William H. Turner Technical Arts High School, the Builders Association of South Florida, the Latin Builders Association, Inc., the Home Builders Institute, PAVE, and the Education and Training Foundation. Through ARC, secondary students, many of whom are disadvantaged, work with south Florida's leading educators, builders, manufacturers, and suppliers to learn homebuilding from the ground up. With the help of the Fannie Mae Foundation, these partners have developed the Nation's first and only high school construction training program

designed by builders and educators specifically to meet builder's needs.

Students enrolled in ARC receive approximately 1,100 hours of multidimensional training which include classroom, shop, laboratory, and worksite instruction during grades 9 through 12. Having passed builder approved standards and upon graduation, ARC students are certified as skilled in carpentry framing.

It is refreshing to see a community and the entire homebuilding industry actively involved in a program that helps make students immediately employable once they graduate high school. I am very proud of Miami's ARC Program and the financial commitment made by the Fannie Mae Foundation to train the next generation of homebuilders.●

AMT DEPRECIATION RELIEF ACT OF 1995

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the full text of the AMT Depreciation Relief Act of 1995, S. 1160, as introduced on August 10, 1995, be printed in the RECORD.

The text of the bill follows:

S. 1160

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

SECTION 1. ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX DEPRECIATION DETERMINED UNDER REGULAR TAX RULES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Clause (i) of section 56(a)(1)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to depreciation) is amended by inserting “and before January 1, 1995” after “December 31, 1986”.

(b) ACE PREFERENCE.—Subparagraph (A) of section 56(g)(4) of such Code is amended by striking clause (iv), by redesignating clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) as clauses (ii), (iii), and (iv), respectively, and by inserting before clause (ii) the following new clause:

“(i) PROPERTY PLACED IN SERVICE BEFORE 1981 AND AFTER 1994.—In the case of property not described in clause (ii), (iii), or (iv), the amount allowable as depreciation or amortization with respect to such property shall be determined in the same manner as for purposes of computing taxable income.”

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Clause (ii) of section 56(g)(4)(A) of such Code, as redesignated by subsection (b), is amended—

(1) by inserting “and before 1995” after “after 1989” in the heading and the text, and

(2) by striking “after December 31, 1993” and inserting “during 1994”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 1994.●

INSTALLATION OF GEORGE SHAFFER AS PRESIDENT OF THE INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENTS OF AMERICA

● Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I rise today to commend a fellow New Mexican and a dear friend, George Shaffer of Albuquerque, who will be installed as president of the Independent Insurance Agents of America [IIAA] next month in Las Vegas.

George has always been successful at any endeavor he sets out to accom-

plish. He has enjoyed a long and distinguished career as an independent insurance agent. His service to his State, community, national association and State association, and the Independent Insurance Agents of New Mexico, is equally long and impressive. After holding several elective offices in the New Mexico State association, George began his service to the national organization by serving as New Mexico's representative to IIAA's national board of State directors from 1982 to 1990.

He also served on IIAA's government affairs committee for 6 years, including 3 years as its chairman. In recognition of his outstanding personal contributions in government affairs arena, the IIAA presented him with its prestigious Sidney O. Smith Award in 1990. The Smith Award is presented to an individual in recognition of their outstanding personal contributions in government affairs activities.

George was elected to IIAA's executive committee in Chicago in 1990. In the time since, he has exhibited a spirit of dedication and concern for his 300,000 colleagues around the country.

George's selfless attitude also extends to his involvement in State and local community activities. He served as a New Mexico State senator, chairman of the State's Better Business Bureau, and a member of that group's executive committee. In addition, George served a 4-year term as the lay member of the New Mexico Real Estate Commission. For the past 15 years he has served as a trustee of the Albuquerque Academy, a 6th through 12th grade privately endowed school.

The members of the IIAA have a great leader to lead their organization, and it will be a distinct pleasure for me to work with George Shaffer over the coming year as he serves as president of the Nation's largest insurance association.

I have complete confidence that George will serve with distinction and provide strong leadership as president of the Independent Insurance Agents of America. I wish him all the best as IIAA president.●

WACO HEARINGS

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I just wanted to take a few moments in morning business today to comment on the Waco hearings completed 2 weeks ago in the other body.

Whatever one thinks of the manner in which those hearings were conducted or, indeed, about what happened at Waco itself, several important facts bear noting. Federal law enforcement agents risked their lives there, as they do every day and four of them died enforcing a search warrant authorized by a Federal court order. These are the same Federal agents who walk the most dangerous streets in America investigating crimes and arresting violent, conscience-less thugs; these are the same agents who have infiltrated the most vicious organized crime

groups and shut them down; these are the same agents who have captured kidnappers and rescued the kidnapped; these are the same agents to whom we look when terrorists construct bombs and explode them in our midst.

In our horror at the conflagration and deaths at Waco, we should not forget who those agents were and are.

In addition, in too many of the discussions of what happened at Waco, there seems to be a blurring of who set in motion the horrible cycle of violence and death. There is a tendency on the part of some to hold everyone equally responsible for those nightmarish hours because Federal law enforcement agents and their supervisors made mistakes—mistakes they have acknowledged and, most importantly, have taken steps not to repeat. We cannot forget that those mistakes were of an entirely different character and magnitude that those of David Koresh.

Indeed, the person who is most responsible for what happened at Waco is dead. His death should not justify discounting his responsibility for what happened and somehow equating his behavior with the actions of Federal law enforcement agencies.

It is David Koresh who stockpiled automatic weapons and established an arsenal large enough to start a war. It is he who fired first. It is he who abused some of his followers, psychologically and sexually, including a 10-year-old girl. It is he who shot and killed some of his followers and it is he who started the fire that killed so many others.

The hearings in the other body served some good purposes. It reminded people what kind of person the Federal agents on the scene were dealing with. It reminded everyone that these agents must make life-and-death decisions on a daily basis on limited, sometimes conflicting information. It reminded everyone that they are human, and so embody all the frailties and nobility of human beings of good will.

Somehow in the understandable concern about whether Federal agents had overreacted or acted too quickly at Waco, those points were too often overlooked. Our Federal law enforcement officers are some of the bravest, most extraordinary citizens I know. They deserve our respect and our gratitude.●

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF FREDDIE MAC

● Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I am pleased to commemorate the 25th anniversary of what can only be described as a truly outstanding congressional success story. On July 24, 1970, Congress took a bold and innovative approach to helping millions of families across this Nation achieve the American dream of home ownership by creating the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, better known as Freddie Mac.

Freddie Mac was created to address fundamental problems in our mortgage