

than that embodied in the bill we introduce today. Again, I have no objection to the House alternative.

Mr. President, in closing, I note that the administration is supportive of this legislation and of making the program permanent. According to a recent administration report in support of extending FTCA coverage: "Our experience to date * * * is sufficiently positive that we believe that it is advisable to adopt FTCA coverage without a time limitation, rather than to continue to insert sunset provisions."

The legislation that Senator KENNEDY and I are introducing today will result in the delivery of more public health services to underserved areas throughout the country, whether these areas are urban or rural. It is no secret to my colleagues that I am a tremendous fan of the work that CHC's are doing, especially in Utah, and I think it behooves the Congress to give them this added tool to help improve health care services in areas in which access has traditionally suffered.

At the bottom line, the 1992 legislation achieved more public health bang-for-the-buck and should be made permanent.

It is important that a bill be acted upon in the near future to extend coverage so that centers will know whether or not they have to purchase private coverage for 1996. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to support a permanent extension of the legislation authorizing Federal Tort Claims Act coverage of community health centers.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 881

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Minnesota [Mr. GRAMS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 881, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify provisions relating to church pension benefit plans, to modify certain provisions relating to participants in such plans, to reduce the complexity of and to bring workable consistency to the applicable rules, to promote retirement savings and benefits, and for other purposes.

S. 901

At the request of Mr. BENNETT, the name of the Senator from New Mexico [Mr. DOMENICI] was added as a cosponsor of S. 901, 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 certain water reclamation and re-use projects and desalination research and development projects, and for other purposes.

S. 1166

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Tennessee [Mr. FRIST] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1166, a bill to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, to improve the registration of pes-

ticides, to provide minor use crop protection, to improve pesticide tolerances to safeguard infants and children, and for other purposes.

S. 1289

At the request of Mr. KYL, the name of the Senator from Alaska [Mr. MURKOWSKI] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1289, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to clarify the use of private contracts, and for other purposes.

S. 1360

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Illinois [Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1360, a bill to ensure personal privacy with respect to medical records and health care-related information, and for other purposes.

S. 1392

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Maine [Ms. SNOWE] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1392, a bill to impose temporarily a 25-percent duty on imports of certain Canadian wood and lumber products, to require the administering authority to initiate an investigation under title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930 with respect to such products, and for other purposes.

S. 1414

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Maine [Mr. COHEN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1414, a bill to ensure that payments during fiscal year 1996 of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities, of dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of such veterans, and of other veterans benefits are made regardless of Government financial shortfalls.

S. 1429

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Nebraska [Mr. KERREY] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1429, a bill to provide clarification in the reimbursement to States for federally funded employees carrying out Federal programs during the lapse in appropriations between November 14, 1995, through November 19, 1995.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 43

At the request of Mr. HELMS, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin [Mr. FEINGOLD], the Senator from Rhode Island [Mr. PELL], the Senator from New York [Mr. MOYNIHAN], and the Senator from Illinois [Mr. SIMON] were added as cosponsors of Senate Joint Resolution 43, a joint resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding Wei Jingsheng; Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, the next Panchen Lama of Tibet; and the human rights practices of the Government of the People's Republic of China.

AMENDMENT NO. 3097

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL the name of the Senator from Maryland [Ms. MIKULSKI] was added as a cosponsor of Amendment No. 3097 proposed to Senate Joint Resolution 31, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the

Constitution of the United States to grant Congress and the States the power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 12, 1995, to conduct a markup of S. 1228, Iran Foreign Oil Sanctions Act of 1995.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the full Committee on Environment and Public Works be granted permission to conduct a hearing Tuesday, December 12, at 2:30 p.m., Hearing room (SD-406) on S. 776, the Atlantic Striped Bass Conservation Act Amendments of 1995.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 12, 1995, at 2 p.m. to hold a business meeting to vote on pending items.

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Tuesday, December 12, at 2:15 p.m. for a markup on the following agenda:

NOMINATIONS

Donald S. Wasserman, to be member, Federal Labor Relations Board.

David Williams, to be Inspector General, Social Security Administration. (Sequential referral. Finance held its hearing on Thursday, November 30, and favorably reported the nominee out).

LEGISLATION

S. 1224, the Administrative Disputes Resolution Act of 1995.

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 12, 1995, for purposes of conducting a markup on S. 814, to provide for the reorganization of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and S. 1159, to establish an American Indian Policy Information Center.

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

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business be authorized to

meet the session of the Senate for a hearing on Tuesday, December 12, 1995, at 9:30 a.m., in room 428A of the Russell Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing focusing on "Proposals to Strengthen the SBIC Program."

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 12, 1995, at 2 p.m. to hold a closed briefing regarding intelligence matters.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND RECREATION

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 12, 1995, for purposes of conducting a Subcommittee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of the hearing is to consider S. 873, a bill to establish the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor; S. 944, a bill to provide for the establishment of the Ohio River Corridor Study Commission; S. 945, a bill to amend the Illinois and Michigan Canal Heritage Corridor Act of 1984 to modify the boundaries of the corridor; S. 1020, a bill to establish the Augusta Canal National Heritage Area in the State of Georgia; S. 1110, a bill to establish guidelines for the designation of National Heritage Areas; S. 1127, a bill to establish the Vancouver National Historic Reserve; and S. 1190, a bill to establish the Ohio and Erie Canal National Heritage Corridor in the State of Ohio.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO TIM COUCH

• Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, it is my pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding Kentuckian and a record-breaking quarterback. Tim Couch ended his high school football career on a high note with a 1-yard touchdown pass during the state quarterfinals. Some may wonder what is so special about this play. Well, that pass will go down in the record books as the one that put the Leslie County High School quarterback over the top as the national all-time leader in touchdown passes. In 4 years, he has thrown an amazing 12,092 yards—an accomplishment that helped earn Tim honors as National High School Player of the Year.

Leslie County is located in the mountains of eastern Kentucky. The last time the national spotlight shone on the small town of Hyden was in 1978,

when President Nixon made his first public appearance since his resignation. He was there to attend a dedication of a gym named in his honor. According to local newspapers, residents said it was an exciting day, because everyone in the nation knew about Hyden. And now history has repeated itself, but this time the spotlight is shining there because of the youth who's become known as "the pride of Hyden"—Tim Couch.

His final game as Leslie County High School quarterback was a memorable one in many ways. Besides breaking the passing record, Tim faced a consistent seven-man rush, he injured his right ankle trying to block an extra point, and he was sacked five times. But check out his numbers: he completed 17 of 34 passes for 223 yards and 2 touchdowns. After the record-breaking pass, the game came to a halt. Fans and the media stormed the field to ask Tim for autographs and interviews. Fireworks lit up the night sky, and sirens and horns filled the air. And before the game resumed, Tim was handed the game ball. What a night!

Every time Tim took to the gridiron, the entire town of Hyden flocked to Eagle Field to watch the "Air Commander" throw another pass on his way to the record books. Sports Illustrated recently did a profile of the star quarterback. In the article, Tim said of his 374 fellow Hyden residents, "everybody around here is just so happy. They all want to see me go to the NFL and become a big star. It gives me a lot of pride, the way such a small place has rallied around one person."

If you think football is his only game, think again! Not only is Tim an award-winning quarterback, he is also one of the best high school basketball players in Kentucky. He led the state in scoring last season, with 36 points a game, and he is one of the front runners in the race for Kentucky's Mr. Basketball. No wonder he's being recruited by the top colleges in the Nation. However, it is my hope that this superstar decides to stay in the Bluegrass State and make one of Kentucky's fine universities his new home.

Mr. President and my fellow Members of Congress, please join me in congratulating the "Pride of Hyden." Tim Couch has an exciting career ahead of him, and I wish him good luck in the future. Mr. President, I also ask that an article from a recent edition of Sports Illustrated be printed the RECORD.

The article follows:

PRIDE OF HYDEN

(By Steve Rushin)

Elbert Couch parks his white Ford Bronco next to another emblem of American infamy: the Richard M. Nixon Recreation Center in Hyden, Ky. "There's two kinds around here," Couch says. "There's Republicans, and there's Damn Democrats. I'm a Damn Democrat, but we're outnumbered four to one in this county."

This is Leslie County, in the mountains of eastern Kentucky's Cumberland Plateau. It was here, in 1978, that Nixon made his first

postexile public appearance, for the dedication of a grand gymnasium that honors his presidency. "Everybody knew us because of Nixon," says Leslie County High School basketball coach Ron Stidham, standing on his home court inside the Tricky Dick. "But that notoriety aside, Tim Couch has made Hyden—well, if not a household name exactly, at least people know where we are again."

Tim Couch, Elbert's son, is the best high school basketball player in Kentucky. He led the state in scoring last season, with 36 points a game as a Leslie County High junior. He is expected to be named Mr. Basketball of the Bluegrass after this season, which is why most Division I basketball coaches want to upholster Couch in their school colors come 1996.

Trouble is, Tim is also the most highly sought after football recruit in the nation, one who almost certainly will break the national record for career passing yardage this Friday night in the state quarterfinals. He is 50 yards away from breaking the mark of 11,700 set two years ago by Josh Booty of Evangel Christian High in Shreveport, La., and Couch needs only five touchdown passes to break that national record as well. "Couch is the best quarterback prospect I've seen in 17 years," drools Tom Lemming, who publishes a national recruiting newsletter. "Better than Jeff George, Ron Powlus and Peyton Manning. He reminds recruiters of John Elway." ESPN draft nitwit Mel Kiper Jr. agrees and considers Tim, who is 6'5" and 215 pounds, one of the best pro quarterback prospects in the nation. And to think that Tim is just 18.

"Everybody around here is just so happy," Tim says of Hyden (pop. 375). "They all want to see me go to the NFL and become a big star. It gives me a lot of pride, the way such a small place has rallied around one person."

Through it all Tim has remained unfailingly polite, genuinely humble and undeniably charismatic. Everywhere one goes in Kentucky, people talk about the closely-cropped Couch. He's like Gump, with a pump fake. And there's another important difference: "He's an A-B student," says Leslie County High principal Omus Shepherd. "In fact, to see him in school, you wouldn't know he's an athlete, you wouldn't know him from any other student. I don't know of any problem we've ever had out of the boy."

The boy was excused from class one afternoon early in the football season when Governor Brereton Jones came to Hyden to make Tim an honorary Kentucky Colonel, one of the youngest recipients of the state's equivalent of knighthood. The next evening the colonel threw for three touchdowns and ran for two more in a 34-27 win at Woodford County High, after which several opponents wanted a piece of him. "I saw them coming at me and thought we were in a fight," says Tim. Instead, they wanted his autograph.

The next day Tim drove 124 miles to Lexington to watch the Kentucky-Louisville football game with his folks. En route, they stopped at a diner. Recently retired Los Angeles Laker center and former Kentucky star Sam Bowie approached Tim's table to say how much he has enjoyed following Tim's career. Emboldened, Adolph Rupp's grandson Chip, who also happened to be in the diner, did the same. After the game the Couches repaired to the Lexington home of Miami Heat guard and ex-Wildcat star Rex Chapman, who simply wanted to meet Tim.

"I told him he was my hero growing up," Tim says of Chapman. "I told him how I dreamed in the backyard about filling his shoes some day at Kentucky."

"Tim used to shoot baskets outside for hours in the winter, until his fingers were