

At the time, the Clinton administration estimated that the ban on cash remittances and reduced travel would cost the Cuban economy an estimated \$150 million per year. The new actions under consideration would not affect the rest of the trade ban.

Soon after imposing the tougher sanctions, the United States entered talks with Cuba aimed at easing the immigration crisis. The two sides reached a deal in which Cuba, in return for again blocking the outflow of raft people, received a guarantee of 20,000 visas a year for its citizens to go to the United States. The administration rejected a bid by Cuba to revoke the new sanctions as part of the immigration deal.

The time has come, some U.S. officials believe, to test whether Castro is willing to make deep economic and political reforms, a senior administration official said. The administration has engaged in a low-level debate over most of the past two years on whether to try to encourage political liberalization in Cuba by engaging Castro and loosening the overall trade embargo against the island nation.

Some mid-level State Department officials and others had proposed for months that Washington engage Castro either to help avert chaos surrounding a future succession or, in case of chaos, to establish a relationship that could avoid more refugee waves.

But the White House saw no political gain for easing relations. Last fall, Secretary of State Warren Christopher said Castro would have to make political reforms before the United States could engage on such issues as the embargo, eased travel relations and diplomatic relations.

The administration, before making a "calibrated response," will be looking for wider economic reforms to establish a free market on the island as well as political reforms, including the stationing of human rights monitors on the island, the senior official said.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 3 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill; in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 925. An act to compensate owners of private property for the effect of certain regulatory restrictions.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 925. An act to compensate owners of private property for the effect of certain regulatory restrictions; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-454. A communication from the Office of the Nuclear Waste Negotiator, transmitting, pursuant to law, the final report of the Office; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-455. A communication from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report of the Office of

Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement for 1994; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-456. A communication from the Deputy Associate Director for Compliance, Royalty Management Program, Minerals Management Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, notice of the intention to make refunds of offshore lease revenues where a refund or recoupment is appropriate; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-457. A communication from the Deputy Associate Director for Compliance, Royalty Management Program, Minerals Management Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, notice of the intention to make refunds of offshore lease revenues where a refund or recoupment is appropriate; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-458. A communication from the Deputy Associate Director for Compliance, Royalty Management Program, Minerals Management Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, notice of the intention to make refunds of offshore lease revenues where a refund or recoupment is appropriate; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-459. A communication from the Deputy Associate Director for Compliance, Royalty Management Program, Minerals Management Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, notice of the intention to make refunds of offshore lease revenues where a refund or recoupment is appropriate; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-460. A communication from the General Sales Manager of the Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the availability of lentils and dry edible peas; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry.

EC-461. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, case number 93-20; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-462. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, case number 94-7; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-463. A communication from the Director of the Standards of Conduct Office, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to persons who filed DD Form 1787; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-464. A communication from the Director, Legislative Liaison, Department of the Air Force, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Air Force's portion of the 1995 Base Realignment and Closure recommendations; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-465. A communication from the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Environmental Security), transmitting, pursuant to law, notification of a delay in the submission of a report relative to environmental compliance; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-466. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Defense Commercial Telecommunications Network; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-467. A communication from the Administrator of the Panama Canal Commission, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to authorize expenditures for fiscal year 1996 for the operation and maintenance of the Panama Canal and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-468. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Economic Secu-

city, transmitting, pursuant to law, the BRAC 95 Force Structure Plan for the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-469. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1996 and 1997 for the United States Coast Guard, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

EC-470. A communication from the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance System; to the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

EC-471. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's annual report on the Automotive Fuel Economy Program; to the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

EC-472. A communication from the Acting Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report of the United States Government for fiscal year 1994; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-473. A communication from the Acting Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the quarterly report on the expenditures and need for worker adjustment assistance training funds; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-474. A communication from the Chairman of the Prospective Payment Assessment Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report of the Commission dated March 1, 1995; to the Committee on Finance.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. ROTH, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs, without recommendation without amendment:

S. 4. A bill to grant the power to the President to reduce budget authority (Rept. No. 104-13).

By Mr. ROTH, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs, without recommendation with an amendment:

S. 14. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to provide for the expedited consideration of certain proposed cancellations of budget items (Rept. No. 104-14).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. REID, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. BURNS, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. HATCH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, Mr. KYL, and Mr. PRESSLER):

S. 506. A bill to amend the general mining laws to provide a reasonable royalty from mineral activities on Federal lands, to specify reclamation requirements for mineral activities on Federal lands, to create a State program for the reclamation of abandoned hard rock mining sites on Federal lands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. PRESSLER:

S. 507. A bill to amend title 18 of the United States Code regarding false identification

documents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI (for himself, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. GORTON, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. CAMPBELL):

S. 508. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify certain provisions relating to the treatment of forestry activities; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself and Mr. BROWN):

S. 509. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an appropriate form of agreement with, the town of Grand Lake, Colorado, authorizing the town to maintain permanently a cemetery in the Rocky Mountain National Park; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. INOUE):

S. 510. A bill to extend the authorization for certain programs under the Native American Programs Act of 1974, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. DOMENICI (for himself and Mr. ABRAHAM):

S. 511. A bill to require the periodic review and automatic termination of Federal regulations; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. 512. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a 5-year extension of the medicare-dependent, small, rural hospital payment provisions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HEFLIN:

S. 513. A bill to amend chapter 23 of title 28, United States Code, to authorize voluntary alternative dispute resolution programs in Federal courts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. AKAKA:

S. 514. A bill for the relief of the heirs, successors, or assigns of Sadae Tamabayashi; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BRADLEY:

S. 515. A bill to amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act and the Poultry Products Inspection Act to provide for improved public health and food safety through the reduction of harmful substances in meat and poultry that present a threat to public health, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. HEFLIN (for himself and Mr. SHELBY):

S. 516. A bill to transfer responsibility for the aquaculture research program under Public Law 85-342 from the Secretary of the Interior to the Secretary of Agriculture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. REID, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. BURNS, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. HATCH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, Mr. KYL, and Mr. PRESSLER):

S. 506. A bill to amend the general mining laws to provide a reasonable royalty from mineral activities on Federal lands, to specify reclamation requirements for mineral activities on Federal lands, to create a State program for the reclamation of abandoned hard rock mining sites on Federal lands, and for other purposes; to the

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

MINING LAW REFORM ACT

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, in the last Congress, Members in the Senate and our colleagues in the other Chamber worked hard to reform the laws under which the U.S. mining industry operate on the vast Federal lands of the west. Members on both sides of the aisle, from all regions of the country, acknowledged that the mining law of 1872 needed change. While I was disappointed we did not pass legislation in the last Congress to reform mining law, I would have been more disappointed if Congress had accepted some of the reform proposals that were put forward at that time. The reason for my concern was the proposals offered at that time did not meet my primary test of fair legislation. That test is this country's mining industry that annually contributes approximately \$53 billion to our economy will not be driven to economic ruin nor to operate only in other countries.

Today, I am introducing, a bipartisan bill in conjunction with Chairman MURKOWSKI, Senator REID and 10 other of my colleagues. The Mining Law Reform Act of 1995, is a bill which will ensure continued mineral production in the United States. It provides for a fair economic return from minerals extracted on public lands, and will link mining practices on Federal lands to State and Federal environmental laws and land-use plans. This bill provides a balanced and equitable solution to concerns raised over the existing mining law.

Mining in the United States is an important part of our Nation's economy. It serves the national interest by maintaining a steady and reliable supply of the materials that drive our industries. Revenue from mining fuels local economies by providing family income and preserving community tax bases. Mining has become an American success story. Fifteen years ago, U.S. manufacturers were forced to rely on foreign producers for 75 percent of the gold they needed. Today, the United States is more than self-sufficient. The domestic mining industry not only meets the demand, but produces a gold surplus of 36 percent, worth \$1.5 billion in export balance of payments.

Mining, however, is a business associated with enormous up-front costs and marginal profits. Excessive royalties discourage, and in other countries have discouraged, mineral exploration. Too large a royalty would undermine the competitiveness of the mining industry. The end result of excessive Government involvement would be the movement of mining operations overseas and the loss of American jobs. The legislation I am introducing today will keep U.S. mines competitive and prevent the movement of U.S. jobs to other countries.

The general mining law is the cornerstone of U.S. mining practices. It establishes a useful relationship between

industry and Government to promote the extraction of minerals from mineral rich Federal lands. Although the cornerstone of this law was originally enacted in 1872, it remains to function effectively today. The law has been amended and revised many times since its original passage. The legislation I am introducing today preserves the solid foundation provided by this law and makes some important revisions that address the concerns that have been paramount in this debate that I have been involved in for nearly a decade.

Specifically, the Mining Law Reform Act of 1995 will insure revenue to the Federal Government by imposing fair and equitable net royalties. It requires payment of fair market value for lands to be mined. It assures lands will return to the public sector if they are not developed for mineral production, as is intended in this legislation. Furthermore, to prevent mining interests from using patented land for purposes other than mining, the bill limits residential occupancy to that which is only necessary to carry out mining activities.

To ensure mining activities do not unnecessarily degrade Federal lands, the Mining Law Reform Act mandates compliance with all Federal State and local environmental laws with regard to land use and reclamation. To enforce these provisions, the bill includes civil penalties and the authority for compliance orders.

Finally, this bill creates a program to address the environmental problems associated with abandoned mines. Working directly with the States, the Mining Law Reform Act directs one-third of the royalty receipts to abandoned mine cleanup programs; another one-third of those receipts could be used by States if they so decided.

The legislation I am proposing today is in the best interest of the American people because it provides revenue from public resources, assures mines will be developed in an environmentally sensitive manner and that abandoned mines from earlier eras will be reclaimed. It is fair to mining interests because it imposes reasonable fees and royalties. It is good for the environment because it assures land use and reclamation activities. I ask my colleagues to join me in support of this legislation and look forward to hearings and Senate legislative action.

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, I am pleased to join my colleagues today in introducing legislation to reform the mining law of 1872. I congratulate my distinguished friend, Senator LARRY CRAIG, for all of his hard work on this very important issue.

As a Senator from a State with significant mining activity, reform of the obsolete mining law of 1872 is imperative. There are currently 95 mining companies operating in the State of South Dakota, bringing in more than \$321 million in gross State revenues. Many of these are small businesses.