

and implement reuse plans for closing bases.

Until the process is fixed, however, it is not surprising that large amounts of the base closure funding remain unspent. Again, though, that does not mean that the funds are not needed. Eliminating these funds would only exacerbate the difficulty of closing bases and conveying the property to the subsequent owners in a timely fashion.

This is a painful enough process for a community that relied on the military base in its midst for jobs and economic stability. Let's not aggravate the situation by imperiling the Services' ability to complete the process as quickly as possible.

Mr. President, I understand that Senator THURMOND has received assurances from the chairman of the Appropriations Committee Subcommittee on Military Construction that the conferees on this bill will consider restoring these funds in the conference. I applaud that commitment.

I must state, however, that I support restoring these funds with one condition. I believe that the restoration of these funds must not be done at the cost of increasing the Federal deficit. I believe the \$104 million in restored funding must be fully offset by rescissions of low priority funds.

Mr. President, I had intended to offer a second degree amendment to rescind \$104 million from the administrative and travel accounts of the Federal Government.

The amendment would have provided a full offset for the cost of restoring the BRAC-related funds in the amendment of Senator THURMOND. The Senate bill already provides \$13 billion in total spending rescissions, but this is \$4 billion less than the House bill. We should not further exacerbate the shortfall in deficit reduction funds, if we can find an offsetting reduction.

I believe the reduction of \$104 million in Government administrative and travel expenses would have been an appropriate reduction. The Office of Management advised me that, in fiscal year 1995 alone, \$107.2 billion will be spent for administration and travel. The amendment would have rescinded only \$104 million from a \$107 billion account—less than one-tenth of 1 percent of the total expenditures. Out of a budget of \$107 billion, it seems quite likely that the small amount which would be rescinded by this amendment will not be devastating to the operation of any government office. One-tenth of 1 percent of the administrative and travel budget of any Federal organization should not hamper the operations of that organization.

Mr. President, the Department of Defense and the communities surrounding closing bases need the funding in the BRAC accounts to finish a job already underway. We should not rescind those funds. I believe we should rescind a minuscule portion—less than one-tenth of 1 percent—of the Federal Government's administrative and travel bud-

et to pay for these necessary BRAC-related activities.

Unfortunately, we were unable to come to agreement on the offsets I intended to propose. Therefore, Senator THURMOND has chosen to rely on the assurances he has received from Senator BURNS concerning restoring these funds in the conference. I respectfully urge the conferees to identify offsetting rescissions in other areas to pay for the restoration of these funds.

Mr. President, it is imperative that we not decrease the amount of deficit reduction in this bill. We are undertaking the daunting task of prioritizing Federal spending and reducing the Federal debt, working toward a balanced Federal budget. By eliminating unnecessary and wasteful spending of prior year appropriated funds, we can begin our review of the fiscal year 1996 budget with money in the bank.

Therefore, the conferees on this bill should ensure that an offsetting reduction is made for the restoration of these BRAC-related funds. The conference agreement should preserve at least the level of deficit reduction contained in the Senate bill, and in my view, should move toward the greater deficit reduction in the House bill. As important as this funding is for BRAC cleanup and implementation, I do not believe it should be restored at the cost of increasing the deficit.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

1994 ANNUAL REPORT ON ALASKA'S NATURAL RESOURCES—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 40

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying

report; which was referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

To the Congress of the United States:

I transmit herewith the 1994 Annual Report on Alaska's Mineral Resources, as required by section 1011 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (Public Law 96-487; 16 U.S.C. 3151). This report contains pertinent public information relating to minerals in Alaska gathered by the U.S. Geological Survey, the U.S. Bureau of Mines, and other Federal agencies.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, April 3, 1995.

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-690. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the text of international agreements other than treaties, and background statements; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-691. A message from the Chairman of the Board of the African Development Foundation, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to authorize appropriations for the African Development Foundation; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-693. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of the Treasury, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to authorize appropriations for the United States contribution to the tenth replenishment of the resources of the International Development Association; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-694. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of the Treasury, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to provide for a United States contribution to the Interest Subsidy Account of the Successor (EASF II) to the Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility of the International Monetary Fund; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-695. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration Buy America Waivers for fiscal years 1992 and 1993; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-696. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 11-31 enacted by the Council on March 7, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-697. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 11-32 enacted by the Council on March 7, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-698. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 11-34 enacted by the Council on March 7, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-699. A communication from the Special Counsel of the United States, transmitting,

pursuant to law, a report relative to the fiscal year 1994 audit and investigative activities of the Office of Special Counsel; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-700. A communication from the HUD Secretary's designee to the Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Board's internal control and financial management systems; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-701. A communication from the Chairman of the Thrift Depositor Protection Oversight Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Board's audit and investigative coverage; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-702. A communication from the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to amend chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code, to improve administration of sanctions against unfit health care providers under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-703. A communication from the Comptroller General of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a list of GAO reports released in February 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-704. A communication from the Executive Director of the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin, transmitting, pursuant to law, the statement of the Commission under the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act for fiscal year 1994; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-705. A communication from the Director of the Federal Judicial Center, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Center's annual report for 1994; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-706. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a draft of proposed legislation to amend Chapter 30 of Title 35 to afford third parties an opportunity for greater participation in reexamination proceedings before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 523. A bill to amend the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act to authorize additional measures to carry out the control of salinity upstream of Imperial Dam in a cost-effective manner, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 104-24).

By Mrs. KASSEBAUM, from the Committee on Labor and Human Resources, without amendment:

S. 641. A bill to reauthorize the Ryan White CARE Act of 1990, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 104-25).

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. AKAKA (for himself and Mr. INOUE):

S. 660. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for transportation by the Department of Defense of certain children requiring specialized medical services in the United States; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. LOTT:

S. 661. A bill to require the continued availability of \$1 Federal reserve notes for circulation; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. STEVENS (for himself and Mr. MURKOWSKI):

S. 662. A bill to implement the interim agreement for the conservation of Yukon River salmon stocks agreed to by the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Canada on February 3, 1995, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. THURMOND (for himself and Mr. HOLLINGS):

S. Res. 99. A resolution commending the 125th anniversary of Allen University, and for other purposes; considered and agreed to.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

S. 660. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for transportation by the Department of Defense of certain children requiring specialized medical services in the United States; to the Committee on Armed Services.

TRANSPORTATION FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

• Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, today I am introducing legislation that would allow the Department of Defense to provide transportation for children with disabilities seeking medical treatment in the United States. I am pleased that Senator INOUE has joined me in cosponsoring this measure.

The Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children in Honolulu currently provides free medical treatment for disabled children. However, many of these children must wait several months before funds are available for them to travel from their homes in the Pacific to Hawaii. As of February 28, 1995, Shriners Hospital had 177 Pacific rim children with disabilities seeking medical treatment.

The legislation I am introducing authorizes the Department of Defense to offer transportation, on a space available basis, to a disabled child seeking free medical treatment. The children would come from United States territories, such as American Samoa and Guam, and from countries with historic ties to the United States, including the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, Saipan, Palau, Western Samoa, and the Philippines.

Providing transportation for disabled children from these Pacific rim countries and territories will enhance the United States relationship with these entities. The goodwill generated by this initiative will contribute to our ef-

forts to be "good neighbors" in the Pacific. The cost of this measure would be nominal since transportation would be on a space-available basis.

Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to support this measure. •

By Mr. LOTT:

S. 661. A bill to require the continued availability of \$1 Federal reserve notes for circulation; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SAVE THE GREENBACK ACT

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce the following bill designed to preserve the status of the American \$1 bill. The dollar bill—also known as the American greenback—has been a staple of our currency since 1862, and since 1869 has carried the likeness of the founder of our Nation: George Washington.

During that entire period, we have never heard the American people express their disagreement, or their displeasure, with the \$1 bill. In fact, as many of you are well aware, the mere mention of any redesign of our currency inevitably triggers an onslaught of calls from constituents.

In past Congresses there have been misguided efforts by special interests to replace the \$1 bill with a coin. The proponents of this coin make three bold claims: that it will be easier to handle, that it will be popular with the American people, and that it will save money.

Let me address each of these claims in turn: Imagine if you will, replacing ten \$1 bills in your wallet with ten \$1 coins in your pocket. After several days, one might suspect a conspiracy by clothing manufacturers in drafting the dollar coin proposal. I do not know anyone who prefers a pocketful of coins to a wallet containing dollar bills.

As to the coin's so-called popularity with the American people; there have been three national polls on this issue during the past year. In every poll, the American people overwhelmingly rejected any attempt to do away with the dollar bill and have expressed their displeasure for replacing it with a coin.

The most recent poll was conducted in January, under the auspices of the House Budget Committee. Only 18 percent of those questioned preferred a dollar coin. Earlier polls have indicated a very real concern by American people that if the coin bill becomes law, the price of items purchased from vending machines such as food, laundry, and soft drinks will rise. They also expect to see increases in the costs of other everyday items such as parking meters and pay telephone calls.

Mr. President, legislation designed to eliminate the dollar bill will be an excuse by special interests to raise prices on everyday items. Eliminating the dollar bill and replacing it with a dollar coin will likely result in two things: Higher prices to consumers, and more weight in our pocket.

None of us really want to see a repeat of the Susan B. Anthony drama in