

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Finance Committee be permitted to meet Tuesday, May 9, 1995, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in room SD-215, to conduct a hearing on Medicare solvency.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON DISABILITY POLICY

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Labor and Human Resources, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 9, at 9 a.m., to conduct a hearing on "Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act."

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the subcommittee on personnel and the Subcommittee on Readiness of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, May 9, 1995, in open session, to receive testimony regarding military family housing issues in review of S. 727, the national defense authorization bill for fiscal year 1996, and the Future Years Defense Program.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SEAPOWER

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Seapower of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 9, 1995, in open session, to receive testimony on the Department of the Navy's implementation of its strategy for littoral warfare in review of S. 727, the Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1996 and the Future Years Defense Program.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SUPERFUND, WASTE CONTROL, AND RISK ASSESSMENT

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Superfund, Waste Control, and Risk Assessment be granted permission to conduct an oversight hearing Tuesday, May 9, at 9 a.m., regarding the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REGARDING IRAN

• Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss the ongoing situation in Iran.

Clearly, the situation in Iran today is one of desperation. The Iranian people, suffering the depredations of 16 years of rule by a corrupt, terrorist, regime,

deserve better. They deserve to have a government that respects the rich and dignified history of the Iranian people. Unfortunately, what they have gotten is a government that violates their human rights and has brought a formerly rich and varied economy down upon the shoulders of the people, suffocating them.

While we know that the regime in Teheran practices terrorism with great frequency throughout the world, most people forget that they also inflict terror against their own people. If they will torture and execute their own people, what respect will they have for those of other nations?

Mr. President, today we must understand one simple fact: the terrorist regime in Iran does not represent the Iranian people. It represents murder, terror, and destruction, nothing more and nothing less. The Iranian people deserve better, and they deserve freedom from the corrupt rule of the terrorist regime that calls itself the Government of Iran. •

GOVERNOR EDWARDS ON THE CONTRACT WITH AMERICA

• Mr. BREAUX. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a speech by Louisiana Gov. Edwin Edwards be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Governor Edwards recently made remarks concerning the House-passed Contract With America and its effect on Louisiana. I found Governor Edwards's remarks very informative, and I wanted to share them with my colleagues.

The speech follows:

SPEECH BY GOVERNOR EDWARDS

I have said repeatedly that I do not believe the actions of American voters last fall were an endorsement of the so-called Republican "Contract with America" so much as a general dissatisfaction with the status quo and a desire for new faces.

National surveys indicate that few voters knew anything about the contents of the so-called contract when they went to the polls, and still fewer based their votes on support for its provisions.

As the Republican Congressional leaders continue to act upon what they claim is a mandate for their so-called contract, however, it has been necessary for me as a responsible Governor of a small state (1.7 percent of U.S. population) with a large percentage of poor people to take a closer look at just what the provisions mean to the people of Louisiana.

I don't like what I see. I am convinced that Louisianians, at least, would not have voted for the contract. I am alarmed because it appears that the end result effectively will be a contract "on" the children of Louisiana and, ultimately, on the well-being of the entire state.

Neither Louisiana nor our nation can afford to balance the federal budget on the backs of its most vulnerable and its most precious resources—its children. But what makes these particular efforts even more onerous is that the cuts will not be applied to reduce the federal deficit and, thus, reduce the price these same children will be paying on behalf of the nation in the future. Rather, the cuts will be used to compensate for tax breaks to wealthy individuals and corporations.

This "contract on Louisiana children" means that while families with incomes of \$200,000 a year get tax breaks that will put cash in their pockets, many of our poor children will have food taken out of their mouths. Literally, 59,000 of Louisiana's poor children will lose school lunches; 28,500 poor children will lose meals and snacks in child-care and Head Start programs, and about 410,000 children will lose 10 percent of their food stamp benefits.

Under the welfare block grant proposal of House Speaker Newt Gingrich, Louisiana will lose about \$1.68 billion over the next five years that otherwise would be used for our children—especially those who are poor, hungry, disabled, abused or neglected, or sick.

Even setting aside the devastating human effect, the state would suffer economically. The \$1.68 billion potentially lost to the state's economy represents almost twice as much as Louisiana's annual, net income-tax revenues. The ripple effect throughout our business community—whether it be "Mom and Pop" service stations, shoe shops or grocery chains would be a disaster that would have a ruinous "trickle down" effect on our parishes and towns.

Louisiana already is struggling to meet its obligations to serve the health-care needs of our poor people under new federal Medicaid requirements that have reduced federal aid to the state and threaten to wipe out new economic gains the state is making. We cannot afford this contract on our state's economy.

And that would only be the start. Louisiana would get a smaller share of federal dollars that it does today, despite having a larger proportion of poor people than most other states and an average per-capita income that is only 80 percent of the U.S. average. History shows that block grants tend to shrink over years as the spotlight fades away from them. Further, if the national economy fell into a decline, there would be no strengthening of the assistance safety net.

And there is more. The contract threatens the 433,958 children under age 21 who received Medicaid-covered services in 1993 in Louisiana at a cost of about \$1,928 per child.

In 1991, 31,420 births were financed by Medicaid, and payments for maternity and newborn care were 4.5 percent of total Medicaid expenditures in the state. Meanwhile the infant mortality rate decreased by 22 percent between 1984 and 1992—from 12.1 to 9.4 per 1,000 live births—obviously a result of better access to health care, among other factors.

What will happen to the birth rate, to the pregnant mothers, the infants, and to our children if that access is reduced because of budget cuts? That is a campaign "contract" victory I for one would not care to claim.

I am the very embodiment of the difference a good education can make in the future of a poor child. However, if Republicans succeed with their stated intentions: 101,621 Louisiana college students—who already pay more than the Southern states' average in tuition—will pay more for student loans; 670 of Louisiana's young people will not participate in national service jobs that allow them to earn college tuition; 62 of our state's 66 school districts will lose money now available to help them make their schools safe and drug-free; 2,400 Louisiana students with special needs will lose extra help they need to learn and to succeed, and 27,000 teenagers in Louisiana will lose summer jobs.

Our young people cannot afford this "contract on their future."

And there is more: 7,460 Louisiana children are at risk of losing access to safe, affordable child care—a move which not only threatens the well-being of the children but also the

psychological well-being of the parents while they are at work; another 1,700 abused and neglected children will lose foster care; 28,500 blind and disabled children lose SSI cash assistance immediately, and 114,000 low-income children lose cash assistance.

The contract falls also on 41,531 senior citizens and families with children in our state who will lose assistance they depend upon to provide heat during the winter, and 17,747 Louisiana families who otherwise could count on an FHA loan, their only access to an affordable home loan, to help them buy their first houses.

These are only some of the disastrous effects of the contract on Louisiana that threaten the young, the weak and the poor—in short, the very people who need our help the most. I do not believe that was the intent of the American voters nor is the wish of Louisiana voters. And I do not believe it is in the best interests of either the American people or their elected representatives.

I am reminded of the words of Jesus who described in the Gospel of St. Matthew (Chapter 25, verses 44-45) how on Judgement Day those on the left hand of God would ask: 'Lord, when saw we Thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto Thee? Then shall He answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to Me.'

May I respectfully suggest as we open our ears to listen to the popular political rhetoric of tax cuts and budget balancing that we pause for a moment and open our eyes to the consequences on those who can least afford to bear the burdens which will be heaped upon them in the attempt to achieve these goals.●

TRIBUTE TO CATONS CHAPEL-RICHARDSON COVE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

● Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I rise today to commend the Catons Chapel-Richardson Cove Volunteer Fire Department in Sevierville, TN, for their dedication and service to their community. In east Tennessee's Sevier County, the county-operated fire department is often unable to reach the remote areas of Catons Chapel and Richardson Cove in time to save a burning house or building—the distance is just too great. As a result, residents in those areas of the county obtained a State charter in 1992 to create a volunteer fire department that could better serve those communities.

The fire department began with a handful of volunteers, who met in the basement of a local store to plant the development and cost of a fully operational fire department. With about \$18,000 from the county to get started, the volunteers held small fundraisers and obtained a bank loan to raise the additional money they needed to construct a firehouse and purchase fire trucks and other equipment. A local resident donated land, and in November 1993, the community broke ground for the firehouse.

Mr. President, not only did the Catons Chapel-Richardson Cove volunteers do much of the construction on the fire station themselves, they have built this entire department from the ground up. These volunteer firefighters are the true definition of public serv-

ants—they recognized a need in their community and have worked hard to satisfy it.

Now, all of that work is beginning to pay off. The fire department has 22 volunteer firefighters, most whom have been trained by the Sevier Firefighters School. The department also has three fire trucks, including one that can pump more than 1,000 gallons of water per minute, protective clothing, air packs, and experience—volunteers from the Catons Chapel-Richardson Cove department have responded to and assisted on many calls in the area.

Mr. President, the most important thing about these firefighters is that they are all volunteers. Every time the department receives a call to respond, these citizens leave their families and risk their lives to help save a neighbor's life and home or to prevent a local business from losing everything that it has. Mr. President, this country is full of dedicated public servants like the volunteers in Sevier County, but all too often, their work goes unnoticed. Today, I would like to recognize the firefighters in the Catons Chapel-Richardson Cove Volunteer Fire Department and the nine members of the department's volunteer advisory board and thank them for their efforts and dedicated service to their community.●

THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR LADY OF REDEMPTION CHURCH

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I would like to recognize an impressive milestone which will soon be achieved by a church in Warren, MI. On May 13, 1995, Our Lady of Redemption Church will celebrate its 75th anniversary. The church serves over 4,000 parishioners in the Detroit area. In fact, it is the largest Melkite-Catholic Eastern Rite Parish in the United States.

The Detroit community benefits from a number of community service activities performed by members of this historic church. Our Lady of Redemption regularly holds food drives and their contributions reach far and wide to Detroit area food banks. Parishioners provide volunteer help to area hospitals, they support the Hunger Action Coalition, and they participate in the Metro Detroit Youth Day. The parish annually donates its facilities for use by the city of Warren's Parks and Recreation Department. Not only is Our Lady of Redemption the spiritual center for its members, but the church regularly organizes activities with parishes of other denominations to interchange fellowship in the spirit of ecumenism.

Please join me in saying congratulations to an integral member of the Detroit community—Our Lady of Redemption Church. I thank the clergy and members of this church for their dedicated service and wish them many more years of fellowship.●

SUBMISSION OF MOTION ADOPTED IN THE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

● Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, pursuant to paragraph 2 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I submit for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a motion adopted in the Committee on the Budget on May 6, 1995, governing consideration of amendments during deliberations on the fiscal year 1996 budget resolution.

The motion follows:

PAY-AS-YOU-GO MOTION MAKING OUT OF ORDER AMENDMENTS THAT ARE NOT DEFICIT NEUTRAL

Motion that, during deliberations on the fiscal year 1996 budget resolution, it not be in order for the committee to consider any perfecting amendment to the Chairman's Mark that is not deficit neutral in each year as measured against that Mark or any complete substitute amendment that fails to achieve and sustain balance by fiscal year 2002 under a Unified budget; provided that the President Clinton's fiscal year 1996 budget shall be in order as a complete substitute.●

APPOINTMENTS BY THE VICE PRESIDENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276h-276k, as amended, appoints the Senator from California [Mrs. FEINSTEIN] as a member of the Senate delegation to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group during the first session of the 104th Congress, to be held in Tucson, AZ, May 12-14, 1995.

The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d-276g, as amended, appoints the Senator from Hawaii [Mr. AKAKA] as a member of the Senate delegation to the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group during the first session of the 104th Congress, to be held in Huntsville, ON, Canada, May 18-22, 1995.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS—S. 768

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from Louisiana [Mr. BREAUX], and the Senator from Oregon [Mr. PACKWOOD], be added as original cosponsors to S. 768, the Endangered Species Act Reform Amendments of 1995, which I introduced earlier today.

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

SEQUENTIAL REFERRALS—S. 776 AND H.R. 1139

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that if and when the Senate's Commerce Committee reports S. 776, a bill to authorize the Atlantic Striped Bass Conservation Act, introduced by Senators CHAFEE and KERRY, it be sequentially referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works for a period not to exceed 20 session days of the Senate;