

problems to resolve, but I am confident that citizens, communities, and the ski industry will find solutions to each challenge.

In addition to providing access to National Forests on a mass scale, the ski industry provides critical economic benefits. From the first American rope tow installed in Woodstock, VT, in 1934, to the high-speed quads on Sugarbush 60 years later, the ski industry has brought economic opportunity to Vermont towns. The 1993-1994 ski season in Vermont generated \$230 million from 4.3 million visitor days according to the Vermont Ski Area Association. These revenues translate into \$17 million in tax revenue for Vermont towns. The ski industry represents a sustainable use of national forests and a good neighbor. They deserve our support.

The Murkowski-Leahy bill refines the fee structure for ski areas on national forests. The Independent Offices Appropriations Act of 1952 and the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 both mandate that the Federal Government collect fair market value for the use of Federal property. In 1965, the Forest Service developed the graduated rate-fee system [GRFS] which is still in use today. GRFS is based on the ski area's investment in fixed assets and sales generated in nine business categories. The ski industry and the Forest Service together agree that the system is complex, outdated, inefficient, and in need of reform.

I wish we could say that the reform we propose is based on a comprehensive assessment of fair market value as current law, but such an assessment simply does not exist. Neither the General Accounting Office nor the Forest Service—or any other organization—has been able to offer assistance in developing a widely accepted assessment of fair market value. The revenue collected today is the closest approximation of fair market value, and therefore we have used the total revenue collected as the best available assessment. This bill solves the problems that we know how to solve, and does not preclude adjustments for issues that may benefit from further study.

The solution proposed in the Murkowski-Leahy bill is a simple progressive rate structure based on gross sales. Since it operates much like an annual tax form, it is easy to prepare, relatively easy to audit, and less prone to litigation. The fees are linked to the economy so ski areas can make regular and fair payments that reflect their ability to pay. The bill also has a provision to adjust the rate structure for inflation and it would be easy to amend if the public wants to adjust the ski-fee revenues up or down based on further information on fair market value.

This bill is a reasonable, balanced, and progressive bill that offers clear reform for the ski area fee system. This is basically the same bill that the Senate passed in 1992 with strong bipartisan support. I hope we can pass the S.

907 this year with equally strong support.●

SALUTING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ZYGO CORPORATION

● Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the 25th anniversary of an outstanding corporate citizen in my home state of Connecticut, the Zygo corporation. Since its inception in 1970, Zygo has become one of the foremost manufacturers of measurement instrumentation products in the world. This achievement is the result of hard work, creativity, and a highly skilled workforce.

I am proud that the State of Connecticut is home to so many talented and capable individuals. The high-tech, precision work done at Zygo and so many other companies in Connecticut is a testament to the quality workforce my State has to offer.

I am pleased to congratulate Paul Forman, Carl Zanon, and Sol Laufer, founders of Zygo Corporation, on this important milestone. Their ingenuity, foresight and commitment to a quality product enabled them to follow their dreams and launch this firm in 1970. Today, they deserve commendation on their success.

Zygo's reputation is well known throughout the country and the world. As our economy becomes increasingly high-tech, we need more companies like Zygo to provide leading edge products for a demanding market. The surface measuring instruments and precision surface manufacturing produced by Zygo contribute to a variety of products used world-wide every day.

It is with great pride and admiration that I stand today to acknowledge the 25th anniversary of the Zygo Corporation and to wish this exceptional company continued success.●

COMMEMORATING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF MOUNT ST. DOMINIC ACADEMY

● Mr. BRADLEY. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a group of students whose accomplishments are as varied as they are praiseworthy. On Thursday June 15, 1995, the young women of Mount St. Dominic Academy in Caldwell, NJ, will celebrate their championship season in three sports at their annual athletic awards dinner. With championship seasons in basketball, volleyball, and softball, the students of the Mount captured the attention of the Bergen Record as the "sports story of the year." In addition to these championship titles, the school won the New Jersey Interscholastic Athletic Association's C. Clarke Folsom Sportsmanship Award for the 1994 basketball tournament. This award is made annually to the school whose players, coaches, cheerleaders, and fans demonstrate the ideals of good sportsmanship throughout the tournament. The Mount has

made a name for itself not only through outstanding athletic ability; but through the commitment of the school to a strong academic and extracurricular program with an emphasis on community service.

Students at the Mount participate in the Siena program of community service as part of their curriculum by donating their time to service projects, in addition to their regular studies and extracurricular activities. Although their prizewinning athletics certainly merit attention, I offer additional praise to these students for their school's unique commitment to community service. The Siena program teaches that the donation of time and energy in service to others is as meaningful as winning a championship season or scoring well on the SAT's. I can only admire a program which views giving back to the community as a basic part of education. In the words of the Mount's own Sister Fran Sullivan, these promising young women "use their own giftedness to better the world."

Mr. President, once again I offer my congratulations to these talented and generous young women, who are truly athletes, scholars and public servants.●

GENERAL MOTOR'S 1997 FLEXIBLE FUEL VEHICLES

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I want to offer my congratulations to General Motors for making what I believe is a good move for our environment, for our economy, and for their business. All of GM's 1997 four cylinder light-duty pickup trucks will have the capability to run on ethanol as well as gasoline. This represents a significant milestone in the acceptance of ethanol as a widely-used fuel for America. Ethanol helps clean the air and is a renewable domestic energy resource. I ask to have printed in the RECORD the May 11, 1995, news release from GM concerning this development.

GENERAL MOTORS NEWS RELEASE

DES MOINES, IOWA—General Motors today announced the largest single-model alternative fuel vehicle production program of any manufacturer. All of GM's 1997 four-cylinder light-duty pickup trucks will be flexible fueled to permit them to run on gasoline, ethanol, or a combination of the two.

Speaking at a meeting of the Governors' Ethanol Coalition, GM Vice President Dennis R. Minano said GM will use the 1997 Chevrolet S-series and GMC Sonoma pickups as flexible fuel vehicles because they will meet the broad spectrum of needs of many fleet and retail buyers.

"The inclusion of ethanol capability in this program is a win/win for the environment and the customer," Minano said. "As a near-term alternative fuel, ethanol provides many positives. Ethanol is a renewable domestic energy source, provides more range than some other alternative fuels, and is good for the environment."

"We are making this announcement today," said Minano, "in order to provide time for us all to develop an infrastructure and prepare for the volume of ethanol capable trucks Chevrolet and GMC Truck will

begin selling in 1997 in the U.S. and Canada." Minano said the ethanol industry needs to continue to work with the automobile manufacturers to finalize fuel specifications, commonize fuel delivery systems, and develop a refueling infrastructure.

Minano also said, "We are particularly pleased to have the opportunity to make this announcement at the Governors' Ethanol Coalition meeting. I know the governors are committed to working with us and with the private infrastructure business to make this program a success. This program is really a partnership in the truest sense of the word."

General Motors has been a leader in developing alternative fuel vehicle technologies for more than 25 years. Our strategy has been, and will continue to be, fuel neutral. This strategy includes continuing the development of gaseous, alcohol, and electric vehicles. Minano said, "The market has to have room to allow multiple fuels. There should not be a mandate for a single technology."

The trucks are scheduled for production beginning in the summer of 1996 and will be produced at North American Truck Group facilities in Shreveport, Louisiana, and Linden, New Jersey. They will be sold in the U.S. and Canada under the GMC Truck and Chevrolet nameplates.●

DISAPPOINTMENT OVER DELAY IN FOSTER NOMINATION

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today is the third day I am stating for the RECORD my sincere disappointment that the Foster nomination has not been sent to the Senate floor for a vote.

Clearly, the Nation needs a Surgeon General; clearly we have problems with AIDS, Alzheimers, cancers of every type, Parkinson's, teen pregnancy, just to name a few.

Clearly the time is long overdue for this Nation to have a Surgeon General. Dr. Henry Foster is qualified and eager to be Nation's top doctor. We need his leadership.

Dr. Foster was voted out of committee with a favorable, bipartisan vote. He deserves confirmation and there is no need to delay.●

100TH BIRTHDAY OF ESTHER EARNEST HEWICKER

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I was recently contacted by the O'Brien family in Iowa about a very special event that will happen on June 21. On that day, Esther Earnest Hewicker, of Remsen, IA, will celebrate her 100th birthday. Mrs. Hewicker has lived a long and vibrant life and I want to join with her family and her many friends in Iowa in wishing her my warmest birthday greetings on this very special day. During her lifetime, Iowa and our Nation have undergone many changes and endured many great challenges.

Mr. President, in commemoration of this very special day and in tribute to Esther Hewicker, I ask that a letter to me from the O'Brien family reviewing her life be included in the RECORD at this point.

The letter follows:

DEAR SENATOR HARKIN: It is with great pride that we, the O'Brien family, inform

you of the one hundredth birthday of a woman who has dedicated her life to the welfare of those around her. Esther Earnest Hewicker, born June 21, 1895, near Remsen, Iowa, was the youngest of eight surviving children. At that time Esther's life was typical of the era. Her days were spent going to school, doing chores, and often caring for the children of her adult siblings. Esther lost her father to a medical condition, "consumption", when she was ten years old and as a result she, her mother, and remaining underage siblings left the farm and moved into Remsen.

Esther graduated from Remsen High School in 1913. After working for one year as a seamstress and caring for various nieces and nephews, Esther borrowed money from her mother to enter the Normal School in Cedar Falls, Iowa, where she earned a two-year degree in intermediate education. Esther taught seventeen years in small towns in Northwestern Iowa; two years each in Akron and Aurelia, and thirteen years in Marcus.

Esther began teaching in 1916 in Akron, Iowa, during World War I. At that time, it was important for civilian citizens to do what they could to support the war. Esther served through the Red Cross, making bandages and rolling gauze. Further, when teaching, Esther incorporated war effort projects into appropriate school subjects. For instance, during the teaching of hand work, Esther got yarn pieces from the Red Cross and had her students knit squares that would later be sent back to the Red Cross and sewn into lap blankets.

At the onset of her career, teachers earned approximately \$65.00 monthly for only nine months of the year. During summers, holidays, and weekends Esther returned home and assisted her mother with a house full of chores, for everything in those days was done by hand and without refrigeration. Food preservation, preparation and storage were long-term projects involving gardening, butchering, canning, and baking using a wood stove. Water was carried for daily needs, drinking, bathing, cleaning, etc. General housekeeping involved floor scrubbing, hardwood waxing, rug beating, lamp trimming and window washing. Often the supplies for doing such chores needed to be made. The soap used for laundry and cleaning was made at home, usually in conjunction with butchering. Further, more time had to be made when specific attention needed to be paid to caring for the sick or repairing broken items.

In 1920, at the time Esther began teaching in Marcus, she also took on the responsibility of singlehandedly caring for her aging and ailing mother on a full-time basis. To supplement their income and make ends meet, Esther also "kept roomers". Esther maintained her full-time teaching position and eventually became Junior High principal, which in those days constituted an increase in responsibility as her teaching duties continued. Esther continued to live independently, maintaining her career, caring for her mother and keeping roomers. Esther did this until 1934.

At the age of 37½, Esther married Frank Hewicker, a Remsen, Iowa farmer. Her mother was transferred to the care of other siblings. Esther then began a new career, farming with her husband, for in those days, farming could only succeed if done as a partnership between husband and wife. The volume of work and sheer labor required to complete necessary tasks could not be done by one person alone. Esther cared for twin lambs abandoned by their mothers, raised ducks, geese and up to one thousand chickens each year. She kept a huge garden and did all of the housework, laundry, mending

and cooking necessary for her family and the hired help, all without the aid of electricity, running water or refrigeration. The Hewickers began farming land south of Remsen and after approximately twelve years purchased land south of Marcus, where they stayed their entire married life. Presently, with the help of dedicated renters, Esther continues to oversee the farm.

At the age of 45, prior to the couple's move to the new land, Esther gave birth to a daughter, Ila Jean Hewicker. Esther continued to run the farm with her husband, and raised her family. At that time, Esther and her family were active contributors to their church and community, both in a physical and financial sense. Esther maintained a position on the Marcus Fair Committee for twenty-five years and was part of the decision-making process for the building of the Marcus Theater, original community swimming pool, health clinic, and countless other projects. Further, the couple found time to frequent area nursing homes, where they provided the residents with fresh produce and flowers. Esther and her husband also made a point to tend to the sick, shut-in or underprivileged within and outside their immediate families whenever they could.

Strong believers in education, there was never a doubt that their daughter would go to college. Esther and Frank supported and encouraged Ila through college and proudly watched her earn her Bachelor's Degree in Education. Ila eventually married and had a family of her own.

It is important to note that Esther's dedication to education did not stop with her career or her daughter's completion of college. Esther was an active member of the P.E.O. Club for many years and following Ila's high school graduation, Esther was elected to the Marcus School Board. Further, Esther and Frank created college funds for all four of their grandchildren, adding substantial amounts of money to each over the years. With that financial assistance, Esther's two eldest grandchildren received Masters degrees, one in Education, and one in Social Work. The third is presently an undergraduate in an Art Education program and the fourth will enter college in the Fall.

Esther is presently a resident of Happy Siesta Nursing Home in Remsen, Iowa, and has been for the past nine years. Esther made this move independently and presently continues to welcome new residents, helps ease their transition from home to nursing home living and encourages them to participate in the many activities available to them. Esther often receives visitors from the area and enjoys keeping up with the news and lives of life-long friends. Though her old students are senior citizens now, she sees many who visit, and makes a point to ask after those who cannot.

Clearly, Esther Earnest Hewicker's contributions to society have been vast throughout her long lifetime and still her humor, character, and gregarious personality have yet to be mentioned. It is with sincere pride that we ask that Esther's contributions be recognized formally, as the benefits of her life reaped by others are immeasurable.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

KATHY O'BRIEN
and the entire O'Brien family.●

ORDERS FOR TOMORROW

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in recess until the hour of 10 a.m. on Friday, June 16; that following the