

and bring to a close this chapter of the magnificent career of Senator CLAI-BORNE PELL.

Senator PELL's contributions to education have expanded opportunities and opened doors for millions of Americans. His foreign policy accomplishments have made the world a safer and more peaceful place for everyone. His grace, dignity, and dedication have reminded us all for the last 36 years what public service is all about.

Senator PELL has authored or been a major contributor to dozens of laws expanding educational opportunities. No single achievement stands out clearer than the creation of the Pell grant program in 1972. This program has given 60 million students access to the American Dream, by providing \$70 billion in Federal grants to students to help them attend postsecondary educational institutions. This program, and the dozens of others that Senator PELL has contributed, are lasting tributes to his recognition that education is a public good, even more than it is a private benefit.

The rungs of the ladder of opportunity in America are crafted in the classroom. Quality, public education gave America a strong middle class, and has given children of all socioeconomic and racial backgrounds reason to believe that the promises of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness apply equally to each of them.

Educational attainment has always correlated to career earnings. The most educated Americans today earn 600 percent more than the least educated Americans.

Education is more important than ever. By the year 2000, the Department of Labor estimates that more than half of all new jobs will require an education beyond high school.

Senator PELL's contributions to education will continue to allow millions of Americans to access education beyond high school—assuring them that, at least by the accident of their family's wealth, they will not be shut out of the American dream.

He has also been a leader in foreign policy, carefully helping to steer American foreign policy from his seat on the Foreign Relations Committee for more than two decades. He has contributed to worldwide arms control, nuclear disarmament, and international law. He even helped to draft the original United Nations charter—shaping an organization that, 50 years later, helps to preserve peace and stability around the world.

The incomparable list of legislative and policy accomplishments aside, what I will miss most is the careful grace with which Senator PELL approaches his day-to-day work and his job as Senator. His presence is a constant reminder to me—and to many of my colleagues I know—of exactly why it is an honor to serve in this body as a U.S. Senator.

INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM ACT

Mr. STEVENS. On October 4, 1995, 12 nations agreed in the Panama Declaration to create a binding regime to reduce dolphin mortality and conserve fish in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Ocean [ETP]. The Panama Declaration would cap dolphin mortality in the ETP at 5,000 dolphin per year, with the goal of eventually eliminating dolphin mortality. To put this cap in perspective, in the 1970's, over 300,000 dolphin were being killed each year.

We now have the opportunity to lock in the significant reductions that have been achieved in the killing of dolphins in the ETP. In addition, the Panama Declaration would create binding measures for fishing vessels for observers, bycatch reduction and measures to protect specific stocks of dolphins in the ETP.

On November 17, 1995, Senator BREAUX and I introduced S. 1420, the International Dolphin Conservation Program Act, to implement the Panama Declaration. Cosponsors include Senators CHAFEE, JOHNSTON, MOSELEY-BRAUN, MURKOWSKI, THURMOND, and SIMPSON. The Commerce Committee held a hearing on S. 1420 in April, and voted to approve the bill on June 6, 1996, without objection. At the hearing in April, we heard the testimony of Senators BOXER and BIDEN. The bill approved by the committee in June accommodated their concerns to the extent that we could. We've also tried to accommodate Senator SMITH, who raised some concerns about the legislation.

The bill passed by the House (H.R. 2823) addresses the concerns of the three Senators as much as possible too. If we make further changes, however, we will not fulfill the requirements of the Panama Declaration, and we may as well pass nothing. The new binding conservation measures under the Panama Declaration can only take effect with the specific changes to U.S. law in S. 1420 and H.R. 2823. The two key changes to U.S. law are: (1) a change to allow tuna caught in compliance with the Panama Declaration (including through the encirclement of dolphins) to be imported into the United States; and (2) a change so that "dolphin safe" in the U.S. will mean tuna caught in a set in which no dolphin mortality occurred (rather than through non-encirclement).

S. 1420 and H.R. 2823 would make these changes and would allow the new regime envisioned in the Panama Declaration to go forward. If the U.S. does not make the changes, other nations will move forward without adequate conservation measures—and progress in protecting dolphins in the ETP will be lost.

Our legislation would guarantee U.S. consumers that no dolphin were killed during the harvest of tuna that is labeled as "dolphin safe." Under existing law, dolphins may have been killed, but as long as the tuna was not harvested

by intentionally encircling dolphins, it can be labeled as "dolphin safe." Our legislation is supported by: (1) U.S. tuna boat owners; (2) the mainstream environmental community including Greenpeace, the Center for Marine Conservation, the Environmental Defense Fund, the National Wildlife Federation, and the World Wildlife Fund; (3) the American Sportfishing Association; (4) U.S. Labor, including the National Fishermen's Union, Seafarers International, and the United Industrial Workers; (5) the 12 nations who signed the Panama Declaration (Belize, Columbia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, France, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Spain, Vanuatu, and Venezuela); and (6) the Administration.

I ask for unanimous consent that the letter I received from Vice President GORE in support of S. 1420 be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

THE VICE PRESIDENT,
Washington, June 3, 1996.

Hon. TED STEVENS,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Oceans and Fisheries,
U.S. Senate, Hart Senate Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR TED: I am writing to thank you for your leadership on the International Dolphin Conservation Program Act, S. 1420. As you know, the Administration strongly supports this legislation, which is essential to the protection of Dolphins and other marine life in the Eastern Tropical Pacific.

In recent years, we have reduced dolphin mortality in the Eastern Tropical Pacific tuna fishery far below historic levels. Your legislation will codify an international agreement to lock these gains in place, further reduce dolphin mortality, and protect other marine life in the region. This agreement was signed last year by the United States and 11 other nations, but will not take effect unless your legislation is enacted into law.

As you know, S. 1420 is supported by major environmental groups, including Greenpeace, the World Wildlife Fund, the National Wildlife Federation, the Center for Marine Conservation, and the Environmental Defense Fund. The legislation is also supported by the U.S. fishing industry, which has been barred from the Eastern Tropical Pacific tuna fishery.

Opponents of this legislation promote alternative fishing methods, such as "log fishing" and "school fishing," but these are environmentally unsound. These fishing methods involve unacceptably high by-catch of juvenile tunas, billfish, sharks, endangered sea turtles and other species, and pose long-term threats to the marine ecosystem.

I urge your colleagues to support this legislation. Passage of this legislation this session is integral to ensure implementation of an important international agreement that protects dolphins and other marine life in the Eastern Tropical Pacific.

Sincerely,

AL GORE.

Mr. STEVENS. I urge other Senators to help us enact this important legislation before the 104th Congress adjourns.

Mr. President, I am greatly disappointed by the efforts that have been made to prevent S. 1420 and H.R. 2823 from being enacted this Congress. As I

mentioned in my statement, this legislation would implement the Panama Declaration, an important step forward in the protection of dolphins during tuna fishing in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean. Because of the Senate floor time needed for the appropriations bills, we simply have not had the time to overcome the procedural obstacles that opponents of S. 1420 have used, or would attempt to use, to try to stop S. 1420.

Mr. BREAUX. I agree with the Senator from Alaska. By stopping our bill, opponents of S. 1420 and H.R. 2823 have sent a dangerous message to the other nations fishing in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean. That message could have dire consequences on dolphin conservation. If we were from those nations, we might feel the same way. They have satisfied the conservation goals set by the United States in the last 10 years, and now the United States has turned its back on them.

Mr. LOTT. I share the disappointment and concern of the Senators from Alaska and Louisiana. Their bill, S. 1420, as well as the House companion, H.R. 2823, have broad bipartisan support in the Congress and the support of the U.S. tuna boat owners, the mainstream environmental community, and the Administration. Last week Senator BOXER objected to our motion to consider H.R. 2823. Because of the time constraints we face in the closing days of the 104th Congress, there is no way to overcome her objections—even though a substantial majority of the Senate would probably vote for this legislation.

Mr. BREAUX. It is truly unfortunate that the bill will not pass this year, but the issue will not just disappear. We will do what we can to convince the signatory nations of the Panama Declaration not to abandon the Declaration, and we intend to pursue the enactment of these changes early in the next Congress.

Mr. STEVENS. I concur. Though we have been unsuccessful in enacting S. 1420 and H.R. 2823 before the close of the 104th Congress, it is our intent to reintroduce the bill at the beginning of the 105th Congress and seek its expeditious enactment. At the beginning of the next Congress, we will have the time to overcome procedural measures used by opponents.

Mr. LOTT. It pleases me to hear the Senator from Alaska and the Senator from Louisiana commit to pursuing this legislation in the next Congress. I will do everything I can to provide time on the Senate floor to allow a vote on this important legislation as soon as the legislation is ready at the beginning of the year.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, 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.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:03 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1332. An act to make certain technical changes affecting United States territories, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4233. An act to provide for appropriate implementation of the Metric Conversion Act of 1975 in Federal construction projects, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4236. An act to provide for the administration of certain Presidio properties at minimal cost to the Federal taxpayer, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4278. An act making omnibus consolidated appropriations for fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4282. An act to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1993 to make a technical correction relating to the provision of Department of Defense assistance to local educational agencies.

H.R. 4283. An act to provide for ballast water management to prevent the introduction and spread of nonindigenous species into the waters of the United States, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 198. Joint resolution appointing the day for the convening of the first session of the One Hundred Fifth Congress and the day for the counting in Congress of the electoral votes for President and Vice President cast in December 1996.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 230. Concurrent resolution providing for the sine die adjournment of the second session of the One Hundred Fourth Congress.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2700) to designate the building located at 8302 FM 327, Elmendorf, TX, which houses operations of the U.S. Postal Service, as the "Amos F. Longoria Post Office Building."

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2779) to provide for appropriate implementation of the Metric Conversion Act of 1975 in Federal construction projects, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3005) to amend the Federal securities laws in order to promote efficiency and capital formation in the

financial markets, and to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to promote more efficient management of mutual funds, protect investors, and provide more effective and less burdensome regulation.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3118) to amend title 38, United States Code, to reform eligibility for health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, to authorize major medical facility construction projects for the Department, to improve administration of health care by the Department, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3458) to increase, effective as of December 1, 1996, the rates of disability compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain service-connected disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3815) to make technical corrections and miscellaneous amendments to trade laws.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3610) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3723. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect proprietary economic information, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the resolution (H. Res. 554) that the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 400) to provide for the exchange of lands within Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, and for other purposes, in the opinion of the House, contravenes the first clause of the seventh section of the first article of the Constitution of the United States and is an infringement of the House and that such bill with the Senate amendment thereto be respectfully returned to the Senate with a message communicating the resolution.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 1711. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the benefits programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, to provide for a study of the Federal programs for veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 1965. An act to prevent the illegal manufacturing and use of methamphetamine.

S. 1973. An act to provide for the settlement of the Navajo-Hopi land dispute, and for other purposes.