

children. However, as noted above, evidence now exists to suggest that adult education, and particularly literacy education for present and potential parents, should occupy a central position in all governments' educational planning. Four interrelated reasons for nations to support greater investments in adult education are summarized below.

1. Better Educated Adults Are More Productive for Society. Supervisors in six manufacturing companies near Chicago reported that adult literacy programs made improvements in job training, job performance, promotability of participants, and productivity, such as scrap reduction, reduced paperwork, and less wastage. Other research found that more literate workers who actually use their literacy skills at work may increase their productivity as much as ten to fifteen percent. Adult literacy education improves work today, reforming schools for children takes decades.

2. Better Educated Adults Provide Better Communities for Learning. At AC Rochester, a supplier of components for General Motors automobile manufacturing in New York State, management, labor union members, and educators got together, and provided adult literacy programs for employees. This helped increase the local tax base for community services by bringing in several new contracts, including a billion dollar contract with Russia.

3. Better Educated Adults Demand and Get Better Schooling for Children. Wider Opportunities for Women in Washington, DC, found that mothers in women's literacy programs spent more time with their children talking about school, helping them with their homework, taking them to the library, and reading to them. They also said they spent more time going to and helping with school activities, they talked more with teachers about their children's education, their children attended school more, showed improvements in their school grades, test scores, and reading.

4. Better Educated Adults Produce Better Educated Children. Better educated parents send children to school better prepared to learn, with higher levels of language skills, and knowledge about books, pencils, and other literacy tools needed for school and life. Better educated mothers have healthier babies, smaller families, children better prepared to start school, and children who stay in school and learn more.

MAKE EVERY ADULT BASIC EDUCATION CLASS A FAMILY LITERACY CLASS

The San Diego Consortium for Workforce Education and Lifelong Learning (CWELL) operates an Action Research Center (ARC) in the San Diego Community College District, Continuing Education Division. In 1994, the ARC initiated research orchestrated around the theme, "make every adult basic education class a family literacy class." The research included the publication of a simple rating scale in one issue of the Community Exchange, the newspaper that the ARC publishes to disseminate R&D information into the ARC community.

The rating scale asks adults to rate how frequently they perform various parenting activities such as reading to their children, taking them to the library, helping with homework and so forth. A tabulation of responses from 131 adults in five different adult basic education and English as a Second Language (ESL) programs indicated that adults vary greatly in how often they engage in these kinds of activities that can help transfer literacy to their children. These data provide a baseline for comparing parenting activities before the ARC introduces activities to "make every adult education class a family literacy class."

With sound evaluation of these programs, it should be possible to demonstrate that "double duty dollars" can be obtained through the intergenerational transfer of literacy that takes place in adult basic skills education programs. Governments and other sponsors of education programs should know that they can obtain multiplier effects for their investments in adult basic education. They should know that by investing in the education of adults, they can improve the education of children.●

ARAFAT MUST STIFLE EXTREMISTS

● Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, all of us have been stunned by the suicidal missions of extremist in Israel.

And it is the hope of most people around the world, as well as in the Middle East, that the extremists should not prevail and scuttle the peace process.

I was particularly pleased to read in the Chicago Tribune as well as the New York Times, the letter of Ray Hanania, President of the Palestinian American Congress, which I ask to be printed in the RECORD. Mr. Hanania is calling on Yasser Arafat to crack down on the extremists.

People of good will of every persuasion should join in this endeavor.

The article follows:

[From the Chicago Tribune]

ARAFAT MUST STIFLE EXTREMISTS

(By Ray Hanania)

CHICAGO.—The Israelis are right about one thing: It is the responsibility of Yasser Arafat, president of the Palestinian Authority, to crack down on extremists who are based in the territories that he controls.

It is not an easy decision to make, but it is one that Arafat must make if the Middle East peace process is to succeed and Palestinians are to have their own state.

Arafat must come to grips with the responsibilities of Democratic leadership. This is no longer a revolution in which internal criticism is hushed for the sake of survival.

While he must learn to tolerate criticism and not jail Palestinian journalists who attack his policies, so too must he learn to be more forceful with those who challenge the foundation of Palestinian democracy.

Palestine is democratic. And Arafat's election is founded on democracy. Democracy requires that leaders no longer need to seek unanimity to justify their actions. Quite the contrary, democracy allows leaders to do what they could not do before—make decisions with the slimmest of majorities.

Realizing that he can never make everyone, especially the extremists, happy with any decision he makes is a necessity if he and the Palestinian people are to survive as a nation.

It is a realization he has yet to come to grips with. And when he does, he will discover that the vast majority of Palestinians support a crackdown but fear public expression of this view. The extremists have and will use violence against their own people to justify their means and achieve their goals. Our leaders need courage to change this.

In the United States, the Palestinian-American community has spoken loudly, favoring the peace process. While we, as a community, may not totally agree with every detail, the principle of pursuing a peaceful resolution of the Israel-Palestine question is now a mandate for our people.

Arafat cannot make the mistake of believing that he can walk between the moderates

and those who advocate violence. The extremists that he must silence are the very same people who, if given the chance, would silence Palestinian democracy and destroy any hopes of establishing a democratic Palestinian state.●

VALLEY HAVEN SCHOOL 20TH ANNIVERSARY HIKE/BIKE/RUN

● Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I wish to take a moment and bring to my colleagues' attention the 20th anniversary of the Valley Haven School Hike/Bike/Run. The Valley Haven School, located in Valley, AL, is a school for mentally retarded and multiple handicapped citizens of all ages. Started 37 years ago by volunteers, the school is now professionally staffed and currently offers skilled training to 95 students ranging in age from 3 months to 60 years.

Mr. President, local moneys of \$100,000 must be raised each year to meet operating expenses and match State and Federal grants. The primary source of these funds is the annual Hike/Bike/Run, which consists of a 5 or 10 mile walk, an 11 or 22 mile bike ride, a skate-a-thon, a 1, 3.1, or 6.2 mile run, a 5 mile bike ride for children, and the Trike Trek for preschoolers.

Each participant in the Hike/Bike/Run obtains pledges for their participation, and all proceeds go directly to Valley Haven to support the education and training for handicapped students. In 1995, this 1 day fundraiser involved over 1,000 participants and 8,000 pledging sponsors. The event generated over \$100,000 in pledges to support the work of the school.

Mr. President, I would like to congratulate and commend Valley Haven and the entire Valley community for displaying such strong support and concern for these special students. This year's Hike/Bike/Run will be held on Saturday, May 4, and I know that the community will once again unite to support this wonderful program and help Valley Haven School help its students.●

LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise to honor the 78th anniversary of Lithuania's independence in 1918. This should be a time for remembrance and renewal. It evokes memories of great sadness and also great joy. The long night of Soviet domination and occupation has given way to a new beginning for the Lithuanian people. It is heartening to the world to see that Lithuania's strong and vibrant culture has survived the many years of Soviet control.

Lithuania showed its commitment to joining the free world when it was the first country from the former Soviet Union to formally join the Partnership for Peace in 1994. The faith and courage of the Lithuanian people and the undying efforts and support for Lithuanian independence of Lithuanian-Americans has the respect and admiration of

peace-loving people throughout the world. I know that my Senate colleagues join me in honoring Lithuania's independence.

APPOINTMENT BY THE VICE PRESIDENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. section 276h through 276k, appoints the Senator from Texas [Mrs. HUTCHISON] as the chairman of the Senate delegation to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Union during the second session of the 104th Congress.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—CLOTURE VOTES

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the two cloture votes scheduled for today be postponed to occur on Thursday, at a time to be set by the majority leader, after consultation with the Democratic leader.

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

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 956

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 10 a.m., on Wednesday, the Senate turn to the product liability conference report, that the conference report be considered read, and there be 5 hours for debate, to be equally divided in the usual form, and at 3 p.m., on Wednesday, the Senate proceed to a vote on the motion to invoke cloture, and the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

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

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. RES. 227

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that immediately following the cloture vote, regardless of the outcome, the Senate proceed to the cloture vote with respect to the Special Committee to Investigate Whitewater.

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

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 1459

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that, notwithstanding rule XXII, that following the two cloture votes on Wednesday, the Senate proceed to S. 1459, the grazing fees bill.

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

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 956

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that if cloture is invoked with respect to the product liability conference report, that the Senate resume the conference report at 9 a.m., on Thursday, and there be 3 hours for debate to be equally divided in the usual form, and at 12 noon, on Thursday, the Senate proceed to the adoption of the product liability conference report, without any intervening action or debate.

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

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 1996

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until the hour of 10 a.m., Wednesday, March 20, 1996, and, further, that immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be deemed approved to date, no resolutions come over under the rule, the call of the calendar be dispensed with, the morning hour be deemed to have expired, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then proceed to the consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 956, the product liability bill, as under the previous order.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, the Senate will debate the product liability conference report at 10 a.m., until 3 p.m., on tomorrow. At 3 p.m., there will be two consecutive rollcall votes. The first vote will be on invoking cloture on the product liability conference report, to be followed by a vote on cloture on the motion to proceed to the Whitewater resolution. Following those cloture votes, the Senate will begin consideration of the grazing bill, S. 1459. Additional votes could therefore occur during Wednesday's session of the Senate. Under the previous order, if cloture is invoked on Wednesday on the product liability conference report, there will be 3 hours of additional debate on that conference report on Thursday.

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

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

MODIFICATIONS TO AMENDMENT NO. 3553 TO H.R. 3019

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I send to the desk modifications for pages 1, 4, and 5 of the managers' amendment to H.R. 3019 and ask it be adopted.

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

The modifications are as follows:

On page 412, line 23, strike "\$497,850,000" and insert "499,100,000".

On page 412, line 24, strike "1997, of" and insert "1997, of which \$2,000,000 shall be available for activities under section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533), of".

On page 577, between lines 23 and 24, insert the following new section:

SEC. . (a) REIMBURSEMENT OF CERTAIN CLAIMS UNDER THE MEDICAID PROGRAM.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and subject to subsection (b), in the case where payment has been made by a State under title XIX of the Social Security Act between December 31, 1993, and December 31, 1995, to a State-operated psychiatric hospital for services provided directly by the hospital or by providers under contract or agreement with the hospital, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services has notified the State that the Secretary intends to defer the determination of claims for reimbursement related to such payment but for which a deferral of such claims has not been taken as of March 1, 1996 (or, if such claims have been deferred as of such date, such claims have not been disallowed by such date), the Secretary shall—

(1) if, as of the date of the enactment of this title, such claims have been formally deferred or disallowed, discontinue any such action, and if a disallowance of such claims has been taken as of such date, rescind any payment reductions effected;

(2) not initiate any deferral or disallowance proceeding related to such claims; and

(3) allow reimbursement of such claims.

(b) LIMITATION ON RESCISSION OR REIMBURSEMENT OF CLAIMS.—The total amount of payment reductions rescinded or reimbursement of claims allowed under subsection (a) shall not exceed \$54,000,000.

(c) OFFSET OF FUNDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the amounts on lines 5 and 8 of page 570 (relating to the Social Services Block Grant) shall each be reduced by \$70,000,000.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:40 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, March 20, 1996, at 10 a.m.