

law enforcement, have resulted in more than 1,500 arrests of violent and predatory drug criminals in more than 50 communities across the nation.

But as the White House Leadership Conference on Youth, Drug Use, and Violence showed, now is the time to press forward. We must not let up for a moment in our efforts against drug abuse, and drug abuse by young people, particularly.

There are many reasons why young people do continue to use drugs. Chief among these are ignorance of the facts about addiction and the potency of drugs, and complacency about the danger of drugs. Unfortunately, all too often we see signs of complacency about the dangers of drug use: diminished attention to the drug problem by the national media; the glamorization and legitimization of drug use in the entertainment industry; the coddling of professional athletes who are habitual drug-users; avoidance of the issue by parents and other adults; calls for drug-legalization; and the marketing of products to young people that legitimize and elevate the use of alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs.

All Americans must accept responsibility to teach young people that drugs are illegal and they are deadly. They may land you in jail; they may cost you your life. We must renew our commitment to the drug prevention strategies that deter first-time drug use and stop the progression from alcohol and tobacco use to marijuana and harder drugs.

The National Drug Control Strategy is designed to prevent a new drug use epidemic through an aggressive and comprehensive full-court press that harnesses the energies of committed individuals from every sector of our society. As I said the State of the Union, we must step up our attack against criminal youth gangs that deal in illicit drugs. We will improve the effectiveness of our cooperative efforts among U.S. defense and law enforcement agencies, as well as with other nations, to disrupt the flow of drugs coming into the country. We will seek to expand the availability and improve the quality of drug treatment. And we will continue to oppose resolutely calls for the legalization of illicit drugs. We will increase efforts to prevent drug use by all Americans, particularly young people.

The tragedy of drug abuse and drug-related crime affects us all. The National Drug Control Strategy requires commitment and resources from many individuals and organizations, and from all levels of government. For the Strategy to succeed, each of us must do our part.

We ask the Congress to be a bipartisan partner and provide the resources we need at the federal level to get the job done. I challenge state and local governments to focus on drug abuse as a top priority. We ask the media and the advertising and entertainment industries to work with us to educate our

youth, and all Americans, about the dangers of drug use. Finally, we invite every American—every parent, every teacher, every law enforcement officer, every faith leader, every young person, and every community leader—to join our national campaign to save our youth.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, April 29, 1996.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time and placed on the calendar:

S. 1708. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to clarify the remedial jurisdiction of inferior Federal courts.

The following joint resolution was ordered placed on the calendar:

S.J. Res. 53. Joint resolution making corrections to Public Law 104-134.

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-2346. A communication from the Deputy Associate Director for Compliance, Royalty Management Program, Minerals Management Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, notice of the intention to make refunds of offshore lease revenues where a refund or recoupment is appropriate; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2347. A communication from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled, "The California Indian Land Transfer Act"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2348. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, transmitting, pursuant to law, a fiscal year 1995 report relative to National Historic Landmarks which are damaged; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2349. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Final Comprehensive Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision for the City of Rocks National Reserve; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2350. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, case number 94-19; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-2351. A communication from the Director of Defense Research and Engineering, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the Federally Funded Research and Development Center for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2352. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Defense, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to amend various environmental laws of the United States as they affect the operations of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2353. A communication from the Chief Counsel of the Internal Revenue Service, De-

partment of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report with respect to Revenue Ruling 96-24; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2354. A communication from the Fiscal Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Treasury Bulletin for March 1996; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2355. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, the report of the texts of international agreements, other than treaties, and background statements; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2356. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Development Assistance Program Allocations for fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2357. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Defense, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to amend title 5, United States Code, to make various changes in the laws regarding the management of employees of the Federal Government especially as they affect the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2358. A communication from the Attorney General of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 1995 annual report on the Federal Prison Industries, Inc.; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2359. A communication from the Director of the U.S. Trade and Development Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the annual audit for fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2360. A communication from the Executive Director of the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of procedures for procurement; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

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. DOLE:

S. 1711. A bill to establish a commission to evaluate the programs of the Federal Government that assist members of the Armed Forces and veterans in readjusting to civilian life, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself and Mr. CRAIG):

S. 1712. A bill to provide incentives to encourage stronger truth in sentencing of violent offenders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FRIST (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. SIMON, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. DORGAN):

S. 1713. A bill to establish a congressional commemorative medal for organ donors and their families; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. DOLE (for Mr. BURNS):

S. 1714. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to ensure the ability of utility providers to establish, improve, operate and maintain utility structures, facilities, and equipment for the benefit, safety, and well-being of consumers, by removing limitations on maximum driving and on-duty time pertaining to utility vehicle operators and drivers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. INOUE, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. HATFIELD, Mr. STEVENS, and Mr. BOND):

S. 1715. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit for adoption expenses, to allow penalty-free IRA withdrawals for adoption expenses, and to allow tax-free treatment for employer provided adoption assistance; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. INOUE, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. HATFIELD, Mr. COATS, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. BOND, Mr. CONRAD, and Mr. DeWINE):

S. 1716. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the adolescent family life program, provide for abstinence education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. HATFIELD (for himself and Mr. BYRD):

S.J. Res. 53. A joint resolution making corrections to Public Law 104-134; read twice.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DOLE:

S. 1711. A bill to establish a commission to evaluate the programs of the Federal Government that assist members of the Armed Forces and veterans in readjusting to civilian life, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

TRANSITION TO CIVILIAN LIFE LEGISLATION

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I am pleased today to introduce legislation establishing a commission to review the various programs administered by the Federal Government to assist service members transitioning from military to civilian life.

CURRENT SYSTEM LACKS COORDINATION

Currently, several Federal departments and agencies offer programs to assist military men and women, veterans and reserve component members in their transition back to civilian life. Offices in the Departments of Defense, Veterans Affairs, Labor, and others, sponsor programs offering such services as education assistance, job-training, job placement, and home loans. These are all useful and valuable services. However, changes in the labor market are challenging today's veteran readjustment programs. Unemployment rates for recently separated veterans may be as high as 17 percent, compared with a national average of about 5.7 percent. This is extremely troubling when one stops to think about the experience, discipline, and work ethic veterans bring to the workplace.

By better focusing these resources, we can make the existing programs more accessible to a greater number of veterans; we can streamline programs and make them more user-friendly; we can minimize overlap and improve cost-effectiveness. That would be a big improvement over the current situation, and would ultimately better serve our service men and women.

Let me emphasize, the purpose of this commission is not to create new programs and make a large bureaucracy. Rather it is to review the range of existing programs and determine how we can better coordinate our efforts on behalf of veterans. Both the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committees, as well as several veterans service organizations support this concept and agree that such a review is both appropriate and timely. There is real opportunity here to repeat the success of General Bradley's 1955 commission, which make significant improvements in transition programs with fresh concepts and approaches.

IMPROVED SERVICE TO VETERANS

In my view, establishing this commission is the first step toward providing more accessible and more practical assistance to service members who are facing fundamental changes in their personal and professional lives. These are brave men and women who committed precious years of their lives to defending their Nation. Now they are ready and willing to become productive members of their civilian communities. It is my hope that this legislation will help these very deserving individuals make better use of the opportunities and resources available to them.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1711

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a commission to be known as the Commission on Service Members and Veterans Transition Assistance (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Commission").

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall be composed of 12 members appointed from among private United States citizens with appropriate and diverse veterans, military, organizational, and management experiences and historical perspectives, of whom—

(A) four shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate, in consultation with the Ranking Member of that committee;

(B) four shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives, in consultation with the Ranking Member of that committee;

(C) two shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate, in consultation with the Ranking Member of that committee; and

(D) two shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee on National Security of the House of Representatives, in consultation with the Ranking Member of that committee.

(2) VSO MEMBERS.—One member of the Commission appointed under each of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1) shall be a representative of a veterans service organization.

(3) DATE.—The appointments of the members of the Commission shall be made not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT; VACANCIES.—Members shall be appointed for the life of the Commission. Any vacancy in the Commission shall not affect its powers, but shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(d) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which all members of the Commission have been appointed, the Commission shall hold its first meeting.

(e) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser number may hold hearings.

(f) CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN.—The Commission shall select a Chairman and Vice Chairman from among its members.

(g) MEETINGS.—The Commission shall meet at the call of the Chairman.

(h) PANELS.—The Commission may establish panels composed of less than the full membership of the Commission for the purpose of carrying out the Commission's duties under this Act. The actions of such panels shall be subject to the review and control of the Commission. Any findings and determinations made by such a panel shall not be considered the findings and determinations of the Commission unless approved by the Commission.

(i) AUTHORITY OF INDIVIDUALS TO ACT FOR COMMISSION.—Any member or agent of the Commission may, if authorized by the Commission, take any action which the Commission is authorized to take under this Act.

SEC. 2. DUTIES OF COMMISSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall—

(1) review the efficacy and appropriateness of veterans transition and assistance programs in providing assistance to members of the Armed Forces in making the transition and adjustment to civilian life upon their separation from the Armed Forces and in providing assistance to veterans in adjusting to civilian life;

(2) evaluate proposals for improving such programs, including proposals to consolidate, streamline, and enhance the provision of such assistance and proposals for alternative means of providing such assistance; and

(3) make recommendations to Congress regarding means of ensuring the continuing utility of such programs and assistance and of otherwise improving such programs and the provision of such assistance.

(b) REVIEW OF PROGRAMS TO ASSIST MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AT SEPARATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—While carrying out the general duties specified in subsection (a), the members of the Commission appointed under subparagraphs (C) and (D) of section 1(b)(1) shall review primarily programs intended to assist members of the Armed Forces at the time of their separation from service in the Armed Forces, including programs designed to assist families of such members in preparing for the transition of such members from military life to civilian life and to facilitate that transition.

(2) SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out the review, such members of the Commission shall determine—

(A) the adequacy of the programs referred to in paragraph (1) for their purposes;

(B) the adequacy of the support of the Armed Forces for such programs;

(C) the effect, if any, of the existence of such programs on combat readiness;

(D) the extent to which such programs provide members of the Armed Forces with job-search skills;

(E) the extent to which such programs prepare such members for employment in the private sector and in the public sector;

(F) the effectiveness of such programs in assisting such members in finding employment in the public sector; and