

benefits and raise taxes solely in order to fund additional spending.

Another amendment focused on entitlement was the KENNEDY amendment expressing the sense of the Senate that any reconciliation bill will maintain the existing prohibitions against additional charges by providers under Medicare. For the existing Medicare system, I agree this prohibition against so-called balance billing makes sense. On the other hand, the current Medicare System is going broke, and it makes little sense to tie the hands of the Finance Committee when they search for innovative ways to preserve the current system while providing new options to seniors. In effect, the Kennedy amendment is an attempt to forestall Medicare reform. As such, it is irresponsible and I voted against it.

Finally, there were several miscellaneous amendment which deserve comment. The first of these was the Graham-Baucus amendment to create a 60-vote point of order against efforts to divert savings which result from health care fraud and abuse programs from the Medicare HI trust fund to be used for other purposes.

First, it is important to note that this amendment would have no impact on the solvency of the Medicare trust fund. As a trust fund with a dedicated source of revenues, funding for Medicare part A cannot be diverted for other uses. Nor can savings resulting from Medicare reforms be used for any purposes other than to make the trust fund more solvent. Simply put, this amendment would have no real impact on Medicare whatsoever.

Second, this amendment violated the Budget Act by creating a point of order outside the jurisdiction of the Budget Committee. It is simply against the rules for the budget resolution to create points of order against legislation originating from other committees. For these two reasons, I opposed this amendment and supported Chairman DOMENICI's point of order against it.

One amendment dealing with foreign policy was the Lott amendment expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States should be reimbursed for expenses related to U.N. actions in Iraq. The amendment calls on the United States Ambassador to the United Nations to modify the recent U.N. resolution which permits Iraqi oil sales to be used for reimbursing U.N. humanitarian expenses. I supported this amendment.

The bottom line is Iraq—through the revenue derived from its recent U.N. oil sales—should reimburse the United States for money expended during Operation Southern Watch and Provide Comfort—whereby United States troops protected Kurdish and Shiite Muslims from Saddam Hussein. The U.S. expenses were of a military nature, but were made to satisfy a U.N. humanitarian policy. As such, these efforts should not be financed from the pockets of American taxpayers, but rather from the purses of the belligerent government that made them necessary in the first place.

erent government that made them necessary in the first place.

The last amendment I would like to comment upon is the Roth amendment to take .5 cents of the mass transit gas tax—which is 2 cents total—and apply it toward Amtrak. While the issue of Federal subsidies is for interstate passenger rail service is extremely contentious and involved, using the highway trust fund to support Amtrak clearly undermines the integrity of the fund and should be opposed. If Congress chooses to continue its support for Amtrak, it should be done through general revenues and subject to the same review process to which other discretionary spending is subject.●

PORTERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL 100TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I would like to convey my warmest congratulations to students and teachers who will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Porterville High School in Porterville, CA.

I congratulate and commend the many teachers, staff, students and alumni for their academic, athletic, agricultural and musical contributions to Porterville High School. Through their hard work and dedication, they have made a tremendous difference in the school and in the community of Porterville.

The people of Porterville should be proud of the strong community spirit and devotion that has helped build Porterville High School into an outstanding California school. I commend these community members for their dedication to education and enrichment of the students, past and present.

I send my best wishes to them for another hundred years of success.●

NEW MEXICO SMALL BUSINESS WEEK AWARD WINNERS

● Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the recipients of the New Mexico Small Business Week Award winners.

As you may know, each of the past 33 years, the President has issued a proclamation for the celebration of Small Business Week. This year, Floyd R. Correa, president and owner of Correa Enterprises, Inc. located in Albuquerque, NM, has been named New Mexico Small Business Person of the Year for 1996 by the U.S. Small Business Administration [SBA]. Floyd Correa is among 53 top small business persons, one from each State, plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico/Virgin Islands and Guam, who are being honored by the SBA at the national ceremonies this week in Washington.

A "New Mexico Small Business Week Celebration" to honor the New Mexico Small Business Person of the Year Award Winner is also taking place in Albuquerque this week, the Advocate Award Winners, the Regional Small

Subcontractor of the Year, and the New Mexico recipients of the procurement award, the SBA's Administrator's Award of Excellence will also be awarded.

Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to recognize the other award winners.

One of the New Mexico Advocate winners is Judith A. Framan who was named the 1996 National Women in Business Advocate of the Year. She will also be honored at the national SBA ceremonies. Ms. Framan is also the 1996 New Mexico Women in Business Advocate of the Year as well as the 1996 Region VI Women in Business Advocate of the Year. Ms. Framan is the owner of Judith Framan Associates located in Corrales, NM.

A second New Mexico Advocate winner is Anne Haines Yatskowitz, who was named the 1996 New Mexico Financial Services Advocate of the Year. Ms. Yatskowitz is the executive director of ACCION of New Mexico located in Albuquerque.

The 1996 New Mexico Accountant Advocate of the Year Award recipient is Virginia M.K. Stanley, who is president of Stanley and Associates, Certified Public Accountants, P.C. located in Albuquerque. Ms. Stanley's efforts and commitment on behalf of small business in New Mexico have been substantial, both on a professional and volunteer basis.

The recipient of the 1996 New Mexico Minority Small Business Advocate of the Year is Vangie V. Gabaldon. Ms. Gabaldon is the executive director of the New Mexico Community Development Loan Fund Program located in Albuquerque. In this capacity, she has compiled a remarkable record of commitment to small business throughout the State.

The 1996 New Mexico Media Advocate of the Year Award recipient is Barbara M. Chavez. Ms. Chavez is a business staff writer/reporter with the Albuquerque Journal located in Albuquerque.

And finally, the 1996 Regional Subcontractor of the Year recipient is Mr. Adelmo Archuleta, CEO of Molzen-Corbin & Associates located in Albuquerque.

Mr. President, one important key to New Mexico's future economic progress is the health and growth of our small business sector. Our economy has produced more than 9.4 million new jobs in the last 3 years, and the lion's share of these have been generated by small businesses.

We have much to do to provide a richer and less burdensome economic environment, as the June 1995 White House Conference on Small Business concluded. Business and Government are communicating on how best to address the central concerns expressed by the small business sector, and New Mexico's delegation to the White House Conference has been particularly active in the implementation of the conference's proposals. Supporting our Nation's entrepreneurs and small business

owners and highlighting the achievements of our Nation's most competent champions of economic growth should be one of our highest priorities, and it is my pleasure to thank these awardees for their important contributions.●

DISPOSAL OF CERTAIN COMMODITIES

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture be immediately discharged from its further consideration of Senate Concurrent Resolution 63, and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 63) to express the sense of the Congress that the Secretary of Agriculture should dispose of all remaining commodities in the disaster reserve maintained under the Agricultural Act of 1970 to relieve the distress of livestock producers whose ability to maintain livestock is adversely affected by the prolonged drought conditions existing in certain areas of the United States, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the concurrent resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

AMENDMENT NO. 4042

(Purpose: To expand the type of disaster conditions addressed by the resolution)

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I understand there is an amendment at the desk offered by Senator KASSEBAUM, and I ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Montana [Mr. BURNS], for Mrs. KASSEBAUM, proposes an amendment numbered 4042.

The amendment is as follows:

On page 2, line 3, insert "and other adverse weather" after "drought".

On page 2, line 9, strike "the prolonged drought" and insert "disaster conditions, such as prolonged drought or flooding".

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I commend the junior Senator from Kansas for calling attention to the devastating impact of adverse weather on our Nation's producers. I fully support Senate Concurrent Resolution 63, which urges the Secretary of Agriculture to make available commodities in the disaster reserve for livestock feed.

I also commend Senator KASSEBAUM for agreeing to broaden the resolution to include producers suffering from flooding and other weather related disasters. In my home State of South Dakota and throughout the eastern cornbelt, excessive rainfall this spring has prevented producers from planting their crop. This resolution acknowledges the importance of addressing the effect of both drought and flooding on producers.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 63 reinforces an initiative to utilize the disaster reserve already undertaken by the Secretary of Agriculture. Secretary Glickman has informed me that he has formally asked the President of the United States to issue an emergency declaration to allow the use of the commodities within the reserve, and he expects a positive response shortly. In light of the actions the administration has already taken in this area, some have argued this resolution is superfluous, but it is fitting for Congress to send a clear signal that we support the efforts of Secretary Glickman and the President, and I have, therefore, joined as a cosponsor of the resolution.

Before passing this resolution, it is also worth noting that Presidential approval of the use of the disaster reserve is necessary only because the recently enacted farm bill suspended the Secretary's discretionary authority to access these stocks through the Emergency Livestock Feed Program. Recently, my distinguished colleague from New Mexico, Senator JEFF BINGAMAN, introduced legislation to reauthorize this valuable program. I hope the majority will also give prompt attention to this legislation to assist producers suffering from weather-related disasters. This bill, introduced with bipartisan support, would give immediate relief to farmers and ranchers victimized by the devastating drought in the Southwest and other areas.

Finally, Mr. President, I would like to commend Secretary Glickman and the President for their quick, decisive and thorough response to the drought plaguing the Southwest and Central Plains States. Secretary Glickman has already opened the Conservation Reserve Program for haying and grazing, provided additional funds for the Emergency Loan Program, and expanded crop insurance for forage crops. Utilization of the disaster reserve to provide emergency livestock feed is yet another example of the President's commitment to rural America.

Mr. BURNS. I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be agreed to, the resolution be agreed to, as amended, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

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

The amendment (No. 4042) was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 63), as amended, was agreed to, as follows:

S. Con. Res. 63

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF DISASTER RESERVE FOR ASSISTANCE TO LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS.

In light of the prolonged drought and other adverse weather conditions existing in certain areas of the United States, the Secretary of Agriculture should promptly dispose of all commodities in the disaster reserve maintained under section 813 of the Ag-

ricultural Act of 1970 (7 U.S.C. 1427a) to relieve the distress of livestock producers whose ability to maintain livestock is adversely affected by disaster conditions, such as prolonged drought or flooding.

The title was amended so as to read:

A concurrent resolution to express the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Agriculture should dispose of all remaining commodities in the disaster reserve maintained under the Agricultural Act of 1970 to relieve the distress of livestock producers whose ability to maintain livestock is adversely affected by disaster conditions existing in certain areas of the United States, such as prolonged drought or flooding, and for other purposes.

AUTHORIZATION TO CONVEY LAND TO THE CITY OF EUFAULA, OK

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 307, S. 1406.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1406) to authorize the Secretary of the Army to convey to the city of Eufaula, OK, a parcel of land located at the Eufaula Lake project, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

AMENDMENT NO. 4043

(Purpose: To make a technical correction)

Mr. BURNS. I understand there is a technical amendment at the desk offered by Senator NICKLES, and I ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Montana [Mr. BURNS], for Mr. NICKLES, proposes an amendment numbered 4043.

The amendment is as follows:

On page 2, line 7, strike the words "approximately 4'" and insert in lieu thereof "approximately 12.5".

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be agreed to, the bill be deemed read a third time, passed as amended, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be placed at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

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

The amendment (No. 4043) was agreed to.

The bill (S. 1406), as amended, was deemed to have been read three times and passed, as follows:

S. 1406

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

SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE OF LAND AT EUFAULA LAKE PROJECT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Army (referred to in this section as the "Secretary") may convey to the city of Eufaula, Oklahoma, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a parcel of land consisting of approximately 12.5 acres located at the Eufaula Lake project.