

be able to devote some small measure of our national resources to prepare our children with a chance to learn.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, the Nation's schools are facing enormous problems of physical decay. According to two GAO reports released today, "School Facilities: America's Schools Report Differing Conditions" and "School Facilities: Profiles of School Condition by State," 14 million of the Nation's children in one-third of our schools are learning in substandard school buildings. About half of the schools have at least one unsatisfactory environmental condition, such as poor air quality.

Massachusetts is no exception—Forty-one percent of Massachusetts schools report that at least one of their buildings needs extensive repair or should be replaced; 75-percent report having at least one inadequate building feature, such as a plumbing or heating problem, and 80 percent have at least one unsatisfactory environmental factor.

It is difficult to teach or learn in dilapidated classrooms. Student enrollments will reach an all-time high next year and continue to rise. By this fall, 51.7 million students will be enrolled in elementary and secondary schools—surpassing the previous record of 51.3 million in 1971, and enrollment will increase to 54.1 million by 2002. We cannot tolerate a situation in which facilities deteriorate while enrollments escalate.

GAO estimates that American schools would need \$112 billion just to repair their facilities. Yet the Republican budget cuts education by \$25 billion, or 20 percent in real terms, over the next 6 years, with no provision at all for maintaining or upgrading facilities. In the Republican appropriations bill scheduled for consideration in the House this week, Federal aid to Massachusetts schools would be cut by almost \$40 million next year, compared to the President's budget.

Obviously, the Federal Government cannot meet all the needs of all the Nation's schools. But education is a national priority and a national investment. Clearly, Congress should not be slashing aid to schools when their needs are so vast.

LICKING VALLEY GIRL SCOUT COUNCIL GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARDS

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, I want to draw special attention today to six young women from northern Kentucky. These six young women from the Licking Valley Girl Scout Council are recipients of the Girl Scout Gold Award—the highest achievement a Girl Scout can earn. Each one has demonstrated outstanding achievements in the area of leadership, community service, career planning and personal development.

Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. serves over 2.5 million girls and has awarded more

than 20,000 Girl Scout Gold Awards to Senior Girl Scouts since the inception of the program in 1980. Recipients of the award have not only earned patches for the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, the Senior Girl Scout Challenge, and the Career Exploration Pin, but also designed and implemented a Girl Scout Gold Award project.

But perhaps most importantly, these six Gold Award recipients have made a commitment to community that should not go unrecognized.

Jacqui Meier, Julie Ann Greis, Angela Schierberg, Christina Teeters, Christie DeMoss, and Mindy Hiles have put an extraordinary amount of work into earning these awards, and in the process have received the community's and the Commonwealth's respect and admiration for their dedication and commitment.

For 85 years, the Girl Scouts have provided "an informal educational program to inspire girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism, and service so they will become resourceful, responsible citizens." The Licking Valley Girl Scouts alone serve over 5,000 girl and adult members.

Mr. President, I know my colleagues share my enthusiasm and admiration for the Girl Scouts' commitment to excellence. And, I know you will agree with my belief that this award is just the beginning of a long list of accomplishments and successes from these six Girl Scouts.

COMMENDING INDIVIDUALS WHO HELPED RESOLVE FREEMEN STANDOFF

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to commend to the Senate some valiant individuals who demonstrated courage, patience, and understanding while working to end the standoff between the Government and the so-called Freemen.

We in Montana are not accustomed to the national spotlight. We are content to mind our own business. But we have received a great deal of publicity the last 2½ months for the standoff of the so-called Freemen.

The standoff took a long time, and was never without a serious threat of danger. Everyone involved with bringing these fugitives to justice deserves our respect.

First off, I would like to applaud two individuals who dealt with the situation years before the national media took an interest in the Freemen. Charles Phipps, Garfield County sheriff, and Nick Murnion, Garfield County attorney, had to endure death threats, imminent peril and, finally, intense media scrutiny. Through it all, they handled themselves and their jobs with calm rational professionalism and great courage.

I would also like to thank several Federal officials who were instrumental in bringing this confrontation to a peaceful resolution. Sherry Matteucci,

U.S. attorney and Jim Seykora, assistant U.S. attorney. And working for the Federal Bureau of Investigation were: Weldon Kennedy, Robert Bryant, Robert Blitzer, Thomas Kubic, Robin Montgomery, James Cleaver and Thomas Canady. These people's dedicated service can best be seen in the final peaceful resolution of the conflict.

Their work on this case is a textbook example of how to get the job done right. I salute these individuals who gave and risked a lot to see that the Freemen were brought to justice without the loss of life.

And finally, I would like to thank the people who have been patient for over 2 years. They have exhibited a shining example to the rest of the country, and they welcomed the influx of law enforcement officials with open arms. These people are the residents of Jordan, MT, and the surrounding area. They are regular Montanans. I had the chance to visit with many of them. They were not particularly happy about all the fuss they were getting, but they knew that it would eventually pass. Without their patience and resolve, we could not be enjoying the results that we do today.

Now that the standoff is over, life in eastern Montana will return pretty much to normal. Folks can go back to the lives they have come to miss over the past few months. But as we do so, it is important that we learn from this experience. And due to the efforts of the individuals I named, my State, our country, is a little better and a little wiser.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I think so often of that November evening long ago, in 1972, when the television networks reported that I had won the Senate race in North Carolina. It was 9:17 in the evening and I recall how stunned I was.

I had never really anticipated that I would be the first Republican in history to be elected to the U.S. Senate by the people of North Carolina. When I got over that, I made a commitment to myself that I would never fail to see a young person, or a group of young people, who wanted to see me.

I have kept that commitment and it has proved enormously meaningful to me because I have been inspired by the estimated 60,000 young people with whom I have visited during the 23 years I have been in the Senate.

A large percentage of them are greatly concerned about the total Federal debt which back in February exceeded \$5 trillion for the first time in history. Congress created this monstrous debt which coming generations will have to pay.

Mr. President, the young people who visit with me almost always are inclined to discuss the fact that under the U.S. Constitution, no President can spend a dime of Federal money that

has not first been authorized and appropriated by both the House and Senate of the United States.

That is why I began making these daily reports to the Senate on February 25, 1992. I decided that it was important that a daily record be made of the precise size of the Federal debt which, at the close of business yesterday, Monday, June 24, 1996, stood at \$5,110,926,525,572.12. On a per capita basis, the existing Federal debt amounts to \$19,275.61 for every man, woman, and child in America on a per capita basis.

The increase in the national debt in the 24 hours since my report yesterday—which identified the total Federal debt as of close of business on Friday, June 21, 1996—shows an increase of more than \$1 billion—\$1,225,352,306.06, to be exact. That 1-day increase alone is enough to match the total amount needed to pay the college tuition for each of the 181,695 students for 4 years.

BILL EMERSON MEMORIAL BRIDGE

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise to tell my colleagues of the death of a good friend and colleague, Congressman BILL EMERSON, who, until Saturday night, represented southeast Missouri's Eighth Congressional District. BILL EMERSON was, I believe, well known to many in this body, certainly to many around this city, and was loved by the people of southeast Missouri. He had a long and distinguished history of service in the U.S. Congress.

BILL EMERSON was a 15-year-old congressional page in 1954 when a Puerto Rican nationalist sprayed gunfire on the House floor. BILL helped carry a wounded Member off the House floor on a stretcher. After high school and graduation from Westminster College, he served as administrative assistant to Representative Bob Ellsworth of Kansas, and then to Senator Charles "Mac" Mathias of Maryland. Subsequently, he served in various legislative relations positions with Fairchild Industries, Interstate Natural Gas, Federal Elections Commission, and TRW.

In 1980, it was a new day. BILL was elected as a Republican Congressman in the Eighth Congressional District, the first Republican to win that seat in 52 years. BILL EMERSON was from that district. He knew the district. He spoke to the hearts and minds and souls of the people of that district. They returned him again and again, very strongly each time he ran. BILL always served his constituents. He was an expert in agriculture affairs. Had he lived, he would have been the Republican chairman of the House Agriculture Committee.

He was well known for his work in agriculture, including being a strong advocate of food donation programs. He had worked with the late Congressman Leland on many of the food programs that they shared a common interest in. One of his legislative priorities this

session was a bill that would make it easier for food unused by restaurants, supermarkets, and other private businesses to end up in food pantries and shelters, rather than in garbage cans and dumpsters.

BILL EMERSON was also in touch with the needs of his constituents in southeast Missouri on transportation and other infrastructure improvement issues. He worked for levies, for highways, and most recently, a bridge—a bridge which he fought hard to get Federal funding from the Federal Highway Administration for. It took several years, but BILL's persistence paid off. The groundbreaking for the new Cape Girardeau bridge will occur this summer. It is estimated to be completed in the year 2000.

He commanded great respect on both sides of the aisle in both Houses, and was well known and well respected by the media. In honor of BILL EMERSON, I now send to the desk a bill to designate the bridge estimated to be completed by the year 2000 as the BILL EMERSON Memorial Bridge.

I ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1903) to designate the bridge, estimated to be completed in the year 2000, that replaces the bridge on Missouri highway 74 spanning from East Cape Girardeau, Illinois, to Cape Girardeau, Missouri, as the "Bill Emerson Memorial Bridge," 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.

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I point out the mark of respect to BILL EMERSON is the fact that I introduced this bill on behalf of my colleague, Senator ASHCROFT, and we just started to work on the bill last night, and the cosponsors include Senator LOTT, Senator DASCHLE, Senator INHOFE, Senator JEFFORDS, Senator SMITH, Senator AKAKA, Senator CRAIG, Senator COATS, Senator DEWINE, Senator DORGAN, Senator THOMAS, Senator GREGG, Senator SIMON, Senator MIKULSKI, Senator BROWN, Senator SNOWE, Senator MACK, Senator KYL, and Senator CAMPBELL.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the distinguished President pro tempore, the distinguished Senator from South Carolina, be added as a cosponsor as well.

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

Mr. BOND. I ask unanimous consent that Senator ROBB be added as a cosponsor.

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

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be deemed read the third time, passed, 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 bill (S. 1903) was deemed read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1903

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF BILL EMERSON BRIDGE.

The bridge, estimated to be completed in the year 2000, that replaces the bridge on highway 74 spanning from East Cape Girardeau, Illinois, to Cape Girardeau, Missouri, shall be known and designated as the "Bill Emerson Memorial Bridge".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the bridge referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Bill Emerson Memorial Bridge".

Mr. BOND. I thank the Chair and my colleagues. This means a great deal to the family of BILL EMERSON, to his constituents, and all of his good friends. We very much appreciate the expeditious handling of it.

Mr. THURMOND. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. BOND. I am happy to yield.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I want to commend the able Senator for taking the action that he has. I knew Congressman EMERSON. He was an outstanding man, a man of integrity, ability and dedication. I think the action taken here today categorizes this man for what he is: a man who loved this country, who served it well. This action taken is altogether taken to honor his memory.

I yield the floor.

Mr. ROBB addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. ROBB. Mr. President, I would like to add a word on behalf of BILL EMERSON. My perspective comes principally from the personal side. All of the Members of Congress, of course, represent their districts and return to their districts often. But, frequently, they spend time in the communities here in or around the Washington area. BILL EMERSON and his family were members of our church, and were active participants. We sat with them. We saw them. We experienced part of this particular struggle, and we developed enormous respect for him and for his family.

I join with and commend the distinguished Senator from Missouri and the others who have cosponsored this particular resolution and have spoken out on behalf of BILL EMERSON. He was a very fine human being. I think all of us who had the privilege of knowing him certainly respect what he did for his country, for his State, and we will miss him in his service in the Congress of the United States.

With that, I yield the floor.

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I came to the Congress in 1980, in the class that