

someone needed a helping hand or just a friendly face, Peter was there. Just last week, he was honored, along with his fellow servicemen who also died in the blast, at a special funeral ceremony by President Clinton. He served not only his community but his country as well, and his country will never forget his service or his sacrifice. We should, however, look beyond the tragedy of this great loss and let Peter's sacrifice be an example for us all. Although he left this world prematurely, he touched many lives with his caring ways and his memory will endure in many hearts.

Although Peter's death weighs heavily in the hearts of his family and friends, we should not dwell in sadness, but remember his zeal for life and continue to uphold those principles which he held dear. Peter's dedication to community was the embodiment of the American ideal, people like him are the backbone of their communities and the Nation. He gave his life as a guardian of the community and the Nation he loved so well. Therefore, let us mark this tragedy and remember what we have lost, but let us also celebrate Peter's life and the light he gave to those around him. His family and community will miss him dearly and honor him as a valiant American.

PASSAGE OF H.R. 3121

• Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, today by unanimous consent the House approved H.R. 3121, a bill that will make a real contribution to increasing transparency and improving congressional oversight over arms transfers. In taking this action, the House accepted the Senate-passed amendments, obviating the need for a conference and clearing the bill for signature by the President. Since no report was filed with the bill in the Senate, I would like to take this opportunity to explain some of the changes that were made in the Foreign Relations Committee, and the rationale behind them.

First, we deleted a section that would have raised the thresholds above which arms sales must be notified to Congress. The current levels—\$14 million for major defense equipment, \$50 million for any defense articles or services, and \$200 million for design and construction services—cannot be raised without reducing effective oversight, particularly since many of the most serious abuses of human rights take place with less sophisticated weapons systems.

Second, we lengthened the notification period for grant transfers of excess defense articles to 30 days, which is the current standard under section 516 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961. H.R. 3121 streamlines the existing excess defense article authorities, giving the administration added flexibility in many areas in exchange for a tight cap on the value of weapons that are provided to foreign countries without cost. Although it would have been preferable

that this new cap of \$350 million be calculated according to original acquisition cost rather than current value, the important point is that the cap is a firm one.

I remain concerned, however, about procedures for determining the current value of excess defense articles. In January 1994, a GAO report found that "irregularities in pricing/valuing EDA's compromise the reliability of EDA data." It concluded that "the military services did not always adhere to guidelines for pricing/valuing EDA's, and as a result, the acquisition and current values of the EDA program were understated."

According to pricing directives now in effect, equipment may be valued at anywhere between 5 and 50 percent of its original acquisition cost, depending on its age and condition. Over the past 4 years the current values have averaged about 25 percent of acquisition costs. It is the congressional expectation that, in implementing this provision, the Secretary of Defense will instruct the military services to adhere consistently to pricing directives that accurately reflect the value of the article to be transferred. Pricing decisions must be made without regard to the recipient of the article or to the amount of equipment that could be transferred within the statutory ceiling.

A third change to the initial version of the bill is a renewal of the requirement in current law that excess defense articles be offered to Greece and Turkey at the same ratio that applies to foreign military financing. The purpose of this provision is to promote peace and stability in the eastern Mediterranean by maintaining the military balance and restraining arms transfers to the region.

Fourth, we have reinstated an annual report that will show all the defense articles and services the United States provided to each foreign country in the previous fiscal year. There is growing concern about the proliferation of authorities under which the United States provides military aid, weapons and training to foreign countries. In addition to traditional sources such as grant military aid, international military education and training, leases and loans, and commercial sales, there have now been added such authorities as excess defense article transfers, drawdowns, cascading under the CFE Treaty, the defense export loan guarantee facility, and the military-to-military contacts program. Obviously it is important that, in making foreign policy decisions, we have a complete picture of all the ways in which we are providing arms or military assistance to other countries.

Fifth, a provision was added repealing the sunset clause on the Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Act. The NPPA, which refines and expands sanctions against countries and companies that help non-nuclear weapon states to acquire nuclear weapons, would otherwise expire with the enactment of the

next State Department authorization bill.

Finally, two new sections increase transparency in reporting of arms sales. Section 155 requires that certifications of government-to-government arms sales, which are submitted under section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act, and notifications of commercial arms sales, submitted under section 36(c), are printed in the Federal Register. Section 156 ensures that at least the name of the country and the type and quantity of equipment for which commercial export licenses are issued be publicly disclosed, unless the President determines this would be contrary to the national interest. This reverses the burden of proof that applies under current law, where commercial licenses are revealed only if the Secretary of State determines it to be in the national interest to do so. Both of these provisions are of particular interest to the arms control and human rights communities, who have experienced unnecessary difficulty in obtaining information about unclassified arms sales.●

ADDITIONAL COSPONSOR—S. 1898

• Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, on June 24, 1996, I introduced S. 1898, the Genetic Confidentiality and Non-discrimination Act of 1996.

Due to an inadvertent error, Senator PAUL SIMON was not identified on the text of S. 1898 as an original cosponsor. While I referred to Senator SIMON's original cosponsorship numerous times during my floor statement and it is so noted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the printed bill does not reflect my distinguished colleague's cosponsorship.

Therefore, I have requested this date that Senator SIMON be added as an original cosponsor to S. 1898. I further request that in the future this bill be known as the Domenici-Simon bill, as it was intended to be when it was introduced on June 24.

Thank you for the opportunity to clarify this issue.●

JOB PROTECTION ACT OF 1996

• Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I am pleased the Senate passed the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996. However, I am disappointed the Senate rejected the Kennedy amendment to the minimum wage increase.

I cannot sit idly by as I hear of those struggling to live on today's minimum wage. I thought, as many of you do, that the typical minimum wage earner was someone like my daughter or one of her friends: a teenager flipping burgers or taking food orders to earn some extra cash for new clothes or a movie.

That, however, is a grave misperception. The sad fact is that 73 percent of those earning between \$4.25 and \$5.14 an hour are over the age of 20. That means that 9 million adults this year will have to try to live on a salary of \$8,840. One-third of these same

adults are the sole sources of income for their families. If these workers were attempting to support a family of three, they would fall \$2,682 below the Federal poverty line.

I am extremely concerned that 58 percent of those struggling with a minimum wage are women—5.2 million women, many of these single mothers, would benefit directly from this increase.

These single moms are trying. They are trying to raise two kids on a below-poverty income. And how does Congress reward a struggling parent's hard work? By attacking Medicaid that would have paid for her son's asthma medicine. By cutting the child care support that enables her to work. By taking away funding for nutrition programs that pay for her kids to eat at school or day care. By eliminating her Head Start Program that gives her kids a chance at coming to school ready and able to learn. By refusing to add 90 cents to her hourly wage—a wage that pays for heat, clothing and food.

Aren't these exactly the same individuals and families we are trying to keep employed and off of Federal support? Instead, this Congress has targeted the low-income family with cut after cut and a resistance to move them above the poverty line.

Mr. President, the Kennedy amendment would not have eliminated jobs. It would have barely kept people working—people who otherwise would be completely reliant on public support. If we had only passed this amendment a year ago, it would have meant that the single mother would have earned an additional \$2,000 today.

To low-income families, that would have meant more than 7 months of groceries, 4 months of rent, a full year of health care costs, or 9 months of utility bills.

I did not reach my decision to support the minimum wage hastily. I have listened carefully to the concerns of small business owners from across my State, who have highlighted the implications of this increase. I don't want to see prices for the American consumer rise or jobs eliminated. But I don't think an increase to the minimum wage will end employment in small business, either.

It has now been more than 5 years since the last minimum wage increase. We must remember that the value of the current minimum wage has fallen by nearly 50 cents since 1991 and is now 27 percent lower than it was in 1979. Now is the time to adjust that inequality and demonstrate a true commitment to our working families.

A slight increase in this wage provides those who work hard and play by the rules an increased opportunity and a chance to succeed. If any of my colleagues opposes the minimum wage, I urge them to live on \$8,840 this year and then reconsider their vote.

Mr. President, I want to take a minute to express my support for title

I of H.R. 3448, the small business provisions. This section incorporates a variety of tax changes, pension simplifications and S corporation reforms that expand business opportunities for America's small businesses.

We all know small business is the engine that drives the American economy. As large corporations across the country downsize and consolidate, innovative small businesses expand and add jobs to the work force. In 1995, 22,000 individuals in Washington State were employed by software-related companies—66 percent of these companies are small businesses with less than 11 employees.

This legislation will only make it easier for these and other small businesses to invest in research and development, raise capital and spur economic growth.

Most importantly, the legislation reinstates several expired tax provisions including the research and development [R&D] tax credit and employer provided educational assistance.

The R&D tax credit is vital to small, technology-based companies that need to invest in long-term endeavors in order to stay competitive in rapidly changing business climates. At the same time, the employer-provided educational assistance is essential to maintaining a highly skilled, well-educated work force.

The legislation also improves the flexibility subchapter S corporations have when they set out to raise capital. Like S. 758, a bill which I cosponsored, this legislation raises the number of shareholders who can invest in S corporations. It increases the number from 35 to 75, and in doing so, this bill greatly increase an S corporation's ability to raise capital.

Mr. President, title I of this bill also incorporates two changes to our pension laws that were introduced in S. 1756, legislation I support that was introduced by Senator MOSELEY-BRAUN. First, the Treasury Department will be required to create a clear spousal consent form so that couples can make informed decisions about annuities. Also, Treasury will need to develop a qualified domestic relations order form spelling out how, to whom and when pension plans should be paid upon divorce. These provisions are essential to protecting spousal rights.

Finally, H.R. 3448 expands tax deductible IRA contributions to home-makers. This change will make retirement savings opportunities possible for individuals who work at home rather than in the work force. It will encourage greater savings in the United States, and it will improve retirement security for our hard-working home-makers.

Mr. President, even without the KENNEDY amendment, this legislation still goes a long way to helping over 10 million hard-working Americans. This legislation ultimately raises the minimum wage 90 cents over 2 years. It rewards our working families as they

struggle to rise above the poverty line. I am proud the Senate took this important and eagerly awaited step today. ●

METRO DETROIT YOUTH DAY

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise to recognize today as Metro Detroit Youth Day in my home State of Michigan. I commend the many sponsors and organizers of this event, being held today at Belle Isle's athletic field in Detroit. Recognizing the importance of leisure and recreation in improving the lives of youth, the sponsors and organizers of Metro Detroit Youth Day have dedicated their time and resources to giving young people in Detroit an opportunity to participate in recreational activities in a safe, yet competitive, environment.

Metro Detroit Youth Day emphasizes the need for physical education and fitness with the need for good sportsmanship. It brings together community leaders, business leaders, service organizations, and young people. Over 14,000 youth and 700 volunteers will participate this year.

I would like to pay special tribute to the following cochairs of Detroit Youth Day. In chairing this event, they have given young people examples to follow and have been role models for many others in the community—both young and old. They truly have made this day count. And so, I commend Harold Edwards of MichCon; Edward Deeb of Michigan Food and Beverage Association; Sharon Williams of Omni-Care; Tom Moss of West Side Athletics; Detroit Police Chief Isiah McKinnon; Ernest Burkeen of the Detroit Recreation Department; and Keith Bennett with Starr Commonwealth Schools.

In 1991, Metro Detroit Youth Day received the 477th Point of Light Award. In the spirit of that award, I offer congratulations and thanks to all who continue to make Metro Detroit Youth Day a success. ●

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. DeWINE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

ORGAN DONATION STAMP

Mr. DeWINE. Mr. President, I rise this evening to talk about an issue that I have talked about on several occasions previously on the floor, and that has to do with a problem we have in this country, a serious problem, and that is a shortage of organ donors.

We need to raise the awareness of the American people about this very important issue. That is why today I am calling upon the Citizens Postal Advisory Committee to approve a postage stamp in honor of organ donation.

Every day in this country eight people die—eight people every single day die—who are on a waiting list, a waiting list to have an organ transplant operation. In 1994, over 3,000 Americans