

as well as it is mine, is for the safety of the people of McCracken County as well as the safekeeping of the Plant, whether it remains a government facility or is privatized in the future.

I would be more than happy to discuss this matter with you in more detail at your convenience. Please feel free to call me.

Very truly yours,

FRANK AUGUSTUS,
McCracken County Sheriff.

Mr. MCCONNELL. The bottom line, Mr. President, is that the employees of the Gaseous Diffusion Plant, as well as the residents of Paducah are entitled to an immediate response to an emergency situation. While the security force may need assistance in the event of a serious threat, the employees should not be left unprotected while local law enforcement responds.

This amendment does not add any additional security protection to the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant; it maintains the status quo, allowing the current security officers to continue doing their job, protecting the plant and employees from danger. I urge the adoption of my amendment.

AMENDMENT NO. 5109

On page 5 add the following between lines 2 and 3: "Seekonk River, Rhode Island bridge removal \$650,000;"

AMENDMENT NO. 5110

(Purpose: To provide funding for the Secretary of the Army to maintain Compton Creek Channel, Los Angeles County drainage area, California)

On page 7, line 6, after "facilities", insert the following: "and of which \$500,000 shall be made available for the maintenance of Compton Creek Channel, Los Angeles County drainage area, California".

AMENDMENT NO. 5111

(Purpose: To provide funding for the Secretary of the Army to carry out the restoration study for Bolinas Lagoon, Marin County, California)

On page 2, between lines 24 and 25, insert the following: "Bolinas Lagoon restoration study, Marin County, California, \$500,000;"

Mr. DOMENICI. For the record, let me state these have all been approved by the minority. They have no objection, or, in some instances, they were the supportive cause for a couple of the amendments.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendments en bloc are agreed to.

The amendments (Nos. 5107 through 5111) en bloc were agreed to.

Mr. DOMENICI. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. CHAFEE. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I believe that is all the amendments I know of regarding this energy and water bill. I believe we can announce in the morning further amplification of the record, but I think we know we will start with 20 minutes of debate by the managers, to be followed by 10 minutes by Senator MCCAIN regarding the McCain amendment, and then there is

a list of amendments that would follow with time limits, and 2 minutes for each side.

We have four or five amendments pending that have not been agreed to in that sequence, and we will just have to attend to those in due course in the morning.

I yield the floor. I thank the Senate for its consideration.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now turn to the consideration of the legislative appropriations bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3754), making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes.

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida is recognized.

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I am pleased to present the fiscal year 1997 legislative branch appropriations bill to the Senate. The subcommittee builds upon the success that the Congress achieved last year in reducing the size and the cost of the legislative branch, and again demonstrates this Congress' leadership in making strides toward the imperative of a balanced budget.

The subcommittee's recommendation is an appropriation of \$2,165,081,000. This is a reduction of \$22.275 million, or approximately 1 percent below the program levels in fiscal year 1996. The bill is \$174 million below the requested amount, and compared to fiscal 1995, the bill reflects a \$225 million reduction.

While the legislative branch bill is the smallest in terms of dollars appropriated, with the adoption of this bill, we will have contributed nearly one-half billion dollars toward deficit reduction in just 2 fiscal years.

The recommended funding for the Senate is \$441.208 million, approximately \$14 million above the 1996 enacted amount. However, the amount is \$48 million below the request.

In large part, the increases reflected in the bill are for cost of living adjustments for Senate employees and expenses for the Sergeant at Arms. I point out that Senate employees did not receive the 1996 COLA that was granted to other Federal employees.

Specifically, the Senate's amendment to the bill provides \$208 million for Senators' official personnel and office expense account. This amount is a 2 percent increase from last year's level. The increase is sufficient to accommodate an expected cost-of-living adjustment for Senate employees in the 1997 calendar year. The recommended funding for committees is \$69.5 million, a \$3 million increase, again, for cost-of-living adjustments.

For the official mail cost, the funding is reduced by 9 percent. The recommended funding of \$10 million is sufficient, however, to cover projected costs for fiscal year 1997. Again, Mr. President, I just say that while this is a reduction from \$11 million last year to \$10 million last year, in analyzing the trends and expenditures for mail, we believe we can make this reduction without requiring the Senators to make any reduction in their mailing. As you know, last year, we eliminated mass mailing. So we are talking about mail now that is primarily for the purpose of responding to inquiries from our constituents.

Funding for salaries and expenses of the Secretary of the Senate is \$14.225 million. That is an increase of \$831,000. Funding for salaries and expenses of Sergeant at Arms is \$99.968 million. That is an increase of \$8.880 million. I bring my colleagues' attention to the fact that combined funding recommendations for the Secretary and the Sergeant at Arms fiscal year 1997 are still \$8 million below the 1995 enacted levels.

The subcommittee appreciates the leadership demonstrated by the Secretary of the Senate and the Sergeant at Arms. Each office is managing a substantial reduction this is fiscal year along with the compounded challenges rendered by the Congressional Accountability Act. I remind Members that, last year, we made reductions in the accounts of the Sergeant at Arms and Secretary of the Senate of between 12.5 and 14 percent. While they have been managing these reduced amounts, they have also been given an additional responsibility as a result of the Congressional Accountability Act.

During the subcommittee hearings, the Secretary and Sergeant at Arms outlined a series of initiatives regarding technology. The subcommittee is pleased that under the direction of the Senate Rules Committee, the Senate is taking a long-term strategic planning approach in this area. The subcommittee looks forward to working with the Rules Committee on this issue of common concern.

In addition, the subcommittee wishes to thank each of the legislative branch agencies for their cooperation and contributions in the development of this year's bill. On a special note, the subcommittee commends the General Accounting Office for its successful management of a 2-year, 25-percent reduction in its budget. Managing a funding reduction of such magnitude in a relatively short period has been very difficult, and the subcommittee wishes to commend the Comptroller General and the entire staff at GAO for an outstanding job.

We had quite a discussion at our hearing with the Comptroller General as to the approach that was taken to downsize this Government agency 25 percent in a 2-year period. That is a substantial reduction. I would recommend to my colleagues that we

ought to look at how the GAO went about this process of managing over a 2-year period a reduction of 25 percent in its budget, because they did it extremely well. They did it with a great deal of thought. They found ways to use technologies of today to make their operations more effective and efficient. Again, I think it is a case study in the way to manage the downsizing of a Government agency. I encourage everybody to look at what they have done and what they have accomplished.

I will now yield to Senator MURRAY for any comments she wishes to make. I thank her and each member of the subcommittee for their hard work and cooperation in crafting this bill. Again, I want to say to Senator MURRAY that I appreciate very much the way we have, during the past 2 years, been able to work together in, I think, crafting two appropriations bills that the Senate can be proud of, and should again be used as an example. Frankly, it was in my mind that we should set an example for the rest of Government. If we are going to ask people to spend less and do with less, I think, again, our taking the lead in doing that is setting a good example.

I now yield to Senator MURRAY for her comments.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I rise in support of H.R. 3754, the fiscal year 1997 legislative branch appropriation bill. The bill as reported by the full committee is a fair and responsible bill.

As Members will recall, this committee took a bold step last year in recommending a bill that cut spending for the departments and agencies funded in the legislative branch appropriations bill by \$200 million, or 10 percent. This year, again, we have continued the effort to reduce the funding levels and streamline the operations of Congress by recommending a bill that cuts a net of over \$22 million from the 1996 enacted level. At the proposed funding level contained in this measure, the Legislative Branch, in total, will have less funding than in fiscal year 1991 or 6 years ago.

The major reductions recommended by the committee involve the support agencies that are so vital to the Congress in order to enable us to complete our work in an effective and expeditious manner. The committee this year saves \$6.1 million below fiscal year 1996 as a result of the elimination of the Office of Technology Assessment. I did not personally support that elimination but, nevertheless, it has been accomplished and we are saving \$6.1 million this year because of OTA's elimination.

Another major reduction in this year's bill is the cut to the General Accounting Office. Their budget is reduced by \$44,381,000 below fiscal year 1996. Testimony by the Comptroller General, Mr. Bowsheer, made clear that the GAO can undertake this reduction

as part of their overall, 2-year 25 percent commitment made to the Congress last year. The amount appropriated for fiscal year 1997 for the GAO is \$338,425,000 and will provide for a personnel ceiling of no more than 3,500 positions. This personnel ceiling amounts to a reduction of 1,825 below the level of GAO's workforce in 1992 when they had a ceiling of 5,325 positions.

As Senators can see, the reductions the committee is recommending this year are dramatic. However, Mr. President, I believe that the committee has accomplished these savings in a way that is as fair and even-handed as possible. We have been careful to ensure that the organizations and agencies which support Congress and are funded in the legislative branch appropriation bill are able to carry out their responsibilities under these reduced budgets as effectively as they have in the past.

I would have adamantly opposed these budget cuts if they were undertaken only to save dollars, without recognizing any negative consequences. It would be fruitless, for example to reduce the budget of the Congressional Budget Office with their ever-increasing responsibilities simply for the sake of saying we have achieved budgetary savings.

With this in mind, I carefully reviewed the testimony of our witnesses for any indication that cuts of the magnitude we have recommended would harm the ability of these Congressional-support agencies to carry out their very important responsibilities. Testimony received by the subcommittee indicated that these recommended savings can be achieved while allowing these support agencies to carry out these responsibilities with no reductions-in-force.

Mr. President, Senator MACK provided members with a detailed explanation of all of the recommendations contained in the bill, and I will not take the time of Members by repeating them. I would, however, call to the attention of Members Section 5 of the administrative provisions. I included, with the enthusiastic support of Chairman MACK, language that will enable the Sergeant at Arms to transfer excess or surplus computer equipment to schools.

In the past, the Senate sold its computers to employees at bargain prices. Fortunately, this practice has been terminated, and I commend the Sergeant at Arms for doing so. For the past couple of years, our computers have simply been transferred to GSA for disposal through the normal surplus process.

I think Senators should be aware that the Senate disposes of over 1500 computers every year. Over the past 3 years, nearly 5,000 computers have been let go. For the most part, these are IBM-compatible, 386, 16-megahertz machines. They are a generation old, but they could be very useful to schools, especially in rural areas, that may not have a big budget to buy fancy new computers.

I am fortunate to represent Washington State, which is very aggressive in trying to put computers in the classroom. Our companies have been generous in donating software and hardware, and people are excited about giving kids skills that will help them get an edge in life.

But not every school district is moving aggressively on computers. Many do not even know how to go about it, and cannot afford it. I am certain that every Senator is aware of how fast technology is evolving in our economy. I really believe that, in the future, a child's ability to compete in the work force will be measured in part by his or her familiarity with computers. In my view, the earlier they start, the better.

The Senate will debate the broad role of government in education technology, and I look forward to having that debate. For now there is a small, and I think constructive, role for the Senate to play. We can use the bully pulpit. We can lead by example. We can help school children by transferring our computers to schools that want or need them. By doing this, we can help some kids, and we can show the country we think bringing technology to the classroom is a high priority.

Here is how it will work: the Sergeant at Arms will make sure that any excess or surplus computers are in good working order. Then he will make them available to interested schools at the lowest possible cost to both the Senate and the schools. Most likely, he will transfer these computers to the General Services Administration. GSA, in turn, will provide information to schools through its regional offices about available inventory. The equipment eligible for transfer will include computers, keyboards, monitors, printers, modems, and other peripheral hardware as described in the bill.

I envision schools being able to obtain this equipment on a first-come, first-served basis, for the cost of shipping and handling from GSA regional offices. The language provides the Sergeant at Arms with flexibility to determine the best way to complete the transfers.

I think this is a useful change in policy. Again, I appreciate the help of Chairman MACK on this, and I look forward to working with him and the Sergeant at Arms to make this work.

Finally, Mr. President, I would point out that there is a provision included in the House-passed bill—Section 312—that was stricken pursuant to a motion by Senator HATFIELD during full committee markup. That section deals with so-called "dynamic" scoring of certain measures. Although this provision would apply to House measures only and, therefore, would normally not be stricken by the Senate in view of the comity between the Houses that is traditionally recognized, in this instance there is a Budget Act point of order under Section 306 which would lie against Section 312 and that was the basis upon which the committee chairman moved to strike the provision.

I strongly oppose Section 312 on its merits. I do not believe that either branch of Congress should be dictating selective macroeconomic scorekeeping procedures upon either the Congressional Budget Office or the Joint Committee on Taxation. I will have more to say on this later during debate on this bill should any attempt be made to revive Section 312 or anything similar to it.

On balance, Mr. President, I believe this is a good bill that deserves the support of Members. I would hasten to add, however, that I share the concerns expressed by Senator REID, a former chairman of this subcommittee, during the committee's markup of the legislative branch appropriation bill. Senator REID stated that we have reached the bottom of the barrel in cutting the legislative branch appropriation bill. Once the savings we have undertaken are accomplished in the Congressional support agencies over a multi-year period, we cannot look to these agencies for further budget cuts. These agencies have been very forthcoming and have understood our need to reduce spending for the Legislative Branch, and I am deeply appreciative of their willingness to do so. But, Mr. President, we have indeed reached the bottom of the barrel.

Mr. President, let me close by commending our subcommittee chairman, Senator MACK. He has proven himself to be a real leader on legislative branch issues and has worked with me on a bipartisan basis. I appreciate it very much. I also wish to express my thanks to the subcommittee staff—Keith Kennedy, Jim English, and Mary Dewald for their fine work, and also to recognize the excellent support we had from Ric Ilgenfritz of my staff and Larry Harris for Senator MACK.

Mr. President, I urge the support of all Members for this bill.

Mr. MACK addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida [Mr. MACK], is recognized.

AMENDMENTS NOS. 5112, 5113, 5114, 5115, 5116, AND 5117 EN BLOC

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I send a series of amendments to the desk and ask for their consideration en bloc.

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

The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Florida [Mr. MACK] proposes amendments numbered 5112, 5113, 5114, 5115, 5116, and 5117 en bloc.

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendments be dispensed with.

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

The amendments en bloc are as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 5112

On page 34 line 20, strike all after the word "Act" through line 21 and insert: "such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 1997 and 1998."

Mr. HATFIELD: Mr. President, this amendment would provide for the reauthorization of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress for fiscal years 1997 and 1998. It is a substitute for the permanent reauthorization reported by the committee. I am offering this amendment after conversations with Representative THOMAS, the chairman of the Committee on Oversight in the other body. I understand Chairman THOMAS' concerns about the proper role of the authorization committees and am willing to respond to his concerns at this time. I hope, however, that the next Congress will enact a permanent authorization for the center.

The American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress was created 20 years ago by passage of the American Folklife Preservation Act of 1976. I was pleased to be a cosponsor of the legislation, which enjoyed broad bicameral and bipartisan support. The legislation was endorsed by Senators STROM THURMOND and Hubert Humphrey, and by Representative DAVID OBEY and then Representative TRENT LOTT. The support was so broad because the legislation had such obvious merit.

The Library was chosen as the site of the Center for several reasons, but principal among them was the strength of the Library's folklife collections. It is not too great a stretch to say that those collections began at the beginning, when Thomas Jefferson's library was purchased for the Library of Congress. Jefferson's library included significant material about Native Americans, and, of course, the information collected during the expedition of Merriwether Lewis and William Clark.

Now as then, one has to collect folklife. No one stands with pad and pencil, recording the lives of workaday Americans. What tends to be automatically recorded is what we at first think very important: the coming and going of the elite or infamous, the domestic affairs of the King or President, the fads that engross the rich and famous, the history of battles as told by generals. But sometimes the foot soldier has a better story than the general. The diary kept by Samuel Pepys in the 1660s is important today because Mr. Pepys went about London and recorded what he saw. He told about the great fire and the coming of the Black Death and seeing the first Punch and Judy show. His record of London is far more interesting than the ones kept by historians engrossed in the intrigues and peccadilloes that swirled around Charles the Second.

I believe all of us understand, Mr. President, that the strength of our Nation proceeds from its smaller places; from small towns in Missouri and Oregon, from short streets in Brooklyn and Omaha. We know that it is in the forms of learning transmitted in families, small communities, the workplace, and in ethnic groups that we develop the strength of our families, our communities, and our culture. And we

know that the makers of our culture in the smaller places do not bring their primary documents to the Library of Congress. They are not invited to elegant dinners in the great hall of the Jefferson building, or courted in fundraising drives. There is at least as great a contribution as the millions raised for other efforts, but it cannot be measured in dollars. It is the Center's great achievement, and ongoing strength, that it recognizes the value of the everyday, and gives it a home where it can be cherished as it deserves to be.

It is very important, Mr. President, that the present structure of the Center be maintained. It is important to have a Board of Trustees selected from all over the Nation and appointed by the Joint leadership of Congress. They bring to the Center a diversity of outlook and purpose that cannot be replicated by the best-intentioned professionals of the Library's career staff. It is important to have this be a Center for folklife, and not just another division within the many divisions of the Library. We could have taken that route in writing the original enabling legislation, but we were trying to raise up the center out of the other collections of the Library to be a beacon to the folklife community across the country. That beacon must be maintained. If it cannot be maintained at the Library of Congress, then it should be moved and sustained elsewhere. I believe the Library is the best home for the Center, but it must get the support expected in a good home.

Mr. President, I hope that ups and downs of the center's authorization in this Congress will serve as a wake-up call from the center's board and the center's supporters. I hope the board will be more attentive to the concerns of the Congressional committees which oversee the Library's operations. I hope the board will work hard to supplement federal funding with private fundraising efforts. I hope the national folklife community will work with the proper authorizing committees to achieve a permanent reauthorization for the center. And I hope that the Library of Congress budget for, and the Congress will provide, funding sufficient to the center's task.

Mr. President, I thank Senator MACK for his cooperation and support in this matter, and I yield the floor.

AMENDMENT NO. 5113

On page 8, after line 17 insert:

SEC. 7. (a) Notwithstanding section 1345 of title 31, United States Code, the Secretary of the Senate may reimburse any individual employed by the Senate day care center for the cost of training classes and conferences in connection with the provision of child care services and for travel, transportation, and subsistence expenses incurred in connection with the training classes and conferences.

(b) The Senate day care center shall certify and provide appropriate documentation to the Secretary of the Senate with respect to any reimbursement under this section. Reimbursements under this section shall be

made from the appropriations account "MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS" within the contingent fund of the Senate on vouchers approved by the Secretary of the Senate.

(c) Reimbursements under this section shall be subject to the regulations and limitations prescribed by the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate for travel and related expenses for which payment is authorized to be made from the contingent fund of the Senate.

(d) This section shall be effective on and after October 1, 1996.

AMENDMENT NO. 5114

On page 8, after line 17 insert:

SEC. 6. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any funds received during fiscal year 1996 by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate in settlement of a contract claim or dispute, but not to exceed \$1,450,000, shall be deposited into the appropriation account for fiscal year 1997 for the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate within the contingent fund of the Senate and shall be available in a like manner and for the same purposes as are the other funds in that account.

AMENDMENT NO. 5115

(Purpose: To authorize a legislative information system for the Senate)

On page 8, between lines 17 and 18, insert the following:

SEC. . (a) The Secretary of the Senate, with the oversight and approval of the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate, shall oversee the development and implementation of a comprehensive Senate legislative information system.

(b) In carrying out this section, the Secretary of the Senate shall consult and work with officers and employees of the House of Representatives. Legislative branch agencies and departments and agencies of the executive branch shall provide cooperation, consultation, and assistance as requested by the Secretary of the Senate to carry out this section.

(c) Any funds that were appropriated under the heading "Secretary of the Senate" for expenses of the Office of the Secretary of the Senate by the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1995, to remain available until September 30, 1998, and the Secretary determines are not needed for development of a financial management system for the Senate may, with the approval of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate be used to carry out the provisions of this section, and such funds shall be available through September 30, 2000.

(d) The Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate may prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

(e) This section shall be effective for fiscal years beginning on or after October 1, 1996.

Mr. MACK. I am proposing an amendment on an important matter to the Senate. I am speaking of the quality and the cost of its legislative information systems. Two years ago, this committee requested from the Library of Congress an analysis of the duplication among the legislative systems supported by the Congress. That study documented that there is extensive overlap in these systems and that there are opportunities for reducing that duplication. We then directed the Library to prepare a plan for creating a single integrated information system that would serve the entire Congress.

The committee received that report in February of this year. The plan

gives us a useful framework for building a new, coordinated legislative information system that will better assist the Members of Congress to carry out their legislative duties. The plan recognizes that there are various independent responsibilities for legislative information within the Congress and proposes a technical scheme that takes advantage of this fact. The new system will therefore require the active support of all of the offices and agencies within the legislative branch that assist the Senate and the House in this critical area.

In our commitment to the American people to reduce the size of the Government, this committee has been reluctant to recommend significant additional resources for any of the Congress' offices and agencies. We are not providing any additional funds for this legislative system, although we will allow the Secretary of the Senate, at his request, to reprogram some funds to support the Senate's need to modernize the collection and preparation of its legislative information. We do expect all legislative branch offices and agencies to support fully this very important initiative with their existing appropriated funds, which we believe are sufficient.

This is a challenging task, and will require appropriate policies, guidelines, and oversight. We hope that the House of Representatives will join us in this task. If they do not, however, we shall proceed in the Senate nonetheless. Even without the participation of the House, the Senate can and must improve its own system and begin to reduce the duplication that currently exists.

This amendment was prepared in consultation with the Committee on Rules and Administration. With this amendment, we are taking the next steps in creating a new legislative information system for the Senate by designating some of those responsibilities for this system now, specifically for the Secretary of the Senate, the Congressional Research Service, and the Library of Congress. The Committee on Rules and Administration has jurisdiction for this system and will be making other designations of responsibility as the system progresses.

I am pleased that the distinguished chairman of our Committee on Rules and Administration shares our views on the importance of these matters, and that his committee is prepared to oversee the development of the Senate's new legislative system.

AMENDMENT NO. 5116

On page 8, after line 17 insert:

SEC. 8. PAYMENT FOR UNACCRUED LEAVE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Financial Clerk of the Senate is authorized to accept from an individual whose pay is disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate a payment representing pay for any period of unaccrued annual leave used by that individual, as certified by the head of the employing office of the individual making the payment.

(b) WITHHOLDING.—The Financial Clerk of the Senate is authorized to withhold the

amount referred to in subsection (a) from any amount which is disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate and which is due to or on behalf of the individual described in subsection (a).

(c) DEPOSIT.—Any payment accepted under this section shall be deposited in the general fund of Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

(d) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term "head of the employing office" means any person with the final authority to appoint, hire, discharge, and set the terms, conditions, or privileges of the employment of an individual whose pay is disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate.

(e) APPLICABILITY.—The section shall apply to fiscal year 1996 and each fiscal year thereafter.

AMENDMENT NO. 5117

(Purpose: To direct the Congressional Research Service to develop an electronic congressional legislative information and document retrieval system)

At the appropriate place in the bill, insert the following:

SEC. . (a) The Congressional Research Service, in consultation with the Secretary of the Senate and the heads of the appropriate offices and agencies of the legislative branch and with the approval of the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate, shall coordinate the development of an electronic congressional legislative information and document retrieval system to provide for the legislative information needs of the Senate through the exchange and retrieval of information and documents among legislative branch offices and agencies. The Secretary of the Senate, with the oversight and approval of the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate, shall have responsibility for the implementation of this system in the Senate. All of the appropriate offices and agencies of the legislative branch shall participate in the implementation of the system.

(b) As used in this section—

(1) the term "legislative information" refers to that information and those documents produced for the use of the Congress by the offices and agencies of the legislative branch as defined in this section, and such other information and documents as approved by the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate;

(2) the term "offices and agencies of the legislative branch" means the Office of the Secretary of the Senate, the Office of Legislative Counsel of the Senate, the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, the General Accounting Office, the Government Printing Office, the Library of Congress, the Congressional Budget Office, and the Sergeant at Arms of the Senate; and

(3) the term "retrieval system" means the indexing of documents and data, as well as integrating, searching, linking, and displaying documents and data.

(c) The Library of Congress shall—

(1) assist the Congressional Research Service in supporting the Senate in carrying out this section; and

(2) provide such technical staff and resources as may be necessary to carry out this section.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, let me first commend the chairman of the Subcommittee on Legislative Branch for his foresight in initiating this effort to improve our legislative information systems. When I became chairman of the Committee on Rules and Administration I began a review of our entire program for information technology. This is a rapidly changing, and

very expensive area for the Senate. Yet it is vital to all the operations of the Senate, from the way we pay our bills to the way we prepare, debate, and pass—or reject—legislation. It is critical, therefore, that we have sound planning for, and careful implementation of information technologies that will adequately support our fundamental work of legislation and oversight. Because of the potential high cost of technology, and also its ability to support our work, I can think of very few areas that require such close scrutiny, well-thought out policies, and effective management. Achieving these objectives has been one of my highest priorities since being appointed Chair.

We have in the Senate now an historic opportunity to reduce duplication and to ensure that our use of technology to support our legislative process is both responsive to the needs of Senators and also cost effective. The Committee on Rules has taken a number of important steps to accomplish this, and we are planning to take more in the near future. I have already noted our strategic review process, which will continue under my chairmanship. In addition, we have directed the Secretary of the Senate, in coordination with the Clerk of the House, to establish standards for the exchange of legislative information between the two Chambers. The Secretary has done this, and, I am pleased to report, is well launched on a plan for implementing these standards. In addition, the committee and the Secretary are about to let a contract that will provide the Senate with options for the design of a system that will enable us to collect and prepare our legislative information on a much more efficient basis. You will recall that many of our systems were developed over 20 years ago, and while they have served us well, few would disagree that we can do much better with the technology that is available to us today. The result will be that Members and staff of the Senate will have legislative information that is more accurate, more timely, and more comprehensive, every day, directly at their desktops. While this program will take several years to complete fully, we will be able to benefit immediately as each new component becomes available.

This program will require a long and sustained effort by many people and many legislative branch organizations, without additional resources. It will require the establishment of priorities and good management to ensure these priorities are met. Through this amendment we are designating the Secretary of the Senate, who has the primary responsibility for the Senate's legislative information, to provide overall management of this system. We are also directing the Congressional Research Service, which understands the legislative research needs of the Congress, to coordinate with the Committee and the Secretary the development of the retrieval portion of the

system. Additionally, we have directed the Library of Congress, with its expertise in the development of information systems, to provide sufficient staff and technical support to assist CRS in building this retrieval component. We will need and expect the cooperation and support of the other legislative branch agencies, including the GPO, and the GAO and CBO, both of whose reports we will want to include in the system. And, of course, we will continue to rely upon our own excellent staff in the Senate Computer Center and the Telecommunications Office in the creation of this system.

Mr. President, when this initiative is complete, we in the Senate will have a new, more efficient, and far more useful legislative information system that will serve the needs of Members and committees. It will be based on standards that allow us to update it regularly and as needed. And it will last us well into the next century. It will be of a quality that is commensurate with our constitutional responsibilities, and it will aid us greatly as we strive to serve the citizens of this great country.

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, the first of the amendments is offered on behalf of Senator HATFIELD.

It amends language reported by the committee to provide for a 2-year reauthorization for the American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress.

The second amendment extends certain provisions of Federal law to employees of the Senate for the Employees Child Care Center.

The third amendment provides for the deposit of a contract termination payment to credit the expenses of the Sergeant at Arms.

The fourth amendment authorizes and directs the Secretary of the Senate to oversee the development and implementation of a legislative information system for the Senate.

Funds for that initiative may be derived from funds previously appropriated for a new financial management system for the Senate with the approval of the Committee on Appropriations.

The fifth amendment brought to us today by the Disbursing Office authorizes the Financial Clerk of the Senate to receive payments for unaccrued annual leave for individuals whose pay is disbursed by the Senate and deposit those payments in the General Fund of the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

And, finally, the sixth amendment recommended to us by the Committee on Rules and Administration addresses the creation of a legislative branch-wide legislative information system.

Mr. President, all of these amendments have been discussed with Senator MURRAY. I believe she has no objection. Therefore, I would ask that these six amendments be agreed to en bloc.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, we have had time to review all of these amendments. There is no objection.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendments are agreed to.

The amendments (Nos. 5112, 5113, 5114, 5115, 5116, and 5117) were agreed to.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote by which the amendments were agreed to.

Mr. MACK. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 5118

(Purpose: To clarify the uses of Member weblinks)

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, at this time I would like to send an amendment to the desk on behalf of Senator LEAHY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), for Mr. LEAHY, proposes an amendment numbered 5118.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. For the purposes of the United States Senate Internet Services Usage Rules and Policies, Members of the Senate may post a link on Senate Internet Services to a private, public, or nonprofit company, organization, or municipality located or based in the Member's State if a disclaimer is included on the same page as the link specifying that the Member is not endorsing the private, public, or nonprofit company, organization, or municipality.

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mrs. MURRAY. I ask unanimous consent that the amendment just sent to the desk be laid aside.

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

Mr. CHAFEE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

AMENDMENT NO. 5119

(Purpose: To amend chapter 1 of title 17, United States Code, to provide for a limitation on the exclusive copyrights of literary works produced or distributed in specialized formats for use by blind or disabled persons, and for other purposes)

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, on behalf of myself, and Senators FRAHM, STEVENS, LEAHY, MCCONNELL, and BINGAMAN, I send a printed amendment to the desk. At the proper time I will ask that it be set aside.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE), for himself, Mrs. FRAHM, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MCCONNELL, and Mr. BINGAMAN, proposes an amendment numbered 5119.

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

At the appropriate place in the bill insert the following new section:

SEC. . LIMITATION ON EXCLUSIVE COPYRIGHTS FOR LITERARY WORKS IN SPECIALIZED FORMAT FOR THE BLIND AND DISABLED.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of title 17, United States Code, is amended by adding after section 120 the following new section:

“§ 121. Limitations on exclusive rights: reproduction for blind or other people with disabilities

“(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 106 and 710, it is not an infringement of copyright for an authorized entity to reproduce or to distribute copies or phonorecords of a previously published, nondramatic literary work if such copies or phonorecords are reproduced or distributed in specialized formats exclusively for use by blind or other persons with disabilities.

“(b)(1) Copies or phonorecords to which this section applies shall—

“(A) not be reproduced or distributed in a format other than a specialized format exclusively for use by blind or other persons with disabilities;

“(B) bear a notice that any further reproduction or distribution in a format other than a specialized format is an infringement; and

“(C) include a copyright notice identifying the copyright owner and the date of the original publication.

“(2) The provisions of this section shall not apply to standardized, secure, or norm-referenced tests and related testing material, or to computer programs, except the portions thereof that are in conventional human language (including descriptions of pictorial works) and displayed to users in the ordinary course of using the computer programs.

“(c) For purposes of this section, the term—

“(1) ‘authorized entity’ means a nonprofit organization or a governmental agency that has a primary mission to provide specialized services relating to training, education, or adaptive reading or information access needs of blind or other persons with disabilities;

“(2) ‘blind or other persons with disabilities’ means individuals who are eligible or who may qualify in accordance with the Act entitled “An Act to provide books for the adult blind”, approved March 3, 1931 (2 U.S.C. 135a; 46 Stat. 1487) to receive books and other publications produced in specialized formats; and

“(3) ‘specialized formats’ means braille, audio, or digital text which is exclusively for use by blind or other persons with disabilities.”.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 1 of title 17, United States Code, is amended by adding after the item relating to section 120 the following:

“121. Limitations on exclusive rights: reproduction for blind or other people with disabilities.”.

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, this is an amendment that I am offering on

behalf of myself and those Senators that I just listed.

This amendment is supported by the Association of American Publishers, the National Federation of the Blind, the American Foundation for the Blind, the American Printing House for the Blind, Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic, and the U.S. Copyright Office.

It also has the support of the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, and we are waiting for approval by the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee before proceeding.

Mr. President, the amendment I am proposing along with those Senators I mentioned is an amendment to the legislative branch appropriations bill regarding books for the blind.

In 1931, the Library of Congress National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped was established by an act of Congress. Since then, funding for this immensely valuable program has been included in the legislative branch bill, which, of course, funds the Library of Congress. The National Library Service and a handful of nonprofit organizations reproduce in specialized formats published material that is readily available to sighted individuals in libraries, bookstores, newsstands and countless other locations.

Specialized formats refers to braille, sound recordings—either on cassette or phonorecord—and new digital formats that can be used for special software. To make certain that recorded books and magazines are only used by those for whom they are intended, they are recorded at a speed that simply does not work on standard tape players.

The National Library Service provides special tape players and record players to eligible individuals. This equipment is not generally available to the public. To be eligible to receive this special equipment, an applicant must be certified by a qualified professional such as a doctor, nurse or social worker that he or she is unable to use standard print.

The National Library Service selects the books to reproduce in these specialized formats.

Frequently, the National Library Service issues request after request only to wait months for a response from the publisher. These delays are not because the publishers have a desire to withhold permission; it is simply a low priority. They just set it aside.

There are still 17 books from the 1995 best seller list for which permission is still pending.

For our Nation's more than 54,000 blind elementary and secondary school students, this is a great problem.

The American Printing House for the Blind in Louisville, KY, is the primary producer of braille textbooks. It is a challenge to reproduce today's highly visible textbooks in braille format. Maps, charts, graphs, and illustrations that take up one page in a standard

textbook may require multiple pages of braille or tactile graphics to convey the same information. All in all, it can take a full year to produce a braille textbook. Added time consumed by trying to get permission from publishers makes it certain that the blind student is not in sync with his classmates.

The amendment Senator FRAHM and others and I are introducing seeks to end the unintended censorship of blind students' access to current information. The amendment, as I say, is endorsed by the Association of American Publishers, the National Federation of the Blind, the American Foundation for the Blind, the American Printing House for the Blind, and the U.S. Copyright Office.

This is a very simple amendment. This says groups that produce specialized formats for the blind no longer are required to gain permission from the copyright holder before beginning production. It is based on an agreement that was reached last January between the Association of American Publishers and the National Federation of the Blind. It includes a very narrow definition of those who are eligible to undertake such production and applies the definition for eligibility used by the National Library Service to those who receive reproductions.

So, Mr. President, as has been said by a member of the National Federation of the Blind, It should be obvious that the delays here present a significant barrier which must be overcome if blind people are to be informed and literate. It is not too much to say that living successfully in our modern society often depends upon being able to communicate ideas and facts both orally and in writing.

I conclude by a statement from Marybeth Peters, who is the Register of Copyrights at the Library of Congress. In testifying before the Senate Judiciary Committee she said,

Blind and physically handicapped readers have a legitimate need for prompt and timely access as soon as possible after works become available to the general reading public. Textbook materials in particular are commonly out of date within 1 to 2 years, superseded by new editions.

Passage of this amendment will permit the speedy access to information that blind people need.

It is my understanding the managers of the bill are prepared to accept the amendment, but we are waiting for the approval of the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee.

So, Mr. President, I thank the managers of the bill and hope that when we receive the approval, as I expect we will, of the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee, if I am not here, the manager of the bill might be able to call up this amendment and have it considered in my absence.

I ask the manager and the ranking member of the committee, if we receive the approval—the only thing we are waiting for is the approval of the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee. If I could pass that on, when it is

received, to the managers, if they could then call up the amendment if I am not here.

Mr. MACK. I say to the Senator, we will be in a position to do that.

Mr. CHAFEE. I thank the Senator very much. I do not know what the time schedule is. We may have to move forward rather quickly. So we will get that information regarding the ranking member as soon as we can.

Mr. MACK. I am under the impression, since the Senator has offered the amendment, that his rights have been protected. We will be moving forward the remainder of this evening and then tomorrow taking whatever amendments have been agreed to in the unanimous consent request last week dealing with those amendments.

I have forgotten the time that we were slotted for votes.

It has not been set yet, but, again, the Senator's rights have been protected since he has offered the amendment.

Mr. CHAFEE. I thank the Senator.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, let me say that I support the amendment the Senator has offered. We are simply on this side waiting for the authorizing committee to review it, and hopefully that will come fairly soon.

Mr. FEINGOLD addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Did the Senator from Wisconsin seek recognition?

Mr. FEINGOLD addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wisconsin [Mr. FEINGOLD], is recognized.

Mr. FEINGOLD. I ask the managers if this would be an appropriate time to offer an amendment? Have they had an opportunity to make their opening statements?

Mr. MACK. I say to the Senator, this is an appropriate time to offer an amendment that has been listed in the unanimous-consent request.

Mr. FEINGOLD. I intend to offer the amendment on behalf of the Senator from Arizona [Mr. MCCAIN] and myself. I believe that is one of the listed items.

Mr. MACK. I believe I would be in a position to object to that. As I understand it, the unanimous-consent request indicates that there is a slot for Senator MCCAIN to offer an amendment. I have the right to object to a request for someone to offer an amendment on someone else's behalf.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida is correct. The Senator from Wisconsin would have to ask unanimous consent to offer the amendment.

Mr. FEINGOLD. I ask unanimous consent that I may offer an amendment on behalf of the Senator from Arizona, who is unable to be here at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. MACK. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CHAFEE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 5120

(Purpose: To further restrict legislative post-employment lobbying by Members and senior staffers)

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise to offer an amendment on behalf of the senior Senator from Arizona, Mr. MCCAIN. I send the amendment to the desk.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Wisconsin [Mr. FEINGOLD], for Mr. MCCAIN, for himself and Mr. FEINGOLD, proposes amendment numbered 5120.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that further reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

At the appropriate place in the bill, add the following:

SEC. . (a) Section 207(e)(1)(A) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking "1 year" and inserting "2 years".

(b) Paragraphs (2)(A), (3), and (4)(A) of section 207(e) of title 18, United States Code, are amended by striking "within 1 year after" and inserting "within 5 years after".

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I have offered the amendment on behalf of Senator MCCAIN of Arizona, which is an outgrowth of a bipartisan effort that relates to the issue of post-employment restrictions on elected officials and what is more commonly known as the practice of the revolving-door lobby.

This amendment follows in a long line of congressional reforms that have been proposed on a bipartisan basis by myself and the Senator from Arizona and others. Several of us who have been trying to address the issue of special interest influence have proposed and pursued several avenues of reform. Whether it is requiring greater disclosure from the lobbying community or passing new gift restrictions that clamps down on free vacation trips and fancy dinners, or finally addressing the woefully inadequate system of campaign finance we are currently saddled with, it is clear that reforming the Congress has become one of the pre-eminent issues among an electorate that has grown to not only view this institution with cynicism and disdain, but has also developed, unfortunately, a fundamental distrust of their elected representatives.

Mr. President, restoring the faith of the American people in their Government is without a doubt one of the

most important tasks that faces us today.

Those of us who have been proposing lobbying reform and gift prohibitions and campaign finance reform have sometimes been accused by defenders of the status quo of seeking to limit citizen access to their elected representatives. But this is not the case.

What we are trying to do is limit special access to elected representatives, the kind of access that ordinary Americans living in States like Wisconsin and Arizona do not have. Many of us believe that it is simply wrong to suggest that just because you have the financial resources to write out enormous campaign contributions or treat legislators to expensive meals, that you should therefore have special access to those Government officials. That is nothing more than auctioning off democracy to the highest bidder.

A very large part of the culture of special interest influence that pervades Washington is the revolving door between public service and private employment. By putting a lock on this revolving door for a meaningful period of time, we can send a message that those entering Government employment should view public service as an honor and a privilege, not as just another rung on the ladder to personal gain and profit.

Mr. President, the facts show there is a public perception that there is a problem that needs to be addressed. It is not misguided.

There are countless instances of former Members of Congress who once chaired or served on committees with jurisdiction over particular industries or special interests who are now lobbying their former colleagues on behalf of those very industries or special interests. Former committee staff directors use their contacts and knowledge of their former committees to secure lucrative positions in lobbying firms and associations with interests related to those committees.

Just how fast is the revolving door spinning, Mr. President? Just look at the countless announcements, after the 1994 elections, of Government officials leaving the public sector to work for lobbying firms.

One article announced that an aide leaving her position on the House Subcommittee on Energy and Power will be working for the lobbying arm of the American Public Power Association.

Mr. President, another announcement tells us a recently retired official member of the House Ways and Means subcommittee on select revenue measures, is joining a Washington lobbying firm as a specialist on tax policy. Mr. President, we have the former chief of staff to the chairman of the House Transportation Committee now lobbying the committee on behalf of a number of transportation interests.

Mr. President, I could go on and on. The problem of the revolving door lobbying is quite clear, and in my view, and I strongly believe in the view of

the author of this amendment, the senior Senator from Arizona, so is the solution. The solution is clear, too.

The amendment offered by the senior Senator from Arizona today will strengthen the postemployment restrictions that are already in place. Keep in mind, Mr. President, postemployment restrictions are not something new. There is currently a 1-year ban on former Members of Congress lobbying the entire Congress, as well as a 1-year ban on senior congressional staff lobbying their former employing entity. Members and senior staff are also prohibited from lobbying on behalf of a foreign entity for 1 year.

The McCain amendment will prohibit Members of Congress from lobbying the entire Congress, not just for 1 year but for 2 years. It doubles the time. We double the current restriction.

In the most egregious abuses, when a former high-ranking committee staffer is hired by a special interest to lobby that committee, we extend the lobbying ban to 5 years. This amendment then bars former senior staffers, defined as any senior staffer or any staffer earning in excess of 75 percent of a Member's salary, from lobbying their former employing entities for a period of 5 years.

For example, the former chief counsel of the Ways and Means Committee would be prohibited from lobbying any member of that committee or any committee staffer for a period of 5 years.

Mr. President, some might argue that we are inhibiting these talented individuals from pursuing careers in policy matters in which they have become extremely proficient. It may be asked why a former high-level staffer on the Senate Subcommittee on Communications cannot accept employment with a telecommunications company. After all, this person has accumulated years of knowledge of our communication laws and technology. Why should this individual be prevented from accepting private sector employment in the communications field?

Of course, Mr. President, our legislation does not do that. Our legislation does not bar anyone from seeking private sector employment. That staffer can take the job with the telecommunications company, but what they cannot do is lobby their former subcommittee for 5 years. They can consult, they can advise, they can recommend, but they cannot lobby their former employer. That is it. That is what the McCain amendment does.

We are only limiting an individual's employment opportunity if they are seeking to use their past employment with the Federal Government to gain special access or influence with the Government in return for personal gain.

Mr. President, we are not here to outlaw the profession of lobbying. Not only would that be unconstitutional, but I do not think it would really be addressing the true flaws of our polit-

ical system. Lobbying, when done right, is merely an attempt to present the views and concerns of a particular group. There is nothing inherently wrong with it. In fact, lobbyists, whether they are representing public interest groups or Wall Street, can present information to public representatives that they may not otherwise have or obtain. So it can be helpful.

Mr. President, I strongly believe that there is no more noble endeavor than to serve in Government, but we need to take immediate action to restore the public's confidence in their Government and to rebuild the lost trust between Members of Congress and the electorate. This amendment is a small, but I think strong step, in that direction. I urge the Members to give it their support.

I yield the floor.

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I thank the distinguished Senator for working out the situation here a few moments ago. I am glad we were able to have the amendment offered, and I appreciate the Senator's understanding with respect to voting this on a voice vote.

I am prepared to accept the amendment and take it to conference.

Mr. FEINGOLD. The manager has correctly stated our understanding. I appreciate the courtesy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 5120) was agreed to.

Mrs. MURRAY. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. MACK. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I rise in support of H.R. 3754, in legislative branch appropriations bill for fiscal year 1997.

The bill, as reported, provides \$2.2 billion in new budget authority and \$1.9 billion in outlays for the Congress and other legislative branch agencies, including the Library of Congress, the General Accounting Office, and the Government Printing Office, among others.

When outlays from prior year appropriations and other adjustments are taken into account, the bill totals \$2.3 billion in budget authority and \$2.2 billion in outlays. The bill is under the subcommittee's 602(b) allocation by \$23 million in budget authority and \$49 million in outlays.

I want to commend the distinguished chairman and ranking member of the

legislative branch subcommittee for producing a bill that is substantially within their 602(b) allocation. I am pleased that this bill continues to hold the line on congressional spending.

I urge the Senate to adopt this bill and to avoid offering amendments which would cause the committee to exceed its 602(b) allocation.

APPOINTMENT OF A DEPUTY LIBRARIAN

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I would like to bring the attention of the Senate to committee report language concerning the Library of Congress and the appointment and responsibilities of a deputy librarian.

I also note the presence of the chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library, Senator HATFIELD, and the chairman of the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration. I wonder if they would care to engage in a brief colloquy regarding this issue.

But let me first read the report language in question.

The committee has reviewed the findings and recommendations of the recent audits of the Library, and believes that the single most important action to be taken would be the appointment of a deputy librarian fully empowered to be the chief executive officer of the Library. The management tasks identified in the audit reports are daunting, and must be given full-time attention. The extraordinary demands already placed upon the Librarian in any number of external arenas and in developing a vision for the Library's transition into a digital future make it impossible for him to deal with the day-to-day administration of the Library's operations. Those responsibilities must be delegated to the Deputy Librarian and the committee looks forward to that being done as soon as the deputy position is filled.

Mr. President, the committee's phrasing in its instruction to the Library to empower the Deputy Librarian as the chief executive officer was done so advisedly. The committee is aware that the specific recommendation in the GAO management audit suggested that the deputy act as the chief operating officer. And, indeed the library is in the process of selecting a deputy librarian to fill the position as a chief operating officer.

However, the committee wishes to make it crystal clear that, in our considered judgment, and for the reasons outlined in the report which I have just read, the Deputy Librarian should be charged with the responsibilities of a chief executive officer.

The title and terminology are not as important as the idea that this committee will be looking to the deputy as the accountable authority in the day-to-day management of the institution.

I yield to our most distinguished chairman of the Appropriations Committee who also serves as the chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library.

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, the chairman of the subcommittee was good enough to consult with me in the development of the report language he has just read, and I concur wholeheartedly in the direction given to the Library in that language. Our Librarian of Congress, Dr. James Billington,

is an extraordinary individual of numerous talents and many achievements, but no one individual can possibly personally direct all the Library's activities. When the position of Deputy Librarian is filled, the Librarian should delegate to him the responsibility and the authority to deal with the day-to-day administration of the Library's operations. The Librarian has written to me to indicate he intends to do exactly that, and I look forward to the beneficial effects of that delegation of responsibility. I yield the floor.

Mr. MACK. I yield to our most distinguished chairman of the Committee on Rules and Administration for his comments on the issue.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I share with both distinguished chairmen, the views as expressed in committee report 104-323 relating to the appointment and responsibilities of a deputy librarian of the Library of Congress.

In our meeting of the Joint Committee on the Library, ably chaired by the distinguished senior Senator from Oregon, we discussed the critical need for a deputy librarian, fully vested with the authority to run the day-to-day operations and management of the institution.

Each of us recognize the many responsibilities already placed on the Librarian, including those by outlined by statute. His responsibilities in developing a vision for the Library into the 21st century is an enormous task. Promoting this vision within the institution, in the Congress, and indeed throughout the Nation requires an immense amount of time and energy. The Librarian has done a tremendous job in this critical area. We applaud his efforts and wish him greater and continued success. I know we all look forward to working with the Librarian as he continues to set the course for the future of the Library.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following the disposition of amendments numbered 5119 and 5118, which will occur on Tuesday, that the bill be advanced to third reading, and Senator BYRD be recognized for up to 20 minutes for closing remarks, to be followed immediately by final passage of H.R. 3754, the legislative appropriations bill; provided further, that amendments numbered 5118 and 5119 not be subject to second-degree amendments.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I just have a few more comments to make with respect to the legislative appropriations bill. I am trying to anticipate where we might have possible contention in a conference committee meeting, and that would be on the issue of dynamic scoring, which Senator MURRAY referred to in her opening statement.

I am one who strongly supports the language, frankly, that was included in

the House bill, which would allow for both the joint committee and for the CBO, Congressional Budget Office, to use dynamic scoring upon request. But I realize the situation that we are in in the Senate. There would have been a Budget Act point of order that could be raised against the entire bill if, in fact, it had not been removed in committee. And if I remember correctly, Senator HATFIELD offered an amendment to remove the House language, so that we could proceed without a point of order being raised.

Again, this is an issue that we will have to deal with in conference. I just want to make everybody aware that it is one in which there are strong feelings on both sides of the Capitol, and both sides of the aisle, I suspect.

Lastly, I, again, would just like to thank Senator MURRAY for her cooperation in the effort that we have put together to bring about this appropriations bill. I also want to express my appreciation to Jim English, Eric Ligenfritz, and Larry Harris and Keith Kennedy of our side of the aisle, for the work they have put into the writing of this legislation. I appreciate the efforts all of you have made.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, let me just thank the Senator from Florida for his work on the legislative branch appropriations bill.

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

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

AMENDMENT NO. 5118, WITHDRAWN

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, the ranking member sent an amendment to the desk numbered 5118 on behalf of Senator LEAHY.

At this time, I ask unanimous consent that that amendment be withdrawn.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 5118) was withdrawn.

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, I have a statement I wish to put into the RECORD as it relates to that amendment. I want to read it so that there will be no mistake about what we are putting in the RECORD.

Although the "U.S. Senate Internet Services Usage Rules and Policies" were adopted on July 22, 1996, Chairman WARNER and I have determined that implementation of the requirements concerning promotional and commercial links to Senators' home States will be delayed for 60 days. During that time, the committee is interested in hearing from Senators and Senate offices concerned about this issue and will seriously consider constructive input during that time.

All other aspects of the policy remains in effect.

I thank the Chair. I yield the floor.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a

period for the transaction of morning business.

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

MAJ. GEN. NORMAND G. LEZY

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, it is my pleasure to rise today and pay tribute to Maj. Gen. Normand G. Lezy, the Director of Air Force Legislative Liaison, whose 2-year tenure in that position is about to come to an end.

The support that the 535 Members of Congress, and various committees of the House and Senate, receive from the legislative liaison offices of the four military services and the Coast Guard is critical to allowing us to serve our constituents. The men and women who work in these congressional relations offices are known to be courteous, responsive, and excellent representatives of their individual branches of the military. Clearly, the high standards these soldiers, marines, sailors, coast guardsmen, and airmen adhere to are set by those who head the various legislative liaison missions. These are officers who bring a wealth of experience, professionalism, and knowledge with them when they assume these highly visible and extremely demanding positions.

For the past 24 months, the Air Force has been well served by General Lezy, an officer with 21 years of experience, and whose broad background not only gives him an understanding of Air Force operations that few can match, but which has aided him greatly as he worked to meet the needs and demands of those in Congress. From his days as a young second lieutenant in the 3355th Student Squadron, where he assumed the duties of administrative officer, to his work at the Pentagon, General Lezy has repeatedly demonstrated his abilities as an officer and his commitment to selflessly working for the security of the United States. Without question, the Air Force Legislative Liaison office has benefited from his command.

Mr. President, I am certain that my colleagues both on the Armed Services Committee and in the Senate would echo my commendations of General Lezy, the support he has provided us, and the service he has rendered our Nation. I wish the general great health and much happiness in the years to come, and I am sure that he will continue to play a key role in continuing to protect the ideals, interests, and people of the United States.

WITHDRAWAL OF REQUEST FOR SEQUENTIAL REFERRAL—S. 1718

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, on June 12, 1996, I requested sequential referral of S. 1718, the Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal year 1997, to the Committee on Rules and Administration upon its discharge from the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs. The Rules Committee, which