

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill which had been reported from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. EXTENSION AND IMPROVEMENT OF NATIVE AMERICAN VETERAN HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM.

(a) **EXTENSION.**—Section 3761(c) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking out "September 30, 1997" and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 2003".

(b) **OUTREACH.**—Section 3762(i) of such title is amended—

(1) by inserting "(1)" after "(i)";

(2) in paragraph (1), as so designated—

(A) by inserting "in consultation with tribal organizations (including the National Congress of American Indians and the National American Indian Housing Council)," after "The Secretary shall"; and

(B) by striking out "tribal organizations and"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) Activities under the outreach program shall include the following:

"(A) Attending conferences and conventions conducted by the National Congress of American Indians in order to work with the National Congress in providing information and training to tribal organizations and Native American veterans regarding the availability of housing benefits under the pilot program and in assisting such organizations and veterans in participating in the pilot program.

"(B) Attending conferences and conventions conducted by the National American Indian Housing Council in order to work with the Housing Council in providing information and training to tribal organizations and tribal housing entities regarding the availability of such benefits.

"(C) Attending conferences and conventions conducted by the Department of Hawaiian Homelands in order to work with the Department of Hawaiian Homelands in providing information and training to tribal housing entities in Hawaii regarding the availability of such benefits.

"(D) Producing and disseminating information to tribal governments, tribal veterans service organizations, and tribal organizations regarding the availability of such benefits.

"(E) Assisting tribal organizations and Native American veterans in participating in the pilot program."

(c) **ANNUAL REPORTS.**—Section 3762 of such title is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"(j) Not later than February 1 of each of 1998 through 2003, the Secretary shall transmit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a report relating to—

"(1) the implementation of the pilot program under this subchapter during the fiscal year preceding the date of the report;

"(2) the Secretary's exercise during such fiscal year of the authority provided under subsection (c)(1)(B) to make loans exceeding the maximum loan amount;

"(3) the appraisals performed for the Secretary during such fiscal year under the authority of subsection (d)(2), including a description of—

"(A) the manner in which such appraisals were performed;

"(B) the qualifications of the appraisers who performed such appraisals; and

"(C) the actions taken by the Secretary with respect to such appraisals to protect the interests of veterans and the United States;

"(4) the outreach activities undertaken under subsection (i) during such fiscal year, including—

"(A) a description of such activities on a region-by-region basis; and

"(B) an assessment of the effectiveness of such activities in encouraging the participation of Native American veterans in the pilot program;

"(5) the pool of Native American veterans who are eligible for participation in the pilot program, including—

"(A) a description and analysis of the pool; and

"(B) a description and assessment of the impediments, if any, to full participation in the pilot program of the Native American veterans in the pool; and

"(6) the Secretary's recommendations, if any, for additional legislation regarding the pilot program."

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITIES RELATING TO HOMELESS VETERANS.

(a) **DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE.**—Section 1720A(e) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking out "December 31, 1997" and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1999".

(b) **AGREEMENTS FOR HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR HOMELESS VETERANS.**—Section 3735(c) of such title is amended by striking out "December 31, 1997" and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1999".

(c) **AUTHORITY FOR COMMUNITY-BASED RESIDENTIAL CARE FOR HOMELESS CHRONICALLY MENTALLY ILL VETERANS AND OTHER VETERANS.**—Section 115(d) of the Veterans' Benefits and Services Act of 1988 (38 U.S.C. 1712 note) is amended by striking out "December 31, 1998" and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1999".

(d) **DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM OF COMPENSATED WORK THERAPY.**—Section 7(a) of Public Law 102-54 (38 U.S.C. 1718 note) is amended by striking out "December 31, 1997" and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1999".

(e) **SERVICES AND ASSISTANCE TO HOMELESS VETERANS.**—The Homeless Veterans Comprehensive Service Programs Act of 1992 (38 U.S.C. 7721 note) is amended—

(1) in section 2(a), by striking out "September 30, 1997" and inserting in lieu thereof "September 30, 1999";

(2) in section 3(a)(2), by striking out "September 30, 1997" and inserting in lieu thereof "September 30, 1999"; and

(3) in section 12, by striking out "through 1997" and inserting in lieu thereof "through 1999".

(f) **HOMELESS VETERANS' REINTEGRATION PROJECTS.**—(1) Section 738(e)(1) of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11448(e)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(C) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 1999."

(2) Section 741 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 11450) is amended by striking out "December 31, 1997" and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1999".

SEC. 3. EXTENSION AND EXPANSION OF ENHANCED-USE LEASE AUTHORITY.

(a) **EXPANSION.**—Section 8168(a) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking out "20" and inserting in lieu thereof "40".

(b) **EXTENSION.**—Section 8169 of such title is amended by striking out "December 31, 1997" and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1999".

SEC. 4. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN OTHER AUTHORITIES OF THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) **PILOT PROGRAM FOR NONINSTITUTIONAL ALTERNATIVES TO NURSING HOME CARE.**—Section 1720C(a) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking out "December 31, 1997" and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1999".

(b) **HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.**—Section 7618 of such title is amended by striking out "December 31, 1997" and inserting in lieu thereof "December 31, 1999".

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee amendment be agreed to, the bill be considered a third time, and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, the title amendment be agreed to, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

The title was amended so as to read:

A bill to extend and improve the Native American Veteran Housing Loan Pilot Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to extend certain authorities of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs relating to services for homeless veterans, to extend certain other authorities of the Secretary, and for other purposes.

AMENDING THE ACT TO INCORPORATE THE AMERICAN LEGION

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. 1377 introduced earlier today by Senators HATCH and LEAHY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows.

A bill (S. 1377) to amend the act incorporating the American Legion to make a technical correction.

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. LEAHY. Mr. President, I rise today to comment on a bill which will amend the act of incorporation of the American Legion. I have introduced this bill with my colleague from Utah, Senator HATCH, the chairman of the Judiciary Committee.

Last year, Congress expanded the dates of the Vietnam war for purposes of veterans benefits by shifting the official start of the war from December 22, 1961, to February 28, 1961. The bill before the Senate makes a similar change in the Legion's charter. When we pass this into law the Legion will be able to extend membership to those men and women who served honorably on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces during the early years of the Vietnam war. I am hopeful that we can pass it by unanimous consent today, and have it signed into law by the President before we adjourn for the year.

Mr. President, this modest change will mean a lot to the veterans from that period who wanted the opportunity to join the American Legion but never could. They have waited for more than 35 years to have the privilege of becoming Legionnaires. We should not make them wait one day longer.

I yield the floor.

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 1377) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 1377

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 5 of the Act entitled "An Act to Incorporate the American Legion", approved September 16, 1919 (41 Stat. 285; 36 U.S.C. 45) is amended by striking "December 22, 1961" and inserting "February 28, 1961".

AUTHORIZING PRINTING OF SENATE DOCUMENTS AND USE OF OFFICIAL MAIL

Mr. NICKLES. I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to the consideration en bloc of the following resolutions and bill which were submitted and introduced earlier today by Senator WARNER: Senate Resolution 143, Senate Concurrent Resolution 61, Senate Concurrent Resolution 62, Senate Concurrent Resolution 63, and S. 1378.

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

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the resolutions be agreed to, the bill be considered read a third time and passed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to these items be printed in the RECORD with all the preceding occurring en bloc.

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

The resolutions (S. Res. 143, S. Con. Res. 61, S. Con. Res. 62, and S. Con. Res. 63) were agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 143

Resolved, That the Committee on Rules and Administration is directed to prepare a revised edition of the Senate Election Law Guidebook, Senate Document 104-12, and that such document shall be printed as a Senate document.

Sec. 2. There shall be printed 600 additional copies of the document specified in section 1 of this resolution for the use of the Committee on Rules and Administration.

S. CON. RES. 61

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That (a) a revised edition of the publication entitled "Our Flag", revised under the direction of the Joint Committee on Printing, shall be reprinted as a Senate document.

(b) There shall be printed—

(1)(A) 250,000 copies of the publication for the use of the House of Representatives, distributed in equal numbers to each Member;

(B) 51,500 copies of the publication for the use of the Senate, distributed in equal numbers to each Member;

(C) 2,000 copies of the publication for the use of the Joint Committee on Printing; and

(D) 1,400 copies of the publication and distribution to the depository libraries; or

(2) if the total printing and production costs of copies in paragraph (1) exceed \$150,000, such number of copies of the publication as does not exceed total printing and production costs of \$150,000, with distribution to be allocated in the same proportion as in paragraph (1).

S. CON. RES. 62

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That (a) a revised edition of the brochure entitled "How Our Laws Are Made", under the direction of the Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives in consultation with the Parliamentarian of the Senate, shall be printed as a Senate document, with suitable paper cover in the style selected by the chairman of the Joint Committee on Printing.

(b) There shall be printed—

(1)(A) 250,000 copies of the brochure for the use of the House of Representatives, distributed in equal numbers to each Member;

(B) 100,000 copies of the brochure for the use of the Senate, distributed in equal numbers to each Member;

(C) 2,000 copies of the brochure for the use of the Joint Committee on Printing; and

(D) 1,400 copies of the brochure for distribution to the depository libraries; or

(2) if the total printing and production costs of copies in paragraph (1) exceed \$180,000, such number of copies of the brochure as does not exceed total printing and production costs of \$180,000, with distribution to be allocated in the same proportion as in paragraph (1).

S. CON. RES. 63

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That (a) a revised edition of the pamphlet entitled "The Constitution of the United States of America", prepared under the direction of the Joint Committee on Printing, shall be printed as a Senate document, with appropriate illustration.

(b) There shall be printed—

(1)(A) 440,000 copies of the pamphlet for the use of the House of Representatives, distributed in equal numbers to each Member;

(B) 100,000 copies of the pamphlet for the use of the Senate, distributed in equal numbers to each Member;

(C) 2,000 copies of the pamphlet for the use of the Joint Committee on Printing; and

(D) 1,400 copies of the pamphlet for distribution to the depository libraries; or

(2) if the total printing and production costs of copies in paragraph (1) exceed \$120,000, such number of copies of the pamphlet as does not exceed total printing and production costs of \$120,000, with distribution to be allocated in the same proportion as in paragraph (1).

The bill (S. 1378) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 1378

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

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF USE OF OFFICIAL MAIL IN THE LOCATION AND RECOVERY OF MISSING CHILDREN.

The Act entitled "An Act to amend title 3, United States Code, to authorize the use of penalty and franked mail in efforts relating to the location and recovery of missing children", approved August 9, 1985 (39 U.S.C. 3220 note; Public Law 99-87), is amended—

(1) in section 3(a) by striking "June 30, 1997" and inserting "June 30, 2002"; and

(2) in section 5 by striking "December 31, 1997" and inserting "December 31, 2002".

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 1253

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that if and when S. 1253 is reported by the Energy Committee, it be referred to the Agriculture Committee solely for the purpose of considering matters within its jurisdiction for not to exceed 40 days of Senate session. I further ask that if the Agriculture Committee has not reported the matter after that period, the bill be immediately discharged from committee and placed on the calendar.

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

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—NOMINATION OF RONALD LEE GILMAN

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that at 9:30 on Thursday, November 6, the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the Executive Calendar No. 326, the nomination of Ronald Lee Gilman to be circuit court judge for the sixth circuit. I further ask consent that there be 10 minutes of debate equally divided in the usual form, and following that debate the Senate proceed to a vote on the confirmation of the nomination.

I finally ask consent that immediately following the vote, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate go into executive session and proceed en bloc to the following nominations on the Executive Calendar: Nos. 271, 272, 279, 282, 288, 352, 372, 376 through 379, 382, 383, 440, 441, 442, and all nominations on the Secretary's desk in the Coast Guard.

I finally ask unanimous consent the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the nominations appear at this point in the RECORD, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Nancy Jo Powell, of Iowa, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Uganda.

Amelia Ellen Shippy, of Washington, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service,