

passed, as amended, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 867), as amended, was read a third time and passed.

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, the Senate, by this action, has just passed a major reform in the foster care of this country, an issue that bipartisan Senators have gathered on over the last several months to resolve. Senator ROTH, of the Finance Committee, in the last several weeks, working with Senator ROCKEFELLER, Senator CHAFEE, myself, Senator COATS, and Senator DEWINE have taken on an effort to reform foster care in this country by the proposal of this legislation that we have now gained the concurrence of the Senate on.

It is without question, in my opinion, a landmark piece of legislation because what it does, for the first time, is use foster care the way we intended it originally to be used. It ensures the safety for abused and neglected children. It promotes adoption. It accelerates permanent placement. It offers to children of this country in need an opportunity for a loving and permanent home. And it increases the accountability of reform.

I am extremely pleased that at this late hour we could finally bring about a conclusion to this effort.

NATIONAL VOLUNTARY MUTUAL REUNION REGISTRY

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to S. 1487 introduced earlier today by myself.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1487) to establish a National Voluntary Mutual Reunion Registry.

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. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be advanced to third reading and passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, all without further action or debate.

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

The bill (S. 1487) was read a third time and passed, as follows:

S. 1487

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

SECTION 1. NATIONAL VOLUNTARY MUTUAL REUNION REGISTRY.

Part E of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 670 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 479A. NATIONAL VOLUNTARY MUTUAL REUNION REGISTRY.

"(a) EXCHANGE OF MUTUALLY REQUESTED IDENTIFYING INFORMATION.—The Secretary,

in the discretion of the Secretary and provided that there is no net cost to the Federal Government, may use the facilities of the Department of Health and Human Services to facilitate the voluntary, mutually requested exchange of identifying information that has been mutually consented to, by an adult adopted individual who is 21 years of age or older with—

"(1) any birth parent of the adult adopted individual; or

"(2) any adult sibling who is 21 years of age or older, of the adult adopted individual,

if such persons involved have, on their own initiative, consented by a signed notarized statement to the exchange of such identifying information.

"(b) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall ensure that a National Voluntary Mutual Reunion Registry established under this section (in this section referred to as the "Registry") meets the following requirements.

"(1) CENTRALIZED CAPACITY.—The Registry provides a centralized nationwide capacity for the information described in subsection (a) and utilizes appropriately designed computer and data processing methods to protect the privacy of the information contained in the Registry, and does not intrude on any other data system maintained by the Department of Health and Human Services.

"(2) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROCEDURES.—The Registry complies with procedures established by the Secretary that provide that—

"(A) only information necessary to facilitate a match shall be contained in the Registry and the Registry shall not attempt to make contact for the purpose of facilitating a reunion with any individual who is not entered into or participating in the Registry;

"(B) to the maximum extent feasible, the confidentiality and privacy rights and interests of all parties participating in the Registry are protected; and

"(C) information pertaining to any individual that is maintained in connection with any activity carried out under this section shall be confidential and not be disclosed for any purpose without the prior, written, informed consent of the individual with respect to whom such information applies or is maintained.

"(c) REASONABLE FEES.—Reasonable fees, established by taking into consideration, and not to exceed, the average charge of comparable services offered by States, may be collected for services provided under this section.

"(d) PENALTY FOR VIOLATION.—

"(1) FINE AND IMPRISONMENT.—Any individual or entity that is found to have disclosed or used confidential information in violation of the provisions of this section shall be subject to a fine of \$5,000 and imprisonment for a period not to exceed 1 year.

"(2) NONAPPLICABILITY OF SECTION 3571 OF TITLE 18, UNITED STATES CODE.—The provisions of section 3571 of title 18, United States Code, shall not apply to a violation described in paragraph (1).

"(e) NO PREEMPTION.—Nothing in this section invalidates or limits any law of a State or of a political subdivision of a State concerning adoption and the confidentiality of that State's sealed adoption record policy."

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, once again the Senate has gone on record in support of a measure aimed at humanizing the process through which adult biological relatives separated by adoption, who are looking for each other, can make contact.

The passage of this Craig-Levin bill would not have been possible without the steadfast leadership of Senator LARRY CRAIG. His sensitivity, his com-

mitment, his compassion and his clear understanding of this issue has been enlightening to all of the Members of this body. Let me also thank Senator MCCAIN and Senator LANDRIEU for their commitment and bipartisan spirit throughout our discussions on this issue.

Mr. President, we are deeply touched by the difficulties experienced by adult adopted persons, birth parents, and separated siblings who, often for many years and at great expense, have been seeking one another. Aside from the natural human desire to know one's roots and genetic heritage, there are other important reasons why many birth relatives seek to make contact with each other. Some are seeking a deeper sense of identity, some need vital information which may affect their own mental and physical health and some are facing momentous family decisions that require more knowledge about their heritage; and a substantial percentage of birth parents say they want to be available to the adult children many relinquished at birth, during a time of stress, should they also desire to make contact.

We believe that S. 1487, the National Voluntary Mutual Reunion Registry, deals with these needs and emotions in a careful and sensitive way. The legislation permits the HHS Secretary, at no net expense to the Federal Government, to facilitate the voluntary, mutually requested exchange of identifying information that has been mutually consented to in a signed notarized statement of identifying information by the birth parent, adult adoptee 21 years or older or adult siblings.

This legislation does not call for the unsealing of adoption records. Currently, over half the States provide for voluntary and mutual reunion facilitation. However, State-based systems are restricted, by nature, to the geographic boundaries of the State. Since we are a mobile society, that limitation reduces the utility of State-based systems. Adoptions are often started in one State but finalized in another. Additionally, the adoptee, birth parent or siblings may be a resident of several different States during their lifetimes.

Finally, Mr. President, this legislation does not mandate, but simply gives the Secretary the discretion to facilitate voluntary, mutual reunions, if she so chooses.

I commend my colleagues in the Senate on the passage of this humane and much-needed legislation. I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be included in the RECORD again at this point.

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

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

PRIVATE RELIEF ACT OF BELINDA
MCGREGOR

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to Calendar No. 275, S. 1304.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1304) for the relief of Belinda McGregor.

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

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on the Judiciary, with amendments, as follows:

(The parts of the bill intended to be stricken are shown in boldface brackets and the parts of the bill intended to be inserted are shown in italic.)

S. 1304

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

SECTION 1. PERMANENT RESIDENCE.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for purposes of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.), Belinda McGregor shall be held and considered to have been [lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence] *selected for a diversity immigrant visa for fiscal year 1998 as of the date of the enactment of this Act upon payment of the required visa fee.*

SEC. 2. REDUCTION OF NUMBER OF AVAILABLE VISAS.

Upon the granting of permanent residence to Belinda McGregor as provided in this Act, the Secretary of State shall instruct the proper officer to reduce by one number during the current fiscal year the total number of immigrant visas available to natives of the country of the alien's birth under section 203[(a)](c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1153[(a)](c)).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the committee amendments.

The committee amendments were agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 1615

Mr. CRAIG. I send an amendment to the desk on behalf of Mr. HATCH.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Idaho [Mr. CRAIG], for Mr. HATCH, proposes an amendment numbered 1615.

SECTION 1. At page 1, line 7, delete "lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence" and insert in lieu thereof the following: "selected for a diversity immigrant visa for FY 1998".

SECTION 2. At page 2, lines 4 and 5, change (a) to (c).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

Mr. CRAIG. I ask unanimous consent that the bill, as amended, 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 bill (S. 1304), as amended, was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 1304

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

SECTION 1. PERMANENT RESIDENCE.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for purposes of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.), Belinda McGregor shall be held and considered to have been selected for a diversity immigrant visa for fiscal year 1998 as of the date of the enactment of this Act upon payment of the required visa fee.

SEC. 2. REDUCTION OF NUMBER OF AVAILABLE VISAS.

Upon the granting of permanent residence to Belinda McGregor as provided in this Act, the Secretary of State shall instruct the proper officer to reduce by one number during the current fiscal year the total number of immigrant visas available to natives of the country of the alien's birth under section 203(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1153(c)).

THE CALENDAR

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed en bloc to Calendar No. 267, S. 508; No. 268, S. 857; H.R. 2731; and H.R. 2732; that the bills be considered read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bills be printed in the RECORD.

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

PRIVATE RELIEF OF MAI HOA
"JASMIN" SALEHI

The bill (S. 508) to provide for the relief of Mai Hoa "Jasmin" Salehi, was considered, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed; as follows:

S. 508

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for purposes of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.), Mai Hoa "Jasmin" Salehi, shall be held and considered to have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence as of the date of the enactment of this Act upon payment of the required visa fees.

PRIVATE RELIEF OF ROMA
SALOBRIT

The bill (S. 857) for the relief of Roma Salobrit, was considered, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed; as follows:

S. 857

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

SECTION 1. PERMANENT RESIDENCE.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for purposes of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.), Roma Salobrit shall be held and considered to have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence as of the date of enactment of this Act upon payment of the required visa fee.

SEC. 2. REDUCTION OF NUMBER OF AVAILABLE VISAS.

Upon the granting of permanent residence to Roma Salobrit as provided in this Act, the

Secretary of State shall instruct the proper officer to reduce by one number during the current fiscal year the total number of immigrant visas available to natives of the country of the alien's birth under section 203(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1153(a)).

PRIVATE RELIEF OF ROY
DESMOND MOSER

The bill (H.R. 2731) for the relief of Roy Desmond Moser, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

PRIVATE RELIEF OF JOHN ANDRE
CHALOT

The bill (H.R. 2732) was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, these two bills will provide relief for two men who have fought with valor and honor for this country. H.R. 2731 and H.R. 2732 will provide justice for two Americans by correcting the date they became U.S. citizens.

One of these men, John Andre Chalot, resides in my home State of Florida. Mr. Chalot, a retired postal worker living in Bradenton, FL, was born in Le Havre, France, on December 19, 1919. He immigrated to the United States with his parents in 1921. After being graduated from high school in 1939, he sought to enlist in the U.S. Army Air Corps. Because he was considered too young to fly in the corps he moved to Canada, joined the Royal Canadian Air Force [RCAF], and received his pilot wings. He flew Spitfires with the RCAF based in England from 1940 to 1943. While still in England, Mr. Chalot transferred to the U.S. Army Corps, 358th fighter Squadron, and received a commission as second lieutenant. At the time of his commission in 1943, Mr. Chalot had completed the naturalization process to become a U.S. citizen. Unfortunately, our Government misplaced Mr. Chalot's naturalization forms somewhere in the process.

Early in 1944, while flying a routine P-51 mission over Germany, Mr. Chalot's plane was fired upon and hit, causing him to crash-land in Holland. With the help of the Resistance, Mr. Chalot managed to get to Paris, but in July 1944, he was betrayed by Gestapo agents and confined at Fresnes Prison.

In August 1944, Germans crowded Mr. Chalot and 168 Allied airmen into boxcars and transported them to Buchenwald concentration camp. There they were confined in miserable, degrading, and inhumane conditions, forced to subsist on a starvation diet, and subjected to Nazi medical experiments. In November 1944, Mr. Chalot and most of his fellow airmen were transferred from Buchenwald to Luftstlag III, an infamous subcamp of Buchenwald, where they remained until their liberation at the end of the war.