

the employee where disclosure is necessary to protect the employee's safety."

SEC. 6. EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS AND EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS.

(1) **MORE PROTECTIVE.**—Nothing in this Act or the amendments made by this Act shall be construed to supersede any provision of any Federal, State or local law, collective bargaining agreement, or other employment benefit program which provides greater unemployment compensation or leave benefits for employed victims of domestic violence than the rights established under this Act or such amendments.

(2) **LESS PROTECTIVE.**—The rights established for employees under this Act or the amendments made by this Act shall not be diminished by any collective bargaining agreement, any employment benefit program or plan, or any State or local law.

SEC. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) **GENERAL RULE.**—Except as provided in subsection (b), this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall take effect upon the expiration of 180 days from the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) **UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by section 3 shall apply in the case of compensation paid for weeks beginning on or after the expiration of 180 days from the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) **MEETING OF STATE LEGISLATURE.**—In the case of a State with respect to which the Secretary of Labor has determined that the State legislature is required in order to comply with the amendments made by section 3, the amendments made by section 3 shall apply in the case of compensation paid for weeks which begin on or after the expiration of 180 days from the date of the enactment of this Act and after the end of the first session of the State legislature which begins after the date of the enactment of this Act or which began prior to the date of the enactment of this Act and remained in session for at least 25 calendar days after such date of enactment. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the term "session" means a regular, special, budget, or other session of a State legislature.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 28

At the request of Mr. THURMOND, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire [Mr. GREGG] and the Senator from Colorado [Mr. ALLARD] were added as cosponsors of S. 28, a bill to amend title 17, United States Code, with respect to certain exemptions from copyright, and for other purposes.

S. 72

At the request of Mr. KYL, the names of the Senator from Georgia [Mr. COVERDELL] and the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON] were added as cosponsors of S. 72, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a reduction in the capital gain rates for all taxpayers, and for other purposes.

S. 73

At the request of Mr. KYL, the name of the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON] was added as a cosponsor of S. 73, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the corporate alternative minimum tax.

S. 74

At the request of Mr. KYL, the names of the Senator from Georgia [Mr.

COVERDELL] and the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON] were added as cosponsors of S. 74, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to limit the tax rate for certain small businesses, and for other purposes.

S. 75

At the request of Mr. KYL, the name of the Senator from Georgia [Mr. COVERDELL] was added as a cosponsor of S. 75, a bill to repeal the Federal estate and gift taxes and the tax on generation-skipping transfers.

S. 76

At the request of Mr. KYL, the names of the Senator from Georgia [Mr. COVERDELL] and the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON] were added as cosponsors of S. 76, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the expensing limitation to \$250,000.

S. 184

At the request of Mr. D'AMATO, the names of the Senator from Illinois [Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN], the Senator from Connecticut [Mr. DODD], and the Senator from New Jersey [Mr. TORRICELLI] were added as cosponsors of S. 184, a bill to provide for adherence with the MacBride Principles of Economic Justice by United States persons doing business in Northern Ireland, and for other purposes.

S. 228

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Wyoming [Mr. THOMAS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 228, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for continuing appropriations in the absence of regular appropriations.

S. 239

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the names of the Senator from Nevada [Mr. BRYAN] and the Senator from Colorado [Mr. ALLARD] were added as cosponsors of S. 239, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 relating to the treatment of livestock sold on account of weather-related conditions.

S. 249

At the request of Mr. D'AMATO, the names of the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN] and the Senator from Minnesota [Mr. WELLSTONE] were added as cosponsors of S. 249, a bill to require that health plans provide coverage for a minimum hospital stay for mastectomies and lymph node dissection for the treatment of breast cancer, coverage for reconstructive surgery following mastectomies, and coverage for secondary consultations.

S. 269

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Colorado [Mr. ALLARD] was added as a cosponsor of S. 269, a bill to provide that the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall include an estimate of Federal retirement benefits for each Member of Congress in their semiannual reports, and for other purposes.

S. 277

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the name of the Senator from Kentucky

[Mr. MCCONNELL] was added as a cosponsor of S. 277, a bill to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act to restore the effectiveness of certain provisions regulating Federal milk marketing orders.

S. 348

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from New Jersey [Mr. TORRICELLI] was added as a cosponsor of S. 348, a bill to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to encourage States to enact a Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights, to provide standards and protection for the conduct of internal police investigations, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

FEINSTEIN AMENDMENT NO. 11

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. TORRICELLI, and Mr. CLELAND) proposed an amendment to the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 1) proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require a balanced budget; as follows:

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

That the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years after the date of its submission to the States for ratification:

"ARTICLE —

"SECTION 1. Total outlays for any fiscal year shall not exceed total receipts for that fiscal year, unless three-fifths of the whole number of each House of Congress shall provide by law for a specific excess of outlays over receipts by a roll call vote.

"SECTION 2. The limit on the debt of the United States held by the public shall not be increased, unless a majority of the whole number of each House shall provide by law for such an increase by a roll call vote.

"SECTION 3. Prior to each fiscal year, the President shall transmit to the Congress a proposed budget for the United States Government for that fiscal year, in which total outlays do not exceed total receipts.

"SECTION 4. No bill to increase revenue shall become law unless approved by a majority of the whole number of each House by a roll call vote.

"SECTION 5. The Congress may waive the provisions of this article for any fiscal year in which a declaration of war is in effect.

"The provisions of this article may be waived for any fiscal year in which the United States is engaged in military conflict which causes an imminent and serious military threat to national security and is so declared by a joint resolution, adopted by a majority of the whole number of each House, which becomes law.

"The provisions of this article may be waived for any fiscal year in which the United States is experiencing a national economic emergency or major natural disaster, which is so declared by a joint resolution, adopted by a majority of the whole number of each House, which becomes law.

"SECTION 6. The Congress shall enforce and implement this article by appropriate legislation, which may rely on estimates of outlays and receipts.

"SECTION 7. Total receipts shall include all receipts of the United States Government except those derived from borrowing. Total outlays shall include all outlays of the United States Government except for those for repayment of debt principal. Effective one year after the effective date of this article, the receipts (including attributable interest) and outlays of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors and Disability Insurance Trust Funds (as and if modified to preserve the solvency of the Funds) used to provide old age, survivors, and disabilities benefits shall not be counted as receipts or outlays for purposes of complying with this article.

"SECTION 8. Nothing in this article shall preclude the authority to enact and implement a separate capital budget for those major capital improvements which require multi-year Federal funding, and which would be excluded from the requirements of section 7 of this article.

"SECTION 9. This article shall take effect beginning with fiscal year 2002 or with the second fiscal year beginning after its ratification, whichever is later."

BUMPERS (AND FEINGOLD) AMENDMENT NO. 12

Mr. BUMPERS (for himself and Mr. FEINGOLD) proposed an amendment to the motion to refer the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 1), supra; as follows:

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. POINT OF ORDER AGAINST BUDGET RESOLUTIONS THAT FAIL TO SET FORTH A GLIDE PATH TO A BALANCED BUDGET.—Section 301 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is amended by inserting at the end thereof the following new subsection:

"(j) It shall not be in order to consider any concurrent resolution on the budget (or amendment, motion, or conference report thereon) that fails to set forth appropriate levels for all items described in subsection (a)(1) through (7) for all fiscal years through 2002."

SECTION 2. PROHIBITION ON BUDGET RESOLUTIONS THAT FAIL TO SET FORTH A BALANCED BUDGET.—Section 301 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is amended by inserting at the end thereof the following new subsection:

"(k) CONGRESSIONAL ENFORCEMENT OF A BALANCED BUDGET.—

"(1) Beginning in 2001, it shall not be in order to consider any concurrent resolution on the budget (or amendment, motion, or conference report thereon) that sets forth a level of outlays for fiscal year 2002 or any subsequent fiscal year that exceeds the level of receipts for that fiscal year.

"(2) The receipts (including attributable interest) and outlays of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund used to provide old age, survivors, and disabilities benefits shall not be counted as receipts or outlays for purposes of this subsection."

SECTION 3. POINT OF ORDER AGAINST BUDGET RESOLUTIONS THAT FAIL TO ESTABLISH A GLIDE PATH FOR A BALANCED BUDGET BY 2002 AND BEYOND.—

(a) Section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is amended by inserting "301(j)," after "301(i)," in both places it appears.

(b) Add the following new section immediately following Section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974:

"SEC. _____. Section 301(k) may be waived (A) in any fiscal year by an affirmative vote

of three-fifths of the whole number of each House; (B) in any fiscal year in which a declaration of war is in effect; or (C) in any fiscal year in which the United States is engaged in military conflict which causes an imminent and serious military threat to national security and is so declared by a joint resolution, adopted by a majority of the whole number of each House, which becomes law.

SECTION 4. TECHNICAL CHANGES.—Section 306 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is amended as follows:

(a) Immediately following "SEC. 306." insert the following:

"(a) Except for bills, resolutions, amendments, motions or conference reports, which would amend the congressional budget process,"

(b) Add the following at the end of subparagraph (a):

"(b) No bill, resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report, which would amend the congressional budget process shall be considered by either House."

FEINGOLD AMENDMENT NOS. 13-14

Mr. FEINGOLD proposed two amendments to the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 1) supra; as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 13

On page 2, line 7, strike "seven" and insert "3".

AMENDMENT NO. 14

On page 2, line 15, after "vote" insert "or unless Congress shall provide by law that an accumulated budget surplus shall be available to offset outlays to the extent necessary to provide that outlays for that fiscal year do not exceed total receipts for that fiscal year".

TORRICELLI (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 15

Mr. TORRICELLI (for himself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. KOHL, and Mrs. BOXER) proposed an amendment to the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 1) supra; as follows:

On page 3, strike lines 4 through 11, and insert the following:

"SECTION 5. The Congress may waive the provisions of this article for any fiscal year in which a declaration of war is in effect.

"The provisions of this article may be waived for any fiscal year in which the United States faces an imminent and serious military threat to national security and is so declared by a joint resolution, which becomes law.

"The provisions of this article may be waived for any fiscal year in which the United States is in a period of economic recession or significant economic hardship and is so declared by a joint resolution, which becomes law."

On page 3, strike lines 15 through 19, and insert the following:

"SECTION 7. Total receipts shall exclude those derived from net borrowing and the disposition of major public physical capital assets. Total outlays shall include all outlays of the United States Government except those for repayment of debt principal and those dedicated to a capital budget. The capital budget shall include only investments in major public physical capital that provides long-term economic benefits."

BOXER AMENDMENT NO. 16

Mrs. BOXER proposed an amendment to the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 1) supra; as follows:

At the end of Section 5, add the following: "The provisions of this article may be waived for any fiscal year in which there is a declaration made by the President (and a designation by the Congress) that a major disaster or emergency exists, adopted by a majority vote in each House of those present and voting."

DORGAN (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 17

Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. FORD, Mr. REID, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. JOHNSON) proposed an amendment to the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 1) supra; as follows:

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

That the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years after the date of its submission to the States for ratification:

"ARTICLE —

"SECTION 1. Total outlays for any fiscal year shall not exceed total receipts for that fiscal year, unless three-fifths of the whole number of each House of Congress shall provide by law for a specific excess of outlays over receipts by a rollcall vote.

"SECTION 2. The limit on the debt of the United States held by the public shall not be increased, unless three-fifths of the whole number of each House shall provide by law for such an increase by a rollcall vote.

"SECTION 3. Prior to each fiscal year, the President shall transmit to the Congress a proposed budget for the United States Government for that fiscal year in which total outlays do not exceed total receipts.

"SECTION 4. No bill to increase revenue shall become law unless approved by a majority of the whole number of each House by a rollcall vote.

"SECTION 5. The Congress may waive the provisions of this article for any fiscal year in which a declaration of war is in effect. The provisions of this article may be waived for any fiscal year in which the United States is engaged in military conflict which causes an imminent and serious military threat to national security and is so declared by a joint resolution, adopted by a majority of the whole number of each House, which becomes law.

"SECTION 6. The Congress shall enforce and implement this article by appropriate legislation, which may rely on estimates of outlays and receipts.

"SECTION 7. Total receipts shall include all receipts of the United States Government except those derived from borrowing. Total outlays shall include all outlays of the United States Government except for those for repayment of debt principal. The receipts (including attributable interest) and outlays of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Funds (as and if modified to preserve the solvency of the Funds) used to provide old age, survivors, and disabilities benefits shall not be counted as receipts or outlays for purposes of this article.

"SECTION 8. This article shall take effect beginning with fiscal year 2002 or with the second fiscal year beginning after its ratification, whichever is later."

ROCKEFELLER AMENDMENT NO. 18

Mr. CONRAD (for Mr. ROCKEFELLER) proposed an amendment to the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 1) supra; as follows:

Beginning on page 3, strike lines 12 through 14 and insert the following:

"SECTION 6. The Congress shall enforce and implement this article by appropriate legislation, which may rely on estimates of outlays and receipts. Medicare outlays shall not be reduced in excess of the amount necessary to preserve the solvency of the Medicare Health Insurance Trust Fund."

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet in SR-301, Russell Senate Office Building, on Wednesday, March 5, 1997, at 9:30 a.m. to hold an oversight hearing to review the budget and operations of the Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Architect of the Capitol, and the National Gallery of Art.

For further information concerning this hearing, please contact Ed Edens of the committee staff on 224-6678.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be allowed to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 26, 1997, at 9 a.m. in SR-328A to discuss the impact of capital gains taxes on farmers.

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

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, February 26, 1997 in open session, to receive testimony in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 1998 and the future years defense program.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 26, 1997, to conduct a hearing on the oversight on the Monetary Policy Report to Congress pursuant to the Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act of 1978. The witness will be: the Honorable Alan Greenspan, Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate

Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 26, 1997 at 9:30 a.m. to conduct an Oversight Hearing on the President's Budget Request for fiscal year 1998 for the Bureau of Indian Affairs [BIA] and the Indian Health Service [IHS]. The hearing will be held in room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 26, 1997, at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate for a hearing entitled "The President's Fiscal Year 1998 Budget Request for the United States Small Business Administration" on Wednesday, February 26, 1997, which will begin at 9:30 a.m. in room 428A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs would like to request unanimous consent to hold a hearing on the President's proposed fiscal year 1998 budget for veterans programs. The hearing will be held on February 26, 1997, at 2 p.m. in room 418 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 26, 1997 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed hearing on intelligence matters.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on International Economic Policy of the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 26, 1997, at 2 p.m. to hold a hearing.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure be granted permission to meet Wednesday, February 26, at 9:30 a.m., Hearing Room (SD-406), to con-

duct a hearing on the administration's proposal for reauthorization of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act [ISTEA] and the performance of ISTEA's programs.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HOMEOWNERS PROTECTION ACT OF 1997

• Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, today I am pleased to announce my support for S. 318, a bill introduced by the distinguished chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, Senator D'AMATO. This bill, the Homeowners Protection Act of 1997 will protect consumers across the country from paying millions of dollars in unnecessary private mortgage insurance PMI premiums. This bill corrects a serious inequity faced by many first-time, middle class homeowners, and I commend Senator D'AMATO for his thoughtful approach to this problem.

No one can argue that PMI has served a useful and admirable purpose by allowing middle class families a greater opportunity for home ownership. Traditionally, mortgage lenders expect home buyers to make a down payment of at least 20 percent. For credit-worthy borrowers who lack the cash to make such a large down payment, PMI enables them to purchase a home while protecting lenders from default until the borrower has built significant equity in the home. To that end, requiring the purchase of PMI is good policy.

The problem arises when homeowners make several years of mortgage payments and reach the point where they have built up enough equity, usually 20 percent of the original value of the loan, to virtually eliminate the risk of default. At that point, the need for continued PMI coverage disappears and borrowers should have the right to cancel their policies. Yet, according to many reports in the newspapers and on TV, many uninformed borrowers continue to pay unnecessary premiums which can cost additional hundreds or even thousands of dollars each year. Others who have sought to cancel their coverage have faced unbelievable red-tape and confusion.

Senator D'AMATO's bill will eliminate these problems and make home ownership more affordable and more attainable for all Americans. Under this bill, homeowners will have the right to cancel PMI when they have accumulated 20 percent equity in their homes, the value generally determined to be sufficient to protect lenders from default. The bill takes the reasonable step of allowing the Federal Reserve the ability to grant exceptions to this rule—either to protect consumer access to credit or to protect lenders from economic factors which may create unique default