

The poll asked whether the American people support increasing cigarette taxes by 43 cents a pack, and returning much of the revenues to the States to provide health care for the Nation's uninsured children.

An overwhelming 72 percent of the respondents favored this proposal, which is contained in the legislation that Senator HATCH and I introduced last month.

The detailed breakdown of the responses shows that the plan has broad support among people of all ages, incomes, races, educational backgrounds, party affiliations, and geographic regions. Support is at least two-to-one in all 36 groups, and it is three-to-one or even four-to-one in 17 of the groups.

North and South, East and West, the American people support the Hatch-Kennedy bill.

I ask unanimous consent that the detailed breakdown of the Wall Street Journal-NBC News poll may be included in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

Question: Two Senators, a Republican and a Democrat, have proposed increasing cigarette taxes by 43 cents a pack, and giving much of the money raised to help states provide health insurance for uninsured children. Based on this description, do you favor or oppose this plan?

WALL STREET JOURNAL/NBC NEWS POLL—APRIL 26–28, 1997

(Figures in percentage)

	Favor	Op- pose	Not Sure
All adults	72	24	4
Men	67	30	3
Women	76	20	4
Northeast	73	20	7
Midwest	73	26	1
South	69	28	3
West	74	23	3
Whites	70	26	4
Blacks	80	16	4
Age 18–34	73	25	2
Age 35–49	74	23	3
Age 50–64	66	30	4
Age 65 and over	72	21	7
Under \$20,000 income	74	23	3
\$20,000–\$30,000	76	21	3
\$30,000–\$50,000	70	28	2
Over \$50,000	70	26	4
Urban	76	21	3
Suburb/towns	70	26	4
Rural	70	28	2
Registered voters	73	23	4
Non-registered adults	65	32	3
Democrats	79	18	3
Republicans	67	29	4
Independents	69	27	4
Clinton voters	80	17	3
Dole voters	64	31	5
Liberals	79	19	2
Moderates	79	19	2
Conservatives	64	31	5
Professionals/managers	76	21	3
White collar workers	77	20	3
Blue collar workers	62	35	3
High school or less	66	30	4
Some college	75	22	3
College graduates	75	21	4

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, the Conservation Reserve Program, a program vitally important to my State and many others, has recently been threatened on many fronts. I would like to make clear my intentions and views on several matters relating to the CRP.

Last week Congressman BOB SMITH was successful in passing H.R. 1342, legislation requiring USDA to reenroll winter crop land not accepted in the new CRP for one year. For the record, H.R. 1342 has received strong support from producers in my State and like Chairman SMITH, I, too, am very concerned for winter crop producers throughout the country. Unfortunately, we have received a loud message from the President that he strongly objects to the bill and would veto the measure if passed by Congress.

Knowing the President would veto H.R. 1342, I felt it necessary, at the very least, to send a letter to Secretary Glickman requesting that he permit producers to begin preparing CRP ground immediately for fall planting. I would like producers in my State to know that I will continue to work with Secretary Glickman to see that he addresses this problem. Further, let it be known, that I will oppose any attempt to cap or earmark enrollments to the Conservation Reserve Program.

Yesterday, 13 Senators joined me in sending a letter to Secretary Glickman outlining 3 critical issues concerning the Conservation Reserve Program. Let me now outline the issues raised in the letter.

First, producers throughout the country are currently faced with serious uncertainty as to whether or not their bids to enroll land in the CRP will be accepted. I believe it is very important for Secretary Glickman to notify producers this month whether their offers are accepted. I understand that Secretary Glickman is sympathetic to this problem and has announced he will notify all producers by late May. I have expressed my concern to Secretary Glickman and have encouraged him to allow producers to immediately begin preparing their land for fall planting of winter crops without penalty. This will allow producers to begin ground preparation in the event they are not accepted into the program. Producers in my State are concerned they will not have enough time nor enough moisture in the ground to grow winter crops if they do not begin preparing their land immediately. Simply put, time is running out for producers in my State. I understand that Secretary Glickman is willing to help solve this problem and I am hopeful that he will address this situation in a timely fashion.

Second, the House Appropriations Committee has placed a provision in the Emergency Disaster Supplemental bill capping CRP enrollments at 14 million acres. Many Senators, including myself, believe that this cap threatens the environmental commitment we made when we passed, and the President enacted, the 1996 Farm Bill. As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I will work hard to see that this provision is omitted during the Emergency Disaster Supplemental Conference.

Third, the President has proposed reducing CRP enrollments by 2 million

acres to pay for the development rights of Crown Butte, Inc. I believe, as do many other Senators, that any cap or reduction in CRP enrollments would jeopardize the commitment Congress made to improve water quality, enhance wildlife habitat, and reduce wind and soil erosion.

In closing, I thank my colleagues for their support. The CRP is a vitally important program and I look forward to working with my colleagues and Secretary Glickman as we address these concerns.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that our letter to Secretary Glickman be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the letter was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY,
Washington, DC, May 6, 1997.

Hon. DAN GLICKMAN,
Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of
Agriculture, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SECRETARY: We are writing to bring to your attention three matters of concern regarding the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).

First, it is critically important that you fulfill the pledge you made in your April 29 letter to House Agriculture Committee Chairman Bob Smith that producers will be notified by late May of whether their offers to enroll land in the CRP have been accepted. As you are well aware, growers whose offers are not accepted into the program will not have enough time, nor the appropriate weather conditions, to prepare their current CRP acreage for fall planting. We understand that you are sympathetic to this unfortunate predicament and ask that you rectify this situation immediately. We seek your prompt approval of ground preparation practices necessary for fall planting of winter crops on all expiring CRP acreage without loss of payments. Specifically, we request that producers be permitted to remove cover crops without penalty beginning immediately.

Second, we applaud your opposition to any effort that would cap or earmark CRP enrollments. Like you, we believe the provision by the House Appropriations Committee to cap CRP enrollments at 14 million acres would jeopardize USDA's efforts to improve water quality, enhance wildlife habitat, reduce wind and soil erosion, and enroll additional acres under the Department's continuous signup initiative. We will be working hard to see that this provision, or any similar effort, is struck during the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Conference. We welcome your support in this effort.

Third, we do not support President Clinton's proposal to reduce CRP enrollment by 2 million acres to pay for the development rights of Crown Butte Mines, Inc. We believe that limiting CRP enrollments would threaten the substantial environmental commitment we made when Congress passed and the President enacted the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996.

We strongly encourage you to address the time sensitive nature of our request. Winter crop producers throughout the country are in serious jeopardy and if they so choose, should be allowed to prepare their land for fall planting immediately.

We look forward to hearing from you and appreciate your support for an extremely important program.

Sincerely,
RICHARD G. LUGAR.

SLADE GORTON.
GORDON SMITH.
DIRK KEMPTHORNE.
PATTY MURRAY.
SAM BROWNBACK.
CHUCK HAGEL.
TOM HARKIN.
LARRY E. CRAIG.
CONRAD BURNS.
RON WYDEN.
PAT ROBERTS.
MAX BAUCUS.
MICHAEL B. ENZI.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:26 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1463. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for the Customs Service, the Office of the United States Trade Representative, and the International Trade Commission.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1463. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for the Customs Service, the Office of the United States Trade Representative, and the International Trade Commission; to the Committee on Finance.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-1798. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule (RIN1121-AA24) received on April 24, 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1799. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Young American Medals Program" (RIN1121-AA37) received on April 24, 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1800. A communication from the Regulatory Policy Officer of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Residency Requirements for Persons Acquiring Firearms" (RIN1512-AB66) received on April 21, 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1801. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Visas" received on April 28, 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1802. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Visas" received on April 28, 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1803. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act

for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1804. A communication from the Acting General Counsel of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Solid Waste Programs" (FRL5670-6) received on May 5, 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1805. A communication from the Chairman of the U.S. Sentencing Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to sentencing guidelines; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1806. A communication from the Acting Chair of the National Indian Gaming Commission, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation relative to assess fees; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JEFFORDS, from the Committee on Labor and Human Resources:

Donald Rappaport, of the District of Columbia, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Education.

Hans M. Mark, of Texas, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation for a term expiring April 17, 2002. (Reappointment)

Anthony R. Sarmiento, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Institute for Literacy Advisory Board for a term expiring September 22, 1998.

Susan E. Trees, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2002.

Marsha Mason, of New Mexico, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2002.

Gerald N. Tirozzi, of Connecticut, to be Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed, subject to the nominees' commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. HAGEL:

S. 709. A bill to protect private property rights guaranteed by the fifth amendment to the Constitution by requiring Federal agencies to prepare private property taking impact analyses and by allowing expanded access to Federal courts; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BREAU:

S. 710. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the credit for producing fuel from a nonconventional source to taxpayers using biomass fuel sources in the generation of electricity through the use of a suspension burning process; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BREAU (for himself, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. D'AMATO, and Mr. FRIST):

S. 711. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to simplify the method of

payment of taxes on distilled spirits; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MOYNIHAN (for himself and Mr. HELMS):

S. 712. A bill to provide for a system to classify information in the interests of national security and a system to declassify such information; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. DEWINE):

S. 713. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to allow for additional deferred effective dates for approval of applications under the new drugs provisions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. WELLSTONE, and Mr. JEFFORDS):

S. 714. A bill to make permanent the Native American Veteran Housing Loan Pilot Program of the Department of Veterans' Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

By Mr. COVERDELL (for himself and Mr. CLELAND):

S. 715. A bill to redesignate the Dublin Federal Courthouse building located in Dublin, Georgia, as the J. Roy Rowland Federal Courthouse; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BURNS, Mr. GORTON, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, and Mr. ENZI):

S. 716. A bill to establish a Joint United States-Canada Commission on Cattle and Beef to identify, and recommend means of resolving, national, regional, and provincial trade-distorting differences between the countries with respect to the production, processing, and sale of cattle and beef, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. LOTT, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. COATS, Mr. DODD, Mr. GREGG, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. FRIST, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. ENZI, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MCCONNELL, and Mr. REED):

S. 717. A bill to amend the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, to reauthorize and make improvements to that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. GREGG (for himself and Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire):

S. Res. 85. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that individuals affected by breast cancer should not be alone in their fight against the disease; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. HAGEL:

S. 709. A bill to protect private property rights guaranteed by the fifth amendment to the Constitution by requiring Federal agencies to prepare private property taking impact analyses and by allowing expanded access to Federal courts; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

THE PRIVATE PROPERTY FAIRNESS ACT OF 1997

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Private Property Fairness Act of 1997. This bill will