

The study documents several clear facts about last year's increase: It raised wages for 4 million workers; 66 percent of these are adults, and 58 percent are women.

Some 40 percent of the increase went to families in the bottom 20 percent of the income scale, whose earnings average \$14,000 a year; 55 percent of the increase went to families in the bottom 40 percent of the income scale, who earn \$30,000 a year or less.

Contrary to opponents' claims, the increase did not primarily go to teenagers in part-time jobs after school.

There was no significant effect on employment of adults, minorities, teenagers or anyone else. The crocodile tears shed for these groups by opponents of the minimum wage have no basis in fact.

The bottom line is clear. Employment does not go down because the minimum wage goes up. The overall conditions of the economy determine the levels of employment for all sectors of the work force. Reasonable increases in the minimum wage have no significant effect on these levels.

Even the Wall Street Journal threw in the towel, and it did so soon after the increase last October took effect. An article published on November 20, 1996 was headlined "Fears Over Raising the Minimum Wage Appear Unfounded." And the facts since then have amply verified that statement.

Raising the minimum wage was the right thing for Congress to do last year, and it's the right thing for Congress to do this year. No one who works for a living should have to live in poverty. Everyone who works for a living deserves a living wage. I urge the Senate and the House to act expeditiously on the legislation I am introducing today.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous Consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1009

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "American Family Fair Minimum Wage Act of 1997".

SEC. 2. MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE.

Paragraph (1) of section 6(a) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 206 (a)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

"(1) except as otherwise provided in this section not less than

"(A) \$5.65 an hour during the year beginning on September 1, 1998;

"(B) \$6.15 an hour during the year beginning on September 1, 1999;

"(C) \$6.65 an hour during the year beginning on September 1, 2000;

"(D) \$6.95 an hour during the year beginning on September 1, 2001; and

"(E) \$7.25 an hour during the year beginning on September 1, 2002.

By Mr. THURMOND:

S. 1010. A bill to suspend the rate of duty with respect to certain chemicals; to the Committee on Finance.

DUTY SUSPENSION WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN CHEMICALS

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a bill which will suspend the duties on two chemicals used in the manufacturing of pharmaceuticals, ultraviolet protection products, and fragrances. Currently, these chemicals are imported into the United States.

The first chemical, benzyl alcohol, is used to produce esters. In 1996, this product was listed in the pharmaceutical category and carried a duty free status which has been overturned.

The second chemical, benzophenone, is primarily used to produce pharmaceuticals, ultraviolet protection products, and fragrances. Currently, no domestic producer of this product exists. Therefore, suspending the duties on this item would not adversely affect domestic industries.

Mr. President, suspending the duty on these chemicals will benefit the consumers by stabilizing the costs of the end products. I hope the Senate will consider this measure expeditiously.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of this bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1010

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

SECTION 1. DUTY SUSPENSIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is amended—

(1) in subheading 2906.11.00 (relating to dl menthol), by striking "2.1%" and inserting "Free"; and

(2) in subheading 2906.21.00 (relating to benzyl alcohol), by striking "5.9%" and inserting "Free".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The Amendments made by this section shall apply to goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the date that is 15 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 61

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island [Mr. REED], and the Senator from Nebraska [Mr. KERREY] were added as cosponsors of S. 61, a bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to extend eligibility for veterans' burial benefits, funeral benefits, and related benefits for veterans of certain service in the United States merchant marine during World War II.

S. 202

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the name of the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON] was added as a cosponsor of S. 202, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the earnings test for individuals who have attained retirement age.

S. 328

At the request of Mr. HUTCHINSON, the names of the Senator from Ne-

braska [Mr. HAGEL], the Senator from Oregon [Mr. SMITH], the Senator from Iowa [Mr. GRASSLEY], and the Senator from Maine [Ms. COLLINS] were added as cosponsors of S. 328, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to protect employer rights, and for other purposes.

S. 349

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from North Dakota [Mr. DORGAN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 349, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for expanding, intensifying, and coordinating activities of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute with respect to heart attack, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases in women.

S. 356

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from New York [Mr. D'AMATO] was added as a cosponsor of S. 356, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the title XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to assure access to emergency medical services under group health plans, health insurance coverage, and the medicare and medicaid programs.

S. 364

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the names of the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON] and the Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] were added as cosponsors of S. 364, a bill to provide legal standards and procedures for suppliers of raw materials and component parts for medical devices.

S. 943

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 943, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to clarify the application of the Act popularly known as the "Death on the High Seas Act" to aviation accidents.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 38

At the request of Mr. ROTH, the name of the Senator from Alaska [Mr. MURKOWSKI] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 38, a concurrent resolution to state the sense of the Congress regarding the obligations of the People's Republic of China under the Joint Declaration and the Basic Law to ensure that Hong Kong remains autonomous, the human rights of the people of Hong Kong remain protected, and the government of the Hong Kong SAR is elected democratically.

SENATE RESOLUTION 85

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the names of the Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] and the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON] were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 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.

SENATE RESOLUTION 106

At the request of Mr. ROBB, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin [Mr.

KOHL] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 106, a resolution to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Presidential Management Intern Program.

AMENDMENT NO. 595

At the request of Mr. WYDEN the name of the Senator from Oregon [Mr. SMITH] was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 595 proposed to S. 936, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1998 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 638

At the request of Mrs. BOXER the name of the Senator from California [Mrs. FEINSTEIN] was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 638 proposed to S. 936, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1998 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 677

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD the name of the Senator from Wisconsin [Mr. KOHL] was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 677 proposed to S. 936, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1998 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 762

At the request of Mr. DODD the names of the Senator from West Virginia [Mr. BYRD] and the Senator from Iowa [Mr. HARKIN] were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 762 proposed to S. 936, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1998 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 763

At the request of Mr. DODD the name of the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. HELMS] was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 763 proposed to S. 936, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1998 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 763 proposed to S. 936, supra.

AMENDMENT NO. 764

At the request of Mr. STEVENS the names of the Senator from New Hampshire [Mr. GREGG], the Senator from Kansas [Mr. ROBERTS], the Senator from Colorado [Mr. CAMPBELL], the Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL], the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. FAIRCLOTH], the Senator from California [Mrs. BOXER], the Senator from Washington [Mrs. MURRAY], the Senator from Idaho [Mr. CRAIG], the Senator from Montana [Mr. BAUCUS], the Senator from Texas [Mrs. HUTCHISON], the Senator from South Dakota [Mr. DASCHLE], the Senator from North Dakota [Mr. DORGAN], the Senator from Alabama [Mr. SESSIONS], the Senator from New Jersey [Mr. LAUTENBERG], and the Senator from Florida [Mr. MACK] were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 764 proposed to S. 936, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1998 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. ROTH his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 764 proposed to S. 936, supra.

AMENDMENT NO. 799

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN the name of the Senator from Illinois [Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN] was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 799 proposed to S. 936, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1998 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 802

At the request of Mr. LEVIN the names of the Senator from South Carolina [Mr. THURMOND], the Senator from West Virginia [Mr. BYRD], and the Senator from Vermont [Mr. JEFFORDS] were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 802 proposed to S. 936, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1998 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FIS-
CAL YEAR 1998DOMENICI (AND BINGAMAN)
AMENDMENT NO. 803

Mr. DOMENICI (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN) proposed an amendment to

the bill (S. 936) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1998 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; as follows:

SEC. . FINAL SETTLEMENT OF DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE
PAYMENTS TO LOS ALAMOS COUNTY
UNDER AUSPICES OF ATOMIC EN-
ERGY COMMUNITY ACT OF 1955.

(a) The Secretary of Energy on behalf of the federal government shall convey without consideration fee title to government-owned land under the administrative control of the Department of Energy to the Incorporated County of Los Alamos, Los Alamos, New Mexico, or its designee, and to the Secretary of the Interior in trust for the Pueblo of San Ildefonso for purposes of preservation, community self-sufficiency or economic diversification in accordance with this section.

(b) In order to carry out the requirement of subsection (a) the Secretary shall:

(1) no later than 3 months from the date of enactment of this Act, submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report identifying parcels of land considered suitable for conveyance, taking into account the need to provide lands—

(A) which are not required to meet the national security missions of the Department of Energy;

(B) which are likely to be available for transfer within 10 years; and

(C) which have been identified by the Department, the County of Los Alamos, or the Pueblo of San Ildefonso, as being able to meet the purposes stated in subsection (a).

(2) no later than 12 months after the date of enactment of this Act, submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report containing the results of a title search on all parcels of land identified in paragraph (1), including an analysis of any claims of former owners, or their heirs and assigns, to such parcels. During this period, the Secretary shall engage in concerted efforts to provide claimants with every reasonable opportunity to legally substantiate their claims. The Secretary shall only transfer land for which the United States Government holds clear title.

(3) no later than 21 months from the date of enactment of this Act, complete any review required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321-4375) with respect to anticipated environmental impact of the conveyance of the parcels of land identified in the report to Congress, and;

(4) no later than 3 months after the date, which is the later of—

(A) the date of completion of the review required by paragraph (3); or

(B) the date on which the County of Los Alamos and the Pueblo of San Ildefonso submit to the Secretary a binding agreement allocating the parcels of land identified in paragraph (1) to which the Government has clear title,

submit to the appropriate congressional committees a plan for conveying the parcels of land in accordance with the agreement between the County and the Pueblo and the findings of the environmental review in paragraph (3).

(c) The Secretary shall complete the conveyance of all portions of the lands identified in the plan with all due haste, and no later than 9 months, after the date of submission of the plan under paragraph (b)(4).

(d) If the Secretary finds that a parcel of land identified in subsection (b) continues to