

promulgated by the Internal Revenue Service that increases Federal revenue, and for other purposes.

S. 859

At the request of Mr. KYL, the names of the Senator from Minnesota [Mr. GRAMS] and the Senator from Alabama [Mr. SHELBY] were added as cosponsors of S. 859, a bill to repeal the increase in tax on social security benefits.

S. 932

At the request of Mr. GRAMM, the name of the Senator from Georgia [Mr. COVERDELL] was added as a cosponsor of S. 932, a bill to amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to require the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a National Advisory and Implementation Board on Imported Fire Ant Control, Management, and Eradication and, in conjunction with the Board, to provide grants for research or demonstration projects related to the control, management, and possible eradication of imported fire ants, and for other purposes.

S. 1056

At the request of Mr. BURNS, the names of the Senator from Iowa [Mr. GRASSLEY] and the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN] were added as cosponsors of S. 1056, a bill to provide for farm-related exemptions from certain hazardous materials transportation requirements.

S. 1067

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Oregon [Mr. WYDEN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1067, a bill to prohibit United States military assistance and arms transfers to foreign governments that are undemocratic, do not adequately protect human rights, are engaged in acts of armed aggression, or are not fully participating in the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 44—RELATIVE TO A POSTAGE STAMP

Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself and Mr. SPECTER) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs:

S. CON. RES. 44

Whereas the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America, an organization of patriotic Americans dedicated to highlighting the role of Jews in the United States Armed Forces, celebrated 100 years of patriotic service to the Nation on March 15, 1996;

Whereas thousands of Jews have proudly served the Nation in times of war;

Whereas thousands of Jews have died in combat while serving in the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas, in World War II alone, Jews received more than 52,000 awards for outstanding service in the United States Armed Forces, including the Medal of Honor, the Air Medal, the Silver Star, and the Purple Heart;

Whereas, in World War II alone, over 11,000 Jews died in combat while serving in the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas members of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America have volunteered over 10,000,000 hours at veterans' hospitals; and

Whereas honoring the sacrifices of Jewish veterans is an important component of recognizing the strong and patriotic role Jews have played in the United States Armed Forces: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) a postage stamp should be issued to honor the 100th anniversary of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America; and

(2) the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee of the United States Postal Service should recommend to the Postmaster General that such a postage stamp be issued.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, today I am submitting legislation expressing the sense of Congress that the Postal Service should issue a postage stamp should be issued to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America. I am pleased to be joined by my distinguished colleague from Pennsylvania and chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Senator SPECTER.

The Jewish War Veterans of the United States was founded in 1896, earning it the distinction of being the oldest veterans organization in the United States. The goal of its founders was to counter criticism in some of the major national publications of the day that suggested that Jewish Americans were unpatriotic and had not served in the Civil War. Not only did many Jews serve with distinction in the Civil War, but thousands have honorably served their country in subsequent military conflicts. More than 250,000 Jews served in World War I. During World War II, approximately 11,000 Jews were killed and 40,000 were wounded.

Today, the Jewish War Veterans organization continues its mission of fighting anti-Semitism, promoting religious tolerance and defending the first amendment. Moreover, through its National Museum of American Jewish Military History and other activities, it educates the public about the contributions Jews have made to the defense of our Nation. The organization also serves a vital role of advocating on behalf of adequate treatment of all war veterans.

My legislation is identical to legislation submitted to the 103d Congress. Senate Concurrent Resolution 60, which I was proud to cosponsor along with 62 of my colleagues. This legislation overwhelmingly passed the Senate on August 11, 1994. Unfortunately, despite the Senate's wishes, the Postal Service has refused to issue a commemorative stamp honoring this worthy organization. Thus, I believe that it is time to reaffirm the Senate's position of this important matter. I urge my colleagues to join in cosponsoring this legislation.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

D'AMATO (AND MOYNIHAN) AMENDMENT NO. 1022

Mr. SHELBY (for Mr. D'AMATO, for himself and Mr. MOYNIHAN) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 1048, making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place in the bill, insert the following:

Out of the funds made available under this Act to the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority through the Federal Transit Administration, the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority shall perform a study to ascertain the costs and benefits of instituting an integrated fare system for commuters who use both the Metro North Railroad or the Long Island Rail Road and New York City subway or bus systems. This study shall examine creative proposals for improving the flow of passengers between city transit systems and commuter rail systems, including free transfers, discounts, congestion-pricing and other positive inducements. The study also must include estimates of potential benefits to the environment, to energy conservation and to revenue enhancement through increased commuter rail and transit ridership, as well as other tangible benefits. A report describing the results of this study shall be submitted to the Senate Appropriations Committee within 45 days of enactment of this Act.

SMITH OF NEW HAMPSHIRE AMENDMENT NO. 1023

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill, S. 1048, supra; as follows:

On page 51, after line 25, add the following:
SEC. 3 . FEDERAL VEHICLE WEIGHT LIMITATIONS.

No funds made available under this Act shall be used to levy penalties on the States of New Hampshire and Maine based on non-compliance with Federal vehicle weight limitations under section 127 of title 23, United States Code, prior to the date of enactment of an Act extending funding for programs established under that title.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for information of the Senate and the public that a hearing of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources will be held on Tuesday, July 29, 1997, 9:30 a.m., in SD-430 of the Senate Dirksen Building. The subject of the hearing is improving educational opportunities for low-income children. For further information, please call the committee, 202/224-5375.

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, July 30 and Thursday, July 31, 1997 at 2:30 p.m. each day to hold a business meeting on the status of the investigation into the contested Senate election in Louisiana.

For further information concerning this hearing, please contact Bruce Kasold of the Rules Committee staff at 224-3448.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry will hold a full committee hearing on Thursday, September 4, 1997, at 9 a.m., in SR-328A. The purpose of this hearing is to examine rural and agricultural credit issues.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee Special Investigation to meet on Monday, July 28, at 2 p.m. for a nomination hearing on George Omas to be Commissioner, Postal Rate Commission, and Janice Lachance, to be Deputy Director, Office of Personnel Management.

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee Special Investigation to meet on Monday, July 28, at 4:30 p.m. for a closed hearing on campaign finance related matters.

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

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be permitted to meet on July 28, 1997 at 1 p.m. for the purpose of a hearing.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY, TERRORISM, AND GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

Mr. COVERDELL. The Subcommittee on Technology, Terrorism, and Government Information, of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, will hold a hearing on Monday, July 28, 1997, at 9:30 a.m. in room 226 of the Senate Dirksen Office Building, on "The Atlanta Olympics Bombing and the FBI Interrogation of Richard Jewell."

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY, TERRORISM, AND GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Technology, Terrorism, and Government Information, of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, July 28, 1997,

at 2 P.M. to hold a hearing in room 226, Senate Dirksen Building, on: "S. 474, the Internet Gambling Prohibition Act."

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE SEUVA'AI MERE TUIASOSOPO-BETHAM

• Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, it was a sad day in our Nation's history, and more significantly, to its southernmost territory in the South Pacific, the islands of Tutuila and Manu'a known also as American Samoa, when a grand lady, a woman of great courage, a long-time educator, passed away peacefully in Honolulu, HI, on June 13, 1997. She was the late Hon. Seuva'ai Mere Tuiasosopo-Betham, former associate judge of the high court of American Samoa and former director of the American Samoa Department of Education. She was 65 years of age.

"Mere" as she was popularly known, was born to the late High Chief Orator Mariota Tiualu Tuiasosopo I of Vatia who was one of the signatories of the Deed of Cession between the islands of Tutuila and Manu'a and the United States of America in 1900. Her mother was the late Venise Pulefa'asisina-Tuiasosopo of the village of Amanave. During the islands' naval administration in 1950, Mere graduated as the only female out of 16 students in the first graduating class of the Amerika Samoa High School. High Chief Orator Tuiasosopo, a staunch educator and an influential person in Mere's life, who firmly believed in the vast opportunities offered by the new mother country, encouraged his daughter to study abroad. She attended Geneva College in Pennsylvania and experienced the lessons of life to persevere and be disciplined while thousands of miles away from her home in the South Pacific.

After becoming one of the first Samoans ever to successfully complete college in 1954 and earning her teaching credentials, Mere returned to Samoa upon her parents wishes and delved into education, becoming one of the first teachers in the American Samoan educational system. Over four decades, Mere dedicated her life to the teaching of Samoan students. She began as a classroom teacher, then an adviser, a vice principal, a principal, and eventually rose to the prestigious position of assistant director of the Department of Education at a time when very few Samoans held administrative positions in government and the territory's chief executive was still appointed by the Secretary of Interior. In 1978, when American Samoa elected its first Samoan Governor, Mere was appointed as the first Samoan female to hold a cabinet office serving as director of the Education Department.

Since the inception of formal education in American Samoa, Mere's

name has been synonymous with its development. She initiated the local capacity building concept that involved efforts for staff development and the bilingual/bicultural education which consolidated the best in both Samoan and Western curricula. Her local capacity building grew out of the need to upgrade the total teaching force in American Samoa which was nearly 90 percent Samoan. She once said, that,

... for every child to be able to learn well, he must be taught well ... our people are our greatest and only valuable natural resource, it is imperative that we invest heavily in their development at all levels. In doing so, we invest in our country's future stability, growth, health and security.

Inherent in Mere's insistence on local capacity building was her conviction that the only way citizens in a developing country like Samoa can ensure their survival amidst the influxes of the Western world, was to remain the masters of their land and development, and continue to reaffirm confidence in their ability to determine their own destiny. It is also the mechanism, she believed, the Samoan culture and American democracy could merge enabling Samoans to continue to live in peace and harmony.

Mere's conceptualization, development, and materialization of the bilingual/bicultural educational system of American Samoa was an innovative approach to reconcile the fervent desire of Samoans to maintain their identity as a cultural entity while educating their people to meet the demands of the Western world. She held this notion for nearly 40 years and firmly ingrained it in all of her students, many of whom attest to the immense influence this great Samoan lady has had in their lives.

Mrs. Betham received numerous awards as a leading educator in the Pacific. She received the Samoan Educator of the Year award presented to her by former U.S. Secretary of Education, Dr. Terrell H. Bell. He thanked her for her efforts to improve educational opportunities in the Pacific Basin saying, "Progress in education (reform) depends most of all on the activities of leaders in each of our states and territories, and your example to the people of American Samoa has been bright * * *"

In 1991, Mere was appointed to the all-male high court of American Samoa which included seven Samoan associate judges who dealt mainly with land and "matai" [chieftain] title laws. Her wisdom and knowledge of the "fa'a-Samoa" [Samoan culture] was fiercely sought by many of the territory's leaders to help preserve the integrity and uniqueness of their Samoan heritage at the same time dispensing American justice. As part of the criteria of being an associate judge, Mere was initiated into her village's "Nu'u o Ali'i," the council of chiefs, traditionally all-male in most Samoan villages. She was bestowed the Talking Chief title "Seuva'ai," descriptive of one surging