

amendment becomes law, the discretionary spending caps will be adjusted downward in 1999.

This amendment will therefore make it more difficult for Congress to fund agriculture research and extension, education, and environment programs in next year's appropriation bills as less money is available to spend.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I presume all time has now expired.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has 1 minute 15 seconds.

Mr. COCHRAN. I hope everybody will read Senator DOMENICI's remarks in the RECORD tonight. They refer to the fact that the offset this amendment proposes really isn't anything more than a temporary, 1-year offset. In order to achieve the savings that are purported to be added to the FDA account by this amendment being offered by the distinguished Senator from Iowa, a limitation on the use of Commodity Credit Corporation funds is imposed. But that is only for 1 year. In other words, that deserves some consideration, as Senator DOMENICI indicates. I agree with him.

In addition, if \$47 million in Commodity Credit Corporation funds is really needed for the Department of Agriculture to operate and maintain its computer systems in fiscal year 1998, as the Department indicates, those funds will have to be reprogrammed from other accounts, putting pressure on possibly the Farm Service Agency or other USDA agencies.

I am focusing on and I hope the Senate will focus on why we are going to have to reject this effort to undermine the procedure we have, or either change the procedure. We had a procedure that seemed to satisfy everybody. And now there is an effort to undermine it completely. It ought to be rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time has expired.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to speak for up to 5 minutes on the Harkin amendment.

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

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I am a cosponsor of the amendment that the Senator from Iowa has offered on increasing the funding for the FDA youth tobacco initiative. This amendment will restore full funding for the Food and Drug Administration's tobacco initiative in order to prevent tobacco use by teenagers and adolescents. The goal of the amendment is to prevent illegal sales of tobacco products to children.

In the bill presently before us, the Senate has allocated \$4.9 million for the implementation of the FDA regulations that restrict the sale and distribution of tobacco products to young people.

This is not adequate funding. The FDA will not be able to enforce the restrictions on the sale of tobacco to children unless the additional funds proposed by the Harkin amendment are agreed to. Some have said that the amendment is premature and the tobacco settlement is still being reviewed. Here in the Congress we will provide the money that the FDA needs in order to go ahead with the enforcement called for in the current regulations.

First, I point out that it is not that clear that Congress will go ahead and approve a settlement similar to that proposed by the attorneys general and the tobacco industry. Even if we are able to agree upon legislation to implement such an agreement, money for FDA enforcement through that settlement is not likely to be provided before fiscal year 1999, and the FDA enforcement and outreach efforts are very important and should not be delayed until that time.

It should also be noted that the amendment has a sunset provision. The Harkin amendment has a sunset provision, and if funding for the FDA tobacco initiative is provided for fiscal year 1998 through any tobacco settlement legislation, then the extra funds covered by that offset would be rescinded under the amendment. The amendment would raise the level to \$34 million in fiscal year 1998 so that the FDA, working with the States, can carry out rules to prevent kids from smoking.

Clearly, the need to give more attention and more effort and more resources to the effort to prevent young people from smoking is clear: 4.5 million young people, ages 12 through 17, are smokers today. High school seniors are smoking at the highest rates they have in 17 years. Nearly 90 percent of adult smokers began at or before the age of 18 and began with that habit. Today, just like every other day of the year, another 3,000 young people will become regular smokers. If current rates continue, more than 5 million children under age 18 who are alive today will wind up being killed by smoking-related diseases.

A root cause of youth smoking is the easy access that kids have to tobacco. A survey by the Centers for Disease Control shows that children and adolescents were able to buy tobacco products 67 percent of the time that they tried. The CDC found that most young smokers usually buy cigarettes without questions being asked and without any identification being requested. The American people support the effort that the FDA is making to reduce smoking among young people. Their strong support is shown in recent polls among the public with the use-access

provisions of the FDA rule in the enforcement of those provisions. Eighty-seven percent of the public agreed with the FDA policy setting a national minimum age of 18 for the purchase of tobacco products. It is estimated that there are more than \$1 million in illegal sales of tobacco products to children and adolescents in the United States every year.

Mr. President, let me just conclude by saying that this amendment, which Senator HARKIN has offered and I have cosponsored with him, will allow us to enforce the law that is in effect in all 50 States—the law against the sale of tobacco products to minors. It simply restores full funding to the FDA's tobacco initiative to prevent teenage tobacco use.

I urge all of my colleagues in the Senate to support the amendment.

I yield the floor.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report S. 1061.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1061) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes.

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

Mr. BINGAMAN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. THOMAS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, earlier this morning, when the majority leader and I were on the floor, with Senator HARKIN, the ranking member of the subcommittee, we discussed the sequence of the bill which is currently pending, and it was our plan, our expectation, to conclude action on this bill by tomorrow evening. We have only had one amendment laid down so far. The distinguished Senator from Arizona [Mr. KYL] has laid down an amendment with respect to LIHEAP, but no other amendment has been forthcoming.

Now is obviously a good time to offer amendments since the floor is clear, with ample time for consideration. We hope that anybody who has an amendment to offer would advise the managers of the bill, myself in my capacity as chairman of the subcommittee, and Senator HARKIN, the ranking member of the subcommittee, and that we would have notification by the end of business today as to all amendments

Members tend to offer. At the very latest we hope those amendments would be filed by noon tomorrow. We have a vote scheduled for 9:30, and Senators to some extent may be arriving back at this time. Certainly as an indicator from past practice Senators will be here tomorrow morning to vote at 9:30, so we hope that Senators would let us have those amendments so that we could plan the conclusion of the bill, sequence the amendments and try to conclude this bill by the end of business tomorrow, Wednesday night.

I thank the Chair, and in the absence of any other Senator seeking recognition, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 5 minutes each.

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

DR. LARRY A. DONOSO

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Larry A. Donoso, M.D., Ph.D., director of research at Wills Eye Hospital, in Philadelphia, PA. Dr. Donoso is a world renowned ophthalmologist, a native son of the State of Utah, and a proud graduate of the University of Utah School of Medicine.

Recently, Dr. Donoso was honored by the Queens Medical Center at the University of Nottingham, one of the United Kingdom's most prestigious academic medical centers. There they established the Larry A. Donoso Eye Research Laboratory in recognition of his long collaboration in the establishment of the new laboratory, and his efforts to advance eye treatment for patients around the world. He is the first American to be so honored by the Queens Medical Center. Both the city of Philadelphia and the Senate of the State of Pennsylvania have acknowledged the significance of this award, and the breadth of his contributions to the field of ophthalmology.

Dr. Donoso is being lauded for his vast contributions as a premier research scientist, compassionate medical doctor, and extraordinary teacher. Having graduated from East High School in Salt Lake City, Dr. Donoso received his bachelors degree from the University of Utah in 1965. The School of Medicine conferred his Ph.D. in 1971 and his medical degree in 1973. He also went on to complete his clinical resi-

dency training in ophthalmology at Utah before joining the faculty of the Wills Eye Hospital in Pennsylvania.

Dr. Larry Donoso, or "LD" as his friends affectionately call him, is an extraordinary eye researcher who has worked tirelessly over the last 30 years to advance the reputation of Wills Eye Hospital among the international medical community. His career accomplishments have been honored by the city of Philadelphia, the Senate of the State of Pennsylvania, and the Queens Medical Center at the University of Nottingham in England. I wanted my colleagues to be aware of these outstanding achievements, which, I hope, will serve as inspiration to us all.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business Friday, August 29, 1997, the Federal debt stood at \$5,404,420,294,885.51. (Five trillion, four hundred four billion, four hundred twenty million, two hundred ninety-four thousand, eight hundred eighty-five dollars, and fifty-one cents).

One year ago, August 29, 1996, the Federal debt stood at \$5,213,489,000,000 (Five trillion, two hundred thirteen billion, four hundred eighty-nine million dollars).

Twenty-five years ago, August 29, 1972, the Federal debt stood at \$436,812,000,000 (Four hundred thirty-six billion, eight hundred twelve million dollars) which reflects a debt increase of nearly \$5 trillion—\$4,967,608,294,885.51 (Four trillion, nine hundred sixty-seven billion, six hundred eight million, two hundred ninety-four thousand, eight hundred eighty-five dollars and fifty-one cents) during the past 25 years.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHERYL HUFF'S 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, it is an honor to serve the people of Missouri and this great country. One of the privileges I have as a Missouri Senator is to recognize those who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in service to the State of Missouri. For 25 years, Cheryl Huff, of Mexico, MO, has served faithfully the people of Missouri through the Division of Youth Services.

Within the Missouri Department of Social Services, the Division of Youth Services is the State agency responsible for the care and treatment of youth, committed to its custody by one of Missouri's 45 juvenile courts. This State agency operates treatment programs ranging from nonresidential day treatment centers to secure residential institutions.

The 1889 establishment of the Training School for Boys in Boonville and the Training School for Girls in Chillicothe marked the foundation of the division of youth services. It was at the Training School for Boys in Boonville,

a quarter of a century ago, that Cheryl began her service. She is widely respected by peers for her sound judgment and personal integrity. During her tenure, Cheryl has distinguished herself among her colleagues as an efficient and effective caretaker of Missouri's most precious resource—its children.

The recognition of Cheryl for her commitment to Missouri's children simply mirrors her dedication to her own family. While the accomplishments of a successful career are important to her, those who know Cheryl would be the first to point out that her career is secondary to her love of family. The lasting legacy of Cheryl's life is apparent in the time, energy, and resources she has invested in her children. She exemplifies the highest commitment to relentless dedication and sacrifice.

Cheryl, the grateful State of Missouri offers you these simple words of appreciation: Thank you.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT RELATIVE TO TAX BENEFITS—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT RECEIVED DURING THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE—PM 60

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 7, 1997, the Secretary of the Senate on August 11, 1997, received a message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred jointly, pursuant to Public Law 93-344 as amended, to the Committee on the Budget and to the Committee on Finance.

THE WHITE HOUSE,

Washington, August 11, 1997.

Hon. ALBERT GORE, Jr.

President of the Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: In accordance with the Line Item Veto Act, I hereby cancel two limited tax benefits, as specified in the attached reports, contained in the "Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997" (Public Law 105-34; H.R. 2014). I have determined that each of these cancellations will reduce the Federal budget deficit, will not impair any essential Government functions, and will not harm the national interest. This letter, together with its attachments, constitutes a special message under section 1022 of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, as amended.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.