

request for fiscal year 1999; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-2926. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, a notice of a retirements; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2927. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the F-22 program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2928. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to purchases from foreign entities; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2929. A communication from the Director of the Defense Procurement, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules received on September 3, 1997; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2930. A communication from the Director of the Defense Procurement, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on September 9, 1997; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2931. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management Policy), transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice relative to institutions of higher education; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2932. A communication from the Director of the Office of the Secretary of Defense (Administration and Management), transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments" received on September 4, 1997; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2933. A communication from the Director of the Department of Defense Washington Headquarters Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule (RIN0720-AA33) received on September 4, 1997; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2934. A communication from the Acquisition Executive, U.S. Special Operations Command, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a survivability test; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2935. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Military-Civilian Child-Care Partnerships"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2936. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Youth Programs"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-225. A resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the State of Alabama; to the Committee on Finance.

HOUSE RESOLUTION

Whereas, on August 1, 1997, the Parents and Students Savings Accounts Plus Act was introduced with bipartisan support in both houses of the United States Congress; and

Whereas, the act would amend the Internal Revenue Code to allow tax-free expenditures from education individual retirement accounts for elementary and secondary school expenses and would increase the maximum annual amount of contributions for these accounts to two thousand dollars; further, the bill would specify education expenses as in-

cluding tuition, fees, tutoring, special needs services, books, supplies, equipment, and transportation costs; and

Whereas, the A+ Act was described as a common-sense way to give parents the financial freedom to choose the best school for their children without taking funds from the public school system and to help families provide the best learning environment and tools to every child in America; and

Whereas, this legislative body believes such legislation would be of significant benefit to our nation and would supply all of our children with a positive learning environment and the educational supplies necessary to succeed in school and life: Now therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Alabama, That the United States Congress is respectfully encouraged to enact H.R. 2373, the Parents and Students Savings Accounts Plus Act: Be it

Further Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, the President of the U.S. Senate, and each member of the Alabama Congressional Delegation, so that each official may know of our support and interest in this important legislation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following report of committee was submitted:

By Mr. D'AMATO, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1026: A bill to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank of the United States (Rept. No. 105-76).

By Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Appropriations:

Special Report entitled "Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals from the Concurrent Resolution for Fiscal year 1998" (Rept. No. 105-77).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees was submitted:

By Mr. MCCAIN, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

Katherine Milner Anderson, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for a term expiring January 31, 2000.

Sheila Foster Anthony, of Arkansas, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner for the term of seven years from September 26, 1995.

Heidi H. Schulman, of California, to be Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for a term expiring January 31, 2002.

(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.)

By Mr. THURMOND, from the Committee on Armed Services.

The following named officer for appointment as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and appointment to the grade indicated under provisions of title 10, U.S.C., section 152:

To be general

General Henry H. Shelton, 4698.

(The above nomination was reported with the recommendation that he be confirmed.)

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. MURKOWSKI:

S. 1158. A bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, regarding the Huna Totem Corporation public interest land exchange, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S. 1159. A bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, regarding the Kake Tribal Corporation public interest land exchange, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for himself and Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN):

S. 1160. A bill to provide for educational facilities improvement; read the first time.

By Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 1161. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to authorize appropriations for refugee and entrant assistance for fiscal years 1998 and 1999; considered and passed.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. Res. 121. A resolution urging the discontinuance of financial assistance to the Palestinian Authority unless and until the Palestinian Authority demonstrates a 100-percent maximum effort to curtail terrorism; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. MURKOWSKI:

S. 1158. A bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, regarding the Huna Totem Corp. public interest land exchange, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

THE HUNA TOTEM CORPORATION LAND EXCHANGE ACT OF 1997

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise to introduce legislation today on behalf of the Huna Totem Corp. and the residents of Hoonah, AK.

This bill would require the Huna Totem Corp. to convey ownership of approximately 1,999 acres of land needed as a municipal watershed to the U.S. Forest Service. This will ensure that the residents of Hoonah, AK, have a reliable source of clean water. In exchange for these lands the Huna Totem Corp. will be allowed to select other lands readily accessible to Hoonah in order to fulfill their ANCSA entitlement. This legislation also requires the exchange of lands to be of equal value and provides for additional compensation if needed. Lastly, the legislation requires that any potential timber harvested from land acquired by Huna Totem Corp not be available for export.

Mr. President, the city of Hoonah is located in southeast Alaska on the northeast part of Chichagoff Island.

Hoonah has been the home of the Huna people since the last advance of the great ice masses into Glacier Bay, forcing the Huna people to look for new homes. Since the Huna people had traditionally used the Hoonah area each summer as a subsistence harvesting area, it was natural for them to settle in the area now called Hoonah. The community has a population of approximately 918 residents and is located 40 miles from Juneau; Alaska's capital city.

Within the city of Hoonah is located the Huna Totem Corp., an Alaska Native Corp. formed pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act [ANCSA]. Huna Totem is the largest Tlingit Indian Village Corp. in southeast Alaska. Under the terms of ANCSA each village corporation had to select lands within the core township or townships in which all or part of the Native village is located.

In 1975, Huna Totem filed its ANCSA land selections within the 2 mile radius of the city of Hoonah as mandated by ANCSA. Since the community of Hoonah is located along the shoreline at the base of Hoonah Head Mountain, the surrounding lands are steep hillsides, cliffs, or are designated watershed for the municipal water sources. Most of the acres, approximately 1,999, of this land are not conducive to logging or development due to the topography and watershed limitations.

Therefore in order for the Huna Totem Corp. to receive full economic benefit of the lands promised to them under ANCSA, and for the city of Hoonah to protect its watershed, alternative lands must be sought for Huna Totem to seek revenue from.

The legislation I am offering today would achieve these goals. By authorizing a land exchange between the Huna Totem Corp. and the U.S. Forest Service the residents of Hoonah will be assured a safe supply of drinking water. Additionally, Huna Totem Corp. will be able to fully recognize the benefits promised under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI:

S. 1159. A bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, regarding the Kake Tribal Corp. public interest land exchange, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

THE KAKE LAND EXCHANGE ACT

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, today I rise to introduce the Kake Tribal Land Exchange Act. This legislation would amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act which authorized the transfer of 23,040 acres of land from the U.S. Government to Kake Tribal Corp. The land was transferred to Kake to recognize an immediate need for a fair and just settlement.

Unfortunately, Kake has not received the full beneficial use of its 23,040 acres because the city's watershed—over 2,400 acres—rest within Kake Tribal's lands. In order to protect the city's wa-

tershed and still receive beneficial use of their 23,040 acres we are proposing land exchange. This will assist the people of Kake, AK, as they move toward a safer, cleaner, and healthier future.

Under this proposal, Kake Tribal would exchange the watershed for other acres in southeast Alaska—thereby allowing Kake to receive its full entitlement under ANCSA. This legislation is of great importance to the residents of the community of Kake, AK.

This legislation will ensure protection of the Gunnuk Creek watershed which is the main water supply for the city of Kake as well as protect critical habitat for the Gunnuk Creek hatchery.

The legislation has received wide support in Alaska from diverse groups such as: the city of Kake, AK, the organized village of Kake, the Kake non-profit fishery, the Alaska Federation of Natives, and Sealaska Corp. Additionally, the Governor of Alaska has written to me in support of this exchange.

This legislation is similar to legislation I introduced last year and held hearings on in the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. During these hearings the Forest Service objected to the bill for four reasons, all of which have been addressed in the legislation I now introduce.

The first issue was the potential selection of Berners Bay/Slate Lake Parcel. Kake has made it clear as evident in the maps that they have no intention of selecting that area. Second, was the potential that Kake would select established log transfer facilities. Again it is clear from the maps that these areas will not be selected. Third, was regarding subsurface issues with Sealaska which are not addressed in this current version of the bill. And finally, the USFS objected to this exchange because they did not want to manage the watershed. Since the hearing the city of Kake has said they want to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Forest Service to manage the watershed themselves.

Additionally, Mr. President there is a provision in this bill that assures Kake Tribal will receive appropriate compensation for the watershed lands to be exchanged. This is important because this legislation would require Kake Tribal to process any timber derived from the newly acquired lands in State, potentially reducing the value of lands received. Therefore, in order to provide for a fair compensation, under the terms of this legislation Kake Tribal could be eligible for additional compensation should the value of the newly acquired lands be deemed less than their original lands. Likewise, the United States could also benefit from this provision should a determination be made that the lands they are receiving are less valuable than those they are conveying.

I introduce this legislation with the confidence that it is the best interest of not only the citizens of Kake but with the knowledge that it is in the

best interest of all Alaskans and Americans to protect drinking water for our communities. Lastly, this legislation will help fulfill our commitment to the Natives of Alaska that they will be treated fairly and justly under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for himself and Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN):

S. 1160. A bill to provide for educational facilities improvement; read the first time.

THE EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT ACT

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, today I am introducing with my colleague from Illinois, Senator MOSELEY-BRAUN, a bill to help local communities expand schools that are overcrowded, and repair or replace schools that are crumbling, or obsolete.

As you know, the Labor-HHS Appropriations bill that we are currently considering on the floor includes \$100 million for school construction and repair. This is an important step toward addressing what is a real and growing problem in this country.

The bill we are introducing today, the Educational Facilities Improvement Act, provides an additional \$1.9 billion over the next 5 years. It represents the second installment in our efforts to upgrade the school buildings America's children attend.

Communities can use the money to underwrite a part of the interest costs on school construction projects. In so doing, they will be using these dollars to leverage additional resources from other sources.

This is an urgent priority. All over the country, children are returning to schools this month that are crowded or obsolete—even dangerous. Children are being taught in trailers. Some school yards have so many trailers outside that you can't tell if it's a playground or a trailer court.

We need to address this problem now, not next year, not sometime in the future. This is why we are using rule 14 to skip the normal committee process and bring our bill directly on the Senate calendar. We hope our Republican colleagues will join the call for an early vote on this critical issue.

We don't need committee hearings to know what the problem is. The GAO, the non-partisan Government Accounting Office, has already documented the problem. They say it will take \$112 billion to bring all of America's schools up to par.

We obviously can't commit that many federal dollars. And we shouldn't. Public education has always been—and should remain—first and foremost a local responsibility.

But the sheer size of the problem requires that the Federal Government be a partner. We can't put America's educational house in order while our schools themselves are falling down. Students can't learn in classrooms that