

S. 262

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

SECTION 1. PROSPECTIVE APPLICATION OF THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MISDEMEANOR CONVICTION FIREARMS PROHIBITION.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Spouses, ex-spouses, and current and former boyfriends commit over 1,000,000 violent crimes against women each year, including assault, rape, and murder.

(2) Approximately 28 percent of all women murdered in the United States each year are killed by current or former husbands or boyfriends.

(3) Weapons are used in 30 percent of domestic violence incidents.

(4) Domestic violence calls are one of the largest categories of calls to police each year, and, in some locations, up to one-third of all police time is spent responding to domestic calls.

(5) Studies show that police are more likely to respond to a reported incident within 5 minutes if the offender is a stranger to the victim and that, police are more likely to take a formal report with respect to an incident in which the offender is a stranger to the victim.

(6) Studies show that only approximately 10 percent of spouses who are abused ever call the police, in spite of the fact that conjugal assaults account for 12 percent of all assaults that result in serious injury, 16 percent of all assaults requiring medical care, and 18 percent of assaults that result in the loss of at least a full day of work.

(7) Data compilation suggests that injuries in all domestic assaults are at least as severe as those suffered in 90 percent of violent felonies, although the overwhelming number of domestic violence injuries are considered to be only misdemeanors in most States.

(8) In the 104th Congress, Congress amended the Federal law that regulates the lawful transfer and possession of firearms and ammunition to provide that an individual's conviction of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence will prohibit the individual from possessing any firearm or ammunition and will prohibit others from licensing or transferring a firearm or ammunition to that person.

(9) The term "misdemeanor crime of domestic violence" is defined in Federal law as a Federal or State misdemeanor crime that "has, as an element, the use or attempted use of physical force, or the threatened use of a deadly weapon, committed by a current or former spouse, parent, or guardian of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabiting with or has cohabited with the victim as a spouse, parent, or guardian, or by a person similarly situated to a spouse, parent, or guardian of the victim".

(10) For purposes of Federal law, to be considered convicted to be of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence, a person must—

(A) have been represented by counsel or knowingly waived representation; and

(B) have been tried by a jury or knowingly waived trial by a guilty plea or otherwise if entitled to a jury trial for the offense at issue.

(11) There are exceptions to the new Federal law that may apply to an individual determined to have been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence, if "the conviction has been expunged or set aside, or is an offense for which the person has been pardoned or has had civil rights restored (if the law of the applicable provision provides for the loss of civil rights under such an offense) unless the pardon, expungement, or

restoration of civil rights expressly provides that the person may not ship, transport, possess, or receive firearms".

(12) Congress clearly intended for this Federal law to apply to peace officers. The general exception to the law for firearms and ammunition that are issued for the use of "the United States or any department or agency thereof or any State or any department, agency, or political subdivision thereof," does not apply to individuals convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence.

(b) UNLAWFUL ACTS.—Subsections (d)(9), (g)(9), and (s)(3)(B)(i) of section 922 of title 18, United States Code, are each amended by inserting", on or after September 30, 1996," before "of a misdemeanor".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as if included in the amendments made by the first section designated as section 658 of Public Law 104-208.●

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 4

At the request of Mr. ASHCROFT, the name of the Senator from Montana [Mr. BURNS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 4, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide to private sector employees the same opportunities for time-and-a-half compensatory time off, biweekly work programs, and flexible credit hour programs as Federal employees currently enjoy to help balance the demands and needs of work and family, to clarify the provisions relating to exemptions of certain professionals from the minimum wage and overtime requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, and for other purposes.

S. 5

At the request of Mr. ASHCROFT, the name of the Senator from Vermont [Mr. JEFFORDS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 5, a bill to establish legal standards and procedures for product liability litigation, and for other purposes.

S. 10

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Montana [Mr. BURNS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 10, a bill to reduce violent juvenile crime, promote accountability by juvenile criminals, punish and deter violent gang crime, and for other purposes.

S. 15

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 15, a bill to control youth violence, crime, and drug abuse, and for other purposes.

S. 25

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 25, a bill to reform the financing of Federal elections.

S. 29

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the names of the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON], the Senator from Indiana [Mr. COATS], and the Senator from Kansas [Mr. ROBERTS] were added

as cosponsors of S. 29, a bill to repeal the Federal estate and gift taxes and the tax on generation-skipping transfers.

S. 30

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the names of the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON] and the Senator from Kansas [Mr. ROBERTS] were added as cosponsors of S. 30, a bill to increase the unified estate and gift tax credit to exempt small businesses and farmers from inheritance taxes.

S. 31

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the names of the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON], the Senator from Indiana [Mr. COATS], and the Senator from Kansas [Mr. ROBERTS] were added as cosponsors of S. 31, a bill to phase-out and repeal the Federal estate and gift taxes and the tax on generation-skipping transfers.

S. 61

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the names of the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON], the Senator from New York [Mr. D'AMATO], the Senator from Alabama [Mr. SHELBY], the Senator from Louisiana [Mr. BREAU], the Senator from Maryland [Mr. SARBANES], the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN], and the Senator from Hawaii [Mr. AKAKA] 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. 72

At the request of Mr. KYL, the name of the Senator from Michigan [Mr. ABRAHAM] was added as a cosponsor of S. 72, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a reduction in the capital gain rates for all taxpayers, and for other purposes.

S. 74

At the request of Mr. KYL, the name of the Senator from Michigan [Mr. ABRAHAM] was added as a cosponsor of S. 74, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to limit the tax rate for certain small businesses, and for other purposes.

S. 76

At the request of Mr. KYL, the name of the Senator from Michigan [Mr. ABRAHAM] was added as a cosponsor of S. 76, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the expensing limitation to \$250,000.

S. 140

At the request of Mr. FAIRCLOTH, the name of the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. HELMS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 140, a bill to improve the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996.

S. 143

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the names of the Senator from Iowa [Mr. HARKIN], the Senator from Vermont [Mr. LEAHY], and the Senator from

Ohio [Mr. GLENN] were added as cosponsors of S. 143, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act and Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require that group and individual health insurance coverage and group health plans provide coverage for a minimum hospital stay for mastectomies and lymph node dissections performed for the treatment of breast cancer.

S. 194

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the name of the Senator from Utah [Mr. HATCH] was added as a cosponsor of S. 194, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the section 170(e)(5) rules pertaining to gifts of publicly-traded stock to certain private foundations and for other purposes.

S. 202

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the names of the Senator from Florida [Mr. MACK], the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. HELMS], the Senator from Michigan [Mr. ABRAHAM], and the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN] were added as cosponsors 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. 210

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. BUMPERS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 210, a bill to amend the Organic Act of Guam, the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands, and the Compact of Free Association Act, and for other purposes.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 6

At the request of Mr. KYL, the name of the Senator from Texas [Mrs. HUTCHISON] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 6, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to protect the rights of crime victims.

SENATE RESOLUTION 16

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 16, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the income tax should be eliminated and replaced with a national sales tax.

SENATE RESOLUTION 42—ORIGINAL RESOLUTION REPORTED AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. WARNER, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, reported the following original resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 42

Resolved, That in carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of such rules, including holding hearings, reporting such

hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Rules and Administration is authorized from March 1, 1997, through February 28, 1998, and March 1, 1998, through February 28, 1999, in its discretion (1) to make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate, (2) to employ personnel, and (3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, to use on a reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 1997, through February 28, 1998, under this resolution shall not exceed \$1,339,106, of which amount (1) not to exceed \$100,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended), and (2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

(b) For the period March 1, 1998, through February 28, 1999, expenses of the committee under this resolution shall not exceed \$1,375,472, of which amount (1) not to exceed \$100,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended), and (2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

SEC. 3. The committee shall report its findings, together with such recommendations for legislation as it deems advisable, to the Senate at the earliest practicable date, but not later than February 28, 1998, and February 28, 1999, respectively.

SEC. 4. Expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee, except that vouchers shall not be required (1) for the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate, or (2) for the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate, or (3) for the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery, United States Senate, or (4) for payments to the Postmaster, United States Senate, or (5) for the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate, or (6) for the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services.

SEC. 5. There are authorized such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee from March 1, 1997, through February 28, 1998, and March 1, 1998, through February 28, 1999, to be paid from the Appropriations account for "Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations."

SENATE RESOLUTION 43—ORIGINAL RESOLUTION REPORTED AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported the following original resolution; which was referred

to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 43

Resolved, That, in carrying out its powers, duties and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of such rules, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized from March 1, 1997, through February 28, 1998, and March 1, 1998, through February 28, 1999, in its discretion (1) to make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate, (2) to employ personnel, and (3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, to use on a reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 1997, through February 29, 1998, under this resolution shall not exceed \$4,362,646.00 of which amount (1) not to exceed \$40,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended), and (2) not to exceed \$1,000.00 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

(b) For the period March 1, 1998, through February 28, 1999, expenses of the committee under this resolution shall not exceed \$4,480,028.00 of which amount (1) not to exceed \$40,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended), and (2) not to exceed \$1,000.00 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

SEC. 3. The Committee shall report its findings, together with such recommendations for legislation as it deems advisable, to the Senate at the earliest practicable date, but not later than February 28, 1998, and February 28, 1999, respectively.

SEC. 4. Expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee, except that vouchers shall not be required for the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate, or (2) for the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate, or (3) for the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery, U.S. Senate, or (4) for payments to the Postmaster, United States Senate, or (5) for the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate, or (6) for the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services.

SEC. 5. There are authorized such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee from March 1, 1997, through February 28, 1998, and March 1, 1998, through February 28, 1999, to be paid from Appropriations account for "Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations."