

Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end of the amendment add the following:

SEC. ____ PROTECTING SOCIAL SECURITY SURPLUSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds the following:

(1) The Congressional Budget Office has projected that Congress is headed toward using at least \$19,000,000,000 of the social security surplus in fiscal year 2000.

(2) Amendment number 1851 calls for across-the-board cuts, which could result in a broad-based reduction of 10 percent, taking into consideration approved appropriations bills and other costs likely to be incurred in the future, such as relief for hurricane victims, Kosovo, and health care providers.

(3) These across-the-board cuts would sharply reduce military readiness and long-term defense modernization programs, cut emergency aid to farmers and hurricane victims, reduce the number of children served by Head Start, cut back aid to schools to help reduce the class size, severely limit the number of veterans served in VA hospitals, reduce the number of FBI and Border Patrol agents, restrict funding for important transportation investments, and limit funding for environmental cleanup sites.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that instead of raiding social security surpluses or indiscriminately cutting defense, emergency relief, education, veterans' health care, law enforcement, transportation, environmental cleanup, and other discretionary appropriations across the board, Congress should fund fiscal year 2000 appropriations, without using budget scorekeeping gimmicks, by closing special-interest tax loopholes and using other appropriate offsets.

KENNEDY AMENDMENT NO. 2268

Mr. KENNEDY proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 1650, *supra*; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

In order to improve the quality of education funds available for education, including funds for Title I, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Pell Grants shall be excluded from any across-the-board reduction.

**ABRAHAM (AND OTHERS)
AMENDMENT NO. 2269**

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. ASHCROFT, and Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by them to amendment No. 1828 proposed by Mr. COVERDELL to the bill, S. 1650, *supra*; as follows:

Strike all after the first word and insert the following:

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no funds appropriated under this Act shall be used to carry out any program of distributing sterile needles or syringes for the hypodermic injection of any illegal drug. This provision shall become effective one day after the date of enactment.

NOTICE OF HEARING

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOREST AND PUBLIC LAND
MANAGEMENT**

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place Tuesday, October 19, 1999, at 10 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1608, a bill to provide annual payments to the States and counties from National Forest System lands managed by the Forest Service, and the revested Oregon and California Railroad and reconveyed Coos Bay Wagon Road grant lands managed predominately by the Bureau of Land Management, for use by the counties in which the lands are situated for the benefit of the public schools, roads, emergency and other public purposes; to encourage and provide a new mechanism for cooperation between counties and the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to make necessary investments in federal lands, and reaffirm the positive connection between Federal Lands counties and Federal Lands; and for other purposes.

Those who wish to submit written statements should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a legislative hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Water and Power.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1167, a bill to amend the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act to provide for expanding the scope of the Independent Scientific Review Panel; S. 1694, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the reclamation and reuse of water and wastewater in the State of Hawaii; S. 1612, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain irrigation project property to certain irrigation and reclamation districts in the State of Nebraska; S. 1474, providing conveyance of the Palmetto Bend project to the State of Texas; S. 1697, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to refund certain collections received pursuant to the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982; and S. 1178, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain parcels of land acquired for the Blunt Reservoir and Pierre Canal features of the Oahe Irrigation Project, South Dakota, to the Commission of Schools and Public Lands of the State of South Dakota for the purpose of mitigating lost wildlife habitat, on the condition that the current pref-

erential leaseholders shall have an option to purchase the parcels from the Commission, and for other purposes.

The hearing will take place on Wednesday, October 20, 1999, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Subcommittee on Water and Power, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, 364 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please call Kristin Phillips, Staff Assistant or Colleen Deegan, Counsel.

**AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO
MEET**

**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND
FORESTRY**

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, be allowed to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 6, 1999. The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss the science of biotechnology and its potential applications to agriculture.

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

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, October 6, 1999, in open session in SH-216 and in closed session in SH-219, to receive testimony on the national security implications of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

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

**COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC
WORKS**

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the full Committee on Environment and Public Works be granted permission to conduct a hearing Wednesday, October 6, 3 p.m., to receive testimony from Skila Harris, nominated by the President to be a member of the board of directors, Tennessee Valley Authority; Glenn L. McCullough, Jr., nominated by the President to be a member of the board of directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority; and Gerald V. Poje, nominated by the President to be a member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the

Senate on Wednesday, October 6, 1999, at 10 a.m. and 2:15 p.m., to hold two hearings.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, the Committee on the Judiciary requests unanimous consent to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, October 6, 1999, beginning at 2 p.m., in Dirksen Room 226.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 6, 1999, at 2 p.m., to hold a closed hearing on intelligence matters.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SURFACE TRANSPORTATION AND MERCHANT MARINE

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Wednesday, October 6, 1999, at 9:30 a.m., on the Cruise Ship Tourism Development Act of 1999.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY, TERRORISM AND GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, the Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Technology, Terrorism and Government Information requests unanimous consent to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, October 6, 1999, beginning at 10 a.m., in Dirksen Room 226.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO THE ATLANTA BRAVES

• Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the Atlanta Braves baseball team for winning their eighth consecutive divisional championship and, once again, finishing the season with the best record in Major League Baseball. While their record may suggest that this championship was won with a great deal of ease, this could not be further from the truth. Before the season began, the Braves and baseball as a whole were shaken by the news that Andreas Galarraga, the All-Star first baseman of the Braves, had been diagnosed with non-hodgkin's lymphoma, a form of cancer. Although Galarraga had to sit out the entire 1999 season, he has now fully recovered and everyone is eagerly awaiting his return to the field next year.

Despite the loss of Galarraga and several other individuals who had been an

integral part of the previous championship teams, the Atlanta Braves never gave up. Through this difficult time, the Braves played to the best of their ability and exceeded everyone's expectations. This season the Braves won more games than any other team in baseball which is why, including the worst to first season of 1991, this season may have been the most meaningful of all their recent successes.

In this year when each major league team individually celebrated Hank Aaron Day—a day devoted to the memory of baseball's all time homerun leader breaking Babe Ruth's staggering record of 714 homers—the Atlanta Braves once again rose to the top. Their national following combined with their hard work and perseverance have given the Braves the moniker of "America's Team," an honor well suited for these champions.●

COOPERATIVES

• Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, October is "Co-op Month," and today I would like to stress the importance of cooperatives to the nation and especially to my state of North Dakota. Cooperatives are pure examples of good business—companies formed, owned and democratically controlled by the people who use its services and who receive benefits from patronage. Cooperatives are institutions that demonstrate people making their lives better through hard work and their knowledge of the American economic system.

In fact, the notion of cooperation is an ideal—people working together to accomplish a task and provide products and services for the public good. It is this basic philosophical idea, which so many find difficult to achieve, that the citizens of my state have been particularly adept at making a reality. North Dakota farmers have been leaders when it comes to improving their economic and social positions through cooperative community enterprise. From the great traditions of early political movements that created cooperative momentum—the American Society of Equity, the Nonpartisan League, and the Farmers Union—an educational base was formed that today still influences the drive for cooperative development. As a result, electricity and telephone service, pasta, sugar, bison and scores of other marketing and service cooperatives cover North Dakota today. Income is distributed, products and services are supplied, and employment and opportunity are spread throughout the state.

Cooperatives are formed to protect the way of life for independent producers and provide essential services for rural communities. Member education, one-member, one-vote equity in business decisions, and relying on neighbors to form and maintain the institution are all cooperative principles that underpin the success of these ventures. The legendary hardships that have been overcome in my state's pio-

neering history required cooperation among neighbors for everything from food and shelter to aid in farm labor and human companionship. Cooperation and the formation of cooperative enterprise were logical means of ensuring rural survival. We have long known that through organization, we can accomplish any goal, and through cooperation we can work together to benefit all. Therefore, during October, the month designated to recognize the importance of cooperatives, I thank the members of cooperatives for taking the initiative to direct their economic futures and for contributing to the unique economic heritage of North Dakota and this nation.●

IN CELEBRATION OF REV. GREGORY J. JACKSON

• Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of the Reverend Gregory J. Jackson as he celebrates his 15th year as pastor of the Mount Olive Baptist Church in Hackensack, New Jersey. Reverend Jackson has been an ordained minister for over twenty-three years and has ministered to the Hackensack community since 1984. It is a pleasure for me to be able to honor his accomplishments.

Since his ordination on May 16, 1976, Reverend Jackson has worked to help those less fortunate throughout New York and New Jersey. During his career, Reverend Jackson has shown commitment to public service as well as dedication to the disabled. These life experiences have proved invaluable in his ministry. His activism is widely known and admired throughout the State of New Jersey.

In addition to his ministry in Hackensack, Reverend Jackson has played a very active role in strengthening the political and economic life of New Jersey. He has served on a number of civic organizations including the NAACP of Bergen County, Fair Housing Board of Bergen County, and the Advisory Board of the Office on Aging. He has also served as the President of the Hackensack Board of Education, Treasurer of the North Jersey Baptist Association, Vice-President of the Fellowship of Black Churches and as Vice-President of the Bergen County Council of Churches. Reverend Jackson recently been named as Director of Promotions of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention.

Although Reverend Jackson has dedicated so much time to civic organizations, he has never lost sight of the need to serve his community. During his fifteen year tenure as the pastor of Mount Olive Baptist Church, the parish has grown by more than 1,000 new members. In addition, Reverend Jackson has implemented ministry programs to improve the Hackensack community both spiritually and educationally.

I am pleased to recognize a leader of great stature in New Jersey, and a close friend. Through all of the years