

ideas which probably are before us every day but somehow we overlook them.

Tropical Storm Dennis and Hurricane Floyd have had a devastating effect on my State. People in Southside and Tidewater, VA, are attempting to rebuild their lives and to recover some of what they lost. We should remove any disincentive, any roadblock that may hinder rebuilding and recovery.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER:

S. 1715. A bill to provide for an interim census of Americans residing aboard, and to require that such individuals be included in the 2010 decennial census; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

CENSUS OF AMERICANS ABROAD ACT

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, millions of Americans live and work abroad. While living abroad, they continue to pay taxes and vote. They are Americans, and they want and deserve to be counted in the decennial Census. In order to achieve this important goal, we must plan and prepare.

The legislation introduced today directs the Secretary of Commerce to use existing authority to conduct a special census of Americans abroad in 2003 to determine how to include this population in the next decennial Census in 2010. While we wish that Americans abroad could be part of the 2000 Census, there unfortunately not the time or opportunity to do so. But it is vital that we act now to ensure that plans are in place for the future.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1715

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

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the "Census of Americans Abroad Act".

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) an estimated 3,000,000 to 6,000,000 Americans live and work overseas while continuing to vote and pay taxes in the United States;

(2) Americans residing abroad help increase exports of American goods because they traditionally buy American, sell American, and create business opportunities for American companies and workers, thereby strengthening the United States economy, creating jobs in the United States, and extending United States influence around the globe;

(3) Americans residing abroad play a key role in advancing this Nation's interests by serving as economic, political, and cultural "ambassadors" of the United States; and

(4) the major business, civic, and community organizations representing Americans and companies of the United States abroad support the counting of all Americans residing abroad by the Bureau of the Census, and are prepared to assist the Bureau of the Census in this task.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Bureau of the Census should undertake a census of all Americans residing

abroad in a special census, and that the necessary funding should be appropriated for this purpose;

(2) the Bureau of the Census should, after completing that special census, review the means by which Americans residing abroad may be included in the 2010 decennial census; and

(3) the Bureau of the Census should take appropriate measures to provide for the inclusion of Americans residing abroad in the 2010 decennial census and decennial censuses thereafter.

**SEC. 3. COUNTING OF AMERICANS RESIDING ABROAD.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce shall—

(1) using any authorities available to the Secretary under section 182 or any other provision of title 13, United States Code, take a special census of all Americans residing abroad as of April 1, 2003 (in this Act referred to as the "special census");

(2) submit the final tabulations under the special census to the President and Congress within 9 months after the date specified in paragraph (1), broken down into all appropriate categories, including—

(A) Americans residing abroad affiliated with the Federal Government, and their dependents; and

(B) Americans residing abroad not affiliated with the Federal Government, and their dependents;

(3) not later than June 30, 2005, submit to the President and Congress a report containing any recommendations the Secretary may have with respect to the inclusion of Americans residing abroad in future decennial censuses, including—

(A) counting methodologies;

(B) the purposes for which any information could or should be used; and

(C) whether Americans residing abroad can be included in the 2010 decennial census for purposes of the apportionment of Representatives in Congress among the several States and, if so, how that should be done; and

(4) take appropriate measures—

(A) to provide for the inclusion of Americans residing abroad in the 2010 decennial census and decennial censuses thereafter; and

(B) to make use of the information obtained from such censuses for such purposes as, and to the maximum extent that, the Secretary considers feasible and appropriate.

(b) INTERIM REPORT ON SPECIAL CENSUS.—Not later than June 30, 2002, the Secretary of Commerce shall submit to the committees of Congress having legislative jurisdiction over the census a report which shall include—

(1) a summary of how the plans and preparations for carrying out the special census are proceeding;

(2) a brief description or outline of how the tabulations in the special census are to be carried out; and

(3) information identifying any experts, consultants, interest groups, or other persons outside the Bureau of the Census who were consulted in connection with the special census.

(c) CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION; PENALTIES.—The provisions of section 9 and chapter 7 of title 13, United States Code, shall apply with respect to the special census.

(d) LIMITED USE OF DATA.—The data obtained from the special census may not be used for any purpose not specifically provided for under this section.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

**ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS**

S. 315

At the request of Mr. ASHCROFT, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 315, a bill to amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to require the President to report to Congress on any selective embargo on agricultural commodities, to provide a termination date for the embargo, to provide greater assurances for contract sanctity, and for other purposes.

S. 758

At the request of Mr. ASHCROFT, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 758, a bill to establish legal standards and procedures for the fair, prompt, inexpensive, and efficient resolution of personal injury claims arising out of asbestos exposure, and for other purposes.

S. 868

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 868, a bill to make forestry insurance plans available to owners and operators of private forest land, to encourage the use of prescribed burning and fuel treatment methods on private forest land, and for other purposes.

S. 935

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 935, a bill to amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to authorize research to promote the conversion of biomass into biobased industrial products, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. BURNS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 935, supra.

S. 1020

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1020, a bill to amend chapter 1 of title 9, United States Code, to provide for greater fairness in the arbitration process relating to motor vehicle franchise contracts.

S. 1109

At the request of Mr. McCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1109, a bill to conserve global bear populations by prohibiting the importation, exportation, and interstate trade of bear viscera and items, products, or substances containing, or labeled or advertised as containing, bear viscera, and for other purposes.

S. 1187

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. BRYAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1187, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and for other purposes.

S. 1263

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, the name of the Senator from Missouri

(Mr. ASHCROFT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1263, a bill to amend the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 to limit the reductions in medicare payments under the prospective payment system for hospital outpatient department services.

S. 1310

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1310, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to modify the interim payment system for home health services, and for other purposes.

S. 1333

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1333, a bill to expand homeownership in the United States.

S. 1448

At the request of Mr. HUTCHINSON, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1448, a bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to authorize the annual enrollment of land in the wetlands reserve program, to extend the program through 2005, and for other purposes.

S. 1485

At the request of Mr. NICKLES, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1485, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to confer United States citizenship automatically and retroactively on certain foreign-born children adopted by citizens of the United States.

S. 1491

At the request of Mr. GRAMS, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1491, a bill to authorize a comprehensive program of support for victims of torture abroad.

S. 1558

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. BRYAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1558, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for holders of Community Open Space bonds the proceeds of which are used for qualified environmental infrastructure projects, and for other purposes.

S. 1580

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. CAMPBELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1580, a bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to assist agricultural producers in managing risk, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 1580, *supra*.

S. 1652

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1652, a bill to designate the Old Execu-

tive Office Building located at 17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, in Washington, District of Columbia, as the Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building.

S. 1673

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1673, a bill to amend titles 10 and 18, United States Code, to protect unborn victims of violence.

SENATE RESOLUTION 190

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. ROTH), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. BRYAN), and the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 190, a resolution designating the week of October 10, 1999, through October 16, 1999, as National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Week.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 200—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 14-20 AS “NATIONAL BIOTECHNOLOGY WEEK”**

Mr. GRAMS submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 200

Whereas biotechnology is increasingly important to the research and development of medical, agricultural, industrial, and environmental products;

Whereas biotechnology has been responsible for breakthroughs and achievements which have benefited people for centuries and, in the 20th century, has contributed to increasing the lifespan of Americans by 25 years through the development of vaccines, antibiotics, and other drugs;

Whereas biotechnology is central to research for cures to diseases such as cancer, diabetes, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, heart and lung disease, Alzheimer’s disease, Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), and innumerable other medical ailments;

Whereas biotechnology contributes to crop yields and farm productivity and enhances the quality, value, and suitability of crops for food and other uses which are critical to America’s agricultural system;

Whereas biotechnology promises environmental benefits including protection of water quality, conservation of topsoil, improvement of waste management techniques, and reduction of chemical pesticide usage;

Whereas biotechnology contributes to the success of the United States in international commerce and trade;

Whereas biotechnology will be an important catalyst for creating jobs in the 21st century; and

Whereas it is important for all Americans to understand the role biotechnology contributes to their quality of life: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of February 14-20 of the year 2000 as “National Biotechnology Week”; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

• Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a resolution which would designate the week of February

14-20 as “National Biotechnology Week.”

I’m submitting this resolution because I believe it is important for our nation to recognize the role biotechnology has played in enhancing, saving and extending our lives. Indeed, biotechnology has extended the average American’s life by nearly 25 years.

Mr. President, the 20th century has shown the most significant advancements in all fields of biotechnology and there is reason to believe it will continue to deliver great hope and promise well into the 21st century. This industry is one of our fastest growing and will add thousands of new job opportunities to our economy. Just as the weeks of January and February, 2000 represent the start of a countdown to a new millennium beginning in 2001, they also represent the countdown to breakthroughs we all once thought were impossible.

Already, advances made in agricultural biotechnology have given us increased crop yields and promises of new uses for our agricultural commodities as well as the higher quality, more nutritious products to improve the competitiveness of our farmers. Great strides have been made through the use of biotechnology and health care and hold the keys to successfully treating or curing diseases such as cancer, diabetes and countless other conditions. Biotechnology has assisted us in improving water quality, conserving precious topsoil and reducing the need for pesticides which helps us improve our environment for future generations.

Mr. President, these are just a few examples of the impact biotechnology has had on our lives. I believe Americans should understand the importance of biotechnology in our way of life. With the passage of the resolution I introduce today, we provide a forum for many events in February to salute and promote this industry of the future.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing this important industry.●

**AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED**

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT EMPLOYEES WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION ACT OF 1999**

**THOMPSON AMENDMENT NO. 2290**

Mr. WARNER (for Mr. THOMPSON) proposed an amendment to the bill (H.R. 858) to amend title 11, District of Columbia Code, to extend coverage under the whistleblower protection provisions of the District of Columbia Comprehensive Merit Personnel Act of 1978 to personnel of the courts of the District of Columbia; as follows:

On page 5, strike lines 5 through 12.

On page 5, line 13, strike “(e)” and insert “(d)”.

On page 5, line 18, strike “(f)” and insert “(e)”.