

certain species conservation reports shall continue to be submitted; from the Committee on Environment and Public Works; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. REED:

S. 1745. A bill to establish and expand child opportunity zone family centers in elementary schools and secondary schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MOYNIHAN:

S. 1746. A bill to authorize negotiation of a free trade agreement with the Republic of Turkey, to provide authority for the implementation of the agreement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CLELAND:

S. 1743. A bill to amend the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century to authorize the State of Georgia to participate in the State infrastructure bank pilot program; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

STATE INFRASTRUCTURE BANK PILOT PROGRAM LEGISLATION

Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation which would allow my home state of Georgia to participate in the State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) program. Prior to the enactment of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) all 50 states were eligible for SIB revolving funds, which are capitalized with federal and state contributions and used to provide loans and other forms of non-grant assistance to transportation projects. TEA-21, however, limited an enhanced SIB program to four states (California, Florida, Missouri, Rhode Island). My bill would add Georgia as a fifth state for participation in the SIB program.

Georgia and Metro Atlanta, I believe, can be a national model on how to meet clean air standards and manage suburban sprawl without compromising economic growth. Governor Roy Barnes and the Georgia General Assembly deserve a great deal of credit for grabbing the bull by the horns when they enacted historic legislation creating the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA). GRTA will work with other state agencies and organizations to solve the traffic, pollution, and sprawl problems that plague Metro Atlanta.

In order to carry out its legislative charge in conjunction with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA), the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC), and other transportation agencies, GRTA will need sufficient financial resources to become a regional authority with teeth. To assist in procurement of these resources, the legislation I am introducing today would extend the State Infrastructure Bank program to include Georgia. I believe that this program can be a vital component in funding such important projects as the multi-state high speed rail corridor.

The SIB program authorizes loans to a public or private entity to cover the partial or complete cost of an approved project, and it allows for innovative planning and development of funding streams for repayment, which does not begin until five years after the completion of the project. Additionally, TEA-21 allows for the creation of a multistate infrastructure bank system among the pilot states. In so doing, states would be encouraged to share not only funds but also ideas for combating pollution and traffic problems and encouraging alternative forms of transportation. Georgia would be a perfect addition to this mix.

Georgia can be a model for the nation—an example for other states that are facing similar problems of balancing growth and livability. Georgia's participation in the SIB program would provide more options to fund the solutions that will allow the proper balance to be struck. GRTA, GDOT and the other transportation entities in Georgia have expressed to me their enthusiasm over the possibilities that are presented by Georgia's participation in the SIB program. I hope that my Senate colleagues will join with me in support of this legislation which will allow Georgia to participate in the SIB program and in doing so it will illustrate to the country the full potential of this program.

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

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

S. 1743

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

SECTION 1. STATE INFRASTRUCTURE BANK PILOT PROGRAM.

Section 1511(b)(1)(A) of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (23 U.S.C. 181 note; 112 Stat. 251) is amended by inserting "Georgia," after "Florida".

By Mr. REED:

S. 1745. A bill to establish and expand child opportunity zone family centers in elementary schools and secondary schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

CHILD OPPORTUNITY ZONE FAMILY CENTERS ACT

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation to encourage communities to foster school-based or school-linked family centers. These centers would provide a comprehensive array of information, support, services, and activities to improve the education, health, mental health, safety, and economic well-being of children and their families.

As we strive to ensure the academic and future success of our students, we must recognize that the increasingly complex needs of children cannot be met by the education system alone.

Some facts to illustrate this point:

Today, 11.3 million children—more than 90 percent of them in working families—have no health insurance.

7.5 million children under the age of 18 require mental health services, while the National Institute of Mental Health estimates that fewer than one in five receive the help they need.

It is estimated that nearly five million school-age children spend time without adult supervision during a typical week. Meanwhile, FBI data show that the peak hours for violent juvenile crime occur during the after-school hours of 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Also according to the FBI, juveniles accounted for 17 percent of all violent crime arrests in 1997, and juveniles are victims in nearly 25 percent of all crimes.

To address these and other serious issues facing our children and families, a few states and localities have established centers and developed programs designed to provide families with access and linkages to needed social services in a location that is easily accessed by families—their children's school. All too often, the programs and services currently available to assist children and families, like health and mental health care, nutritional programs, child care, housing, and job training, exist in a fragmented fashion, making it difficult for many families to find a point of entry. The aim of my legislation is to bring these vital services under one familiar roof so children and families have easy access to needed services.

Research indicates that school-linked family center programs are a cost-effective way to provide supports to children and families. According to a report by the Northeast and Islands Regional Educational Laboratory, school-linked services can also "help to increase student achievement, save money and reduce overlapping services, reach those children and families most in need, make schools more welcoming to families, increase community support for the school, and help at-risk families develop the capacity to manage their own lives successfully."

My legislation, the Child Opportunity Zone Family Centers Act, builds on a successful model in my home state of Rhode Island, the Rhode Island Child Opportunity Zone (COZ) Family Center initiative.

The Child Opportunity Zone Family Centers Act would provide grants on a competitive basis to partnerships consisting of a high poverty school; school district; other public agency, such as a department of health or social services; and non-profit community organizations, including a family health center that provides mental health services. Partnerships would be required to complete a needs assessment, and then use this information to provide children and families with linkages to existing community prevention and intervention services in the core areas of education, health, and family support. In addition, partnerships would provide violence prevention education to children and families and training to enable families to help their children

meet challenging standards and succeed in school.

The guiding principle of Rhode Island's COZ Family Centers is to help children and families get the assistance they need. This principle is reflected in my legislation, which contains accountability provisions to ensure that partnerships focus on improvements in student achievement, school readiness, family participation in schools, access to health care, mental health care, child care, and family support services and work to reduce violence-related problems, truancy, suspension, and dropout rates in order to continue to receive funding.

As we prepare to work on the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, I believe that it is critical that we do all we can to provide a seamless, integrated system of support for children and families. By giving families an opportunity to get the support they need, we can truly help children succeed in school and life. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this important legislation and work for its inclusion in the upcoming reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of this legislation be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1745

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

SECTION 1. CHILD OPPORTUNITY ZONE FAMILY CENTERS.

Title X of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8001 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"PART L—CHILD OPPORTUNITY ZONE FAMILY CENTERS

"SEC. 10995A. SHORT TITLE.

"This part may be cited as the 'Child Opportunity Zone Family Center Act of 1999'.

"SEC. 10995B. PURPOSE.

"The purpose of this part is to encourage eligible partnerships to establish or expand child opportunity zone family centers in elementary schools and secondary schools in order to provide comprehensive support services for children and their families, and to improve the children's educational, health, mental health, and social outcomes.

"SEC. 10995C. DEFINITIONS.

"In this title:

"(1) **CHILD OPPORTUNITY ZONE FAMILY CENTER.**—The term 'child opportunity zone family center' means a school-based or school-linked community service center that provides and links children and their families with comprehensive information, support, services, and activities to improve the education, health, mental health, safety, and economic well-being of the children and their families.

"(2) **ELIGIBLE PARTNERSHIP.**—The term 'eligible partnership' means a partnership—

"(A) that contains—

"(i) at least 1 elementary school or secondary school that—

"(I) receives assistance under title I and for which a measure of poverty determination is made under section 1113(a)(5) with re-

spect to a minimum of 40 percent of the children in the school; and

"(II) demonstrates parent involvement and parent support for the partnership's activities;

"(ii) a local educational agency;

"(iii) a public agency, other than a local educational agency, including a local or State department of health and social services; and

"(iv) a nonprofit community-based organization, including a community mental health services organization or a family health center that provides mental health services; and

"(B) that may contain—

"(i) an institution of higher education; and

"(ii) other public or private nonprofit entities.

"SEC. 10995D. GRANTS AUTHORIZED.

"(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary may award, on a competitive basis, grants to eligible partnerships to pay for the Federal share of the cost of establishing and expanding child opportunity zone family centers.

"(b) **DURATION.**—The Secretary shall award grants under this section for periods of 5 years.

"SEC. 10995E. REQUIRED ACTIVITIES.

"Each eligible partnership receiving a grant under this part shall use the grant funds—

"(1) in accordance with the needs assessment described in section 10995F(b)(1), to provide or link children and their families with information, support, activities, or services in core areas consisting of—

"(A) education, such as child care and education programs for children below the age of compulsory school attendance, before- and after-school care, and school age enrichment and education support programs;

"(B) health, such as primary care (including prenatal care, well child care, and mental health care), preventative health and safety programs, outreach and referral, screening and health promotion, and enrollment in health insurance programs; and

"(C) family support, such as adult education and literacy programs, welfare-to-work-programs, job training, parenting skills programs, assistance that supports healthy child development, and access to basic needs, including food and housing;

"(2) to provide intensive, high-quality, research-based instructional programs that—

"(A) provide violence prevention education for families and developmentally appropriate instructional services to children (including children below the age of compulsory school attendance), such as education and services on nonviolent conflict resolution, pro social skills and behaviors, and other skills necessary for effectively relating to others without violence; and

"(B) provide effective strategies for nurturing and supporting the emotional, social, and cognitive growth of children; and

"(3) to provide training, information, and support to families to enable the families to participate effectively in their children's education, and to help their children meet challenging standards, including assisting families to—

"(A) understand the accountability systems, including content standards, performance standards, and local assessments, in place for the State involved, the participating local educational agency, and the participating elementary school or secondary school;

"(B) understand their children's educational needs, their children's educational performance in comparison to State and local standards, and the steps the school is taking to address the children's needs and to help the children meet the standards; and

"(C) communicate effectively with personnel responsible for providing educational services to the families' children, and to participate in the development, amendment, review, and implementation of school-parent compacts, parent involvement policies, and school plans.

"SEC. 10995F. APPLICATIONS.

"(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Each eligible partnership desiring a grant under this part shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

"(b) **CONTENTS.**—Each application submitted pursuant to subsection (a) shall—

"(1) include a needs assessment, including a description of how the partnership will ensure that the activities to be assisted under this part will be tailored to meet the specific needs of the children and families to be served;

"(2) describe arrangements that have been formalized between the participating elementary school or secondary school, and other partnership members;

"(3) describe how the partnership will effectively coordinate and utilize Federal, State, and local educational agency sources of funding, including funding provided under part I of title X and under the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative (jointly funded by the Departments of Education, Justice, and Health and Human Services), that provide assistance to families and their children in the areas of job training, housing, justice, health, mental health, child care, and social and human services;

"(4) describe the partnership's plan to—

"(A) develop and carry out the activities assisted under this part with extensive participation of parents, administrators, teachers, pupil services personnel, social and human service agencies, and community organizations and leaders; and

"(B) connect and integrate the activities assisted under this part with the education reform efforts of the participating elementary school or secondary school, and the participating local educational agency;

"(5) describe the partnership's strategy for providing information and assistance in a language and form that families can understand, including how the partnership will ensure that families of students with limited English proficiency, or families of students with disabilities, are effectively involved, informed, and assisted;

"(6) describe how the partnership will collect and analyze data, and will utilize specific performance measures and indicators to—

"(A) determine the impact of activities assisted under this part as described in section 10995I(a); and

"(B) improve the activities assisted under this part; and

"(7) describe how the partnership will protect the privacy of families and their children participating in the activities assisted under this part.

"SEC. 10995G. FEDERAL SHARE.

"The Federal share of the cost of establishing and expanding child opportunity zone family centers—

"(1) for the first year for which an eligible partnership receives assistance under this part shall not exceed 90 percent;

"(2) for the second such year, shall not exceed 80 percent;

"(3) for the third such year, shall not exceed 70 percent;

"(4) for the fourth such year, shall not exceed 60 percent; and

"(5) for the fifth such year, shall not exceed 50 percent.

"SEC. 10995H. CONTINUATION OF FUNDING.

"Each eligible partnership that receives a grant under this part shall, after the third year for which the partnership receives funds through the grant, be eligible to continue to receive the funds if the Secretary determines that the partnership has made significant progress in meeting the performance measures used for the partnership's local evaluation under section 10995I(a)(4).

"SEC. 10995I. EVALUATIONS AND REPORTS.

"(a) LOCAL EVALUATIONS.—Each partnership receiving funds under this part shall conduct annual evaluations and submit to the Secretary reports containing the results of the evaluations. The reports shall include—

"(1) information on the partnership's activities that are assisted under this part;

"(2) information on the number of families and children served by the partnership's activities that are assisted under this part;

"(3) information on the partnership's effectiveness in reaching and meeting the needs of families and children served under this part, including underserved families, families of students with limited English proficiency, and families of students with disabilities; and

"(4) the results of a partnership's performance assessment of the partnership, including performance measures demonstrating—

"(A) improvements in student achievement, school readiness, family participation in schools, and access to health care, mental health care, child care, and family support services, resulting from activities assisted under this part; and

"(B) reductions in violence-related problems and risk taking behavior among youth, and reductions in truancy, suspension, and dropout rates, resulting from activities assisted under this part.

"(b) NATIONAL EVALUATIONS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall reserve not more than 3 percent of the amount appropriated under this part to carry out a national evaluation of the activities assisted under this part. Such evaluation shall be completed not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Child Opportunity Zone Family Center Act of 1999, and every year thereafter.

"(2) SCOPE OF EVALUATION.—In conducting the national evaluation, the Secretary shall evaluate the effectiveness and impact of the activities, and identify model activities, assisted under this part.

"(3) ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Secretary shall submit an annual report to Congress, regarding each national evaluation conducted under paragraph (1), that contains the information described in the national evaluation.

"(c) MODEL ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary shall broadly disseminate information on model activities developed under this part.

"SEC. 10995J. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

"There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this part \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2000, and such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2001 through 2004."

By Mr. MOYNIHAN:

S. 1746. A bill to authorize negotiation of a free trade agreement with the Republic of Turkey, to provide authority for the implementation of the agreement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

THE U.S.-TURKEY FREE TRADE AGREEMENT ACT OF 1999

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the U.S.-Turkey Free Trade Agreement Act of 1999. This

bill provides traditional trade negotiating authority—we once called it "fast track authority"—for a free trade agreement (FTA) with the Republic of Turkey. It would authorize the President to negotiate and conclude a free trade agreement with one of America's most important allies and bring that agreement and any necessary implementing legislation back to the Congress for an up-or-down vote, within a time certain.

I would begin by noting that Turkey has played a singular role at the crossroads of East and West since 1923, when the legendary Mustafa Kemal "Ataturk" built a western-oriented, secular state out of the ashes of the collapsed 600-year old Ottoman Empire. Its constitution establishes a democratic, parliamentary form of government with an independent judiciary. Indeed, it is the only Muslim country with a secular democracy.

Turkish-American friendship is longstanding: it was first consecrated in the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the United States and the Ottoman Empire in 1830. The 1929 Treaty of Commerce and Navigation cemented our commercial ties with the new republic, while the July 12, 1947 agreement on aid to Turkey, implementing the Truman Doctrine, inaugurated the very close relationship that continues today. Our friendship has since been reinforced by more than 60 agreements, treaties and memoranda of understanding.

It is time to take that relationship a step farther, and begin negotiations toward a free trade agreement with Turkey. Not only do our strategic and political interests dictate closer economic integration, but our commercial interests do so as well.

Straddling Europe and Asia, Turkey has played a central role in safeguarding the United States' security interests in the region since it first entered World War II on the side of the allies at the end of the war. Turkey was a charter member of the United Nations and joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in 1952. It currently has the largest military force in the Middle East, and the second largest military force in NATO.

Its geography, history, and relative economic success put Turkey in a position of potential influence in Central Asia, which is, of course, populated mainly by Turkic peoples. To the west, Turkey plays an important role in Europe, both because of its NATO membership and the situation on Cyprus. We applaud the recent improvements in Turkey's relations with Greece, and hope for more. This past summer the two countries held bilateral talks on a range of issues, talks which continued in early September. The tragedy of the recent earthquakes further reinforced this burgeoning relationship as Greece and then Turkey promptly dispatched emergency rescue crews and supplies to assist the other in dealing with these disasters.

And to the south, Turkey is, without question, one of our two most important allies in the Middle East. The other is its neighbor, Israel, with whom the United States negotiated a free trade agreement that went into effect in 1985. Less well known is the fact that Turkey and Israel negotiated a free trade agreement in 1996, which was ratified in 1997 and is in force today. A U.S.-Turkey FTA would simply complete the triangle.

Writing in the September 28, 1999 edition of *The Washington Post*, Dr. Isaiah Frank, the very distinguished William L. Clayton Professor of International Economics at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies, argued persuasively on political grounds for a free trade agreement with Turkey.

The EU's equivocation [over Turkey's proposed membership in the European Union] has bred Turkish disaffection from Europe and plays into the political hands of the Islamists who as recently as 1996 were at the helm of the government. Clearly, the enormous U.S. stake in a secular, Western-oriented Turkey warrants action by the United States to offset the EU's arm's length treatment and to strengthen and solidify the country's Western political and economic integration.

But Dr. Frank was correct to point out as well that a free trade agreement with Turkey would also be in the United States' economic interest. Turkey is an industrial country, underpinned by strong free market principles and a vibrant private sector. It was in 1961 a founding member of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the exclusive club—there are today only 29 OECD member countries—that serves as the principal economic forum for the industrialized world.

In the 1980's, Turkey took major steps to liberalize its economy. Progress continues to be made: earlier this year, Turkey's parliament passed a significant banking reform bill, landmark social security reform and constitutional amendments removing obstacles to foreign investment and promoting the privatization of state-owned enterprises. Turkey's increasingly open economy has produced rewards: during most of the 1990's, it has been one of the fastest growing of the OECD countries and, for the past eight years, it has had the fourth highest annual growth rate, after Ireland, Korea and Luxembourg, recording a 4.4% average annual rate of growth in GNP between 1990 and 1998.

Turkey has opened itself to the global economy in significant ways. It became a Contracting Party to the General Agreement on Tariffs in Trade in 1951 and joined the World Trade Organization as a charter member in 1995. Turkey signed a free trade agreement with the European Free Trade Association in 1991 and established a customs union with the European Union in 1996. As Dr. Frank noted, it has sought full membership in the EU, thus far without success. There has been, of late,

some limited progress in that regard: on October 13, 1999, the European Commission suggested that Turkey be made a candidate for possible EU membership, but proposed that negotiations be deferred for some unspecified time. The matter is to be discussed at the EU summit this December. In 1992, Turkey joined ten other countries (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Romania, Russia and Ukraine) to form the Black Sea Economic Cooperation group, which aims at promoting multilateral cooperation and trade in that region.

Our own economic ties with Turkey have strengthened over the years as well. In 1986, we concluded a bilateral investment treaty and in 1998 a bilateral tax treaty. And on September 29, 1999, President Clinton and Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit signed a Trade and Investment Framework Agreement, which establishes a bilateral Council on Trade and Investment that will serve as a forum for regular discussions on commercial matters. Helpful steps all, but, I would argue, not bold enough. I agree with Dr. Frank that a free trade agreement with Turkey ought to be our goal.

Yes, our trade with Turkey is still on a small scale. In 1998, U.S. merchandise exports to Turkey reached \$3.5 billion, making Turkey our 34th largest export market. Our imports from Turkey were even smaller—\$2.5 billion, or less than 0.3 percent of total imports—making Turkey our 39th largest source of imports.

Certainly Turkey compares favorably with Chile, the only country with whom the United States has begun free trade agreement negotiations since the North American Free Trade Agreement entered into force. In 1998, U.S. merchandise exports to Chile totaled \$3.9 billion, only slightly higher than our \$3.5 billion in exports to Turkey that year, while our imports from Chile in 1998 were the same as our imports from Turkey—\$2.5 billion. And both countries fall within the World Bank's grouping of "upper middle income" countries based on per capita GNP: in 1998's Turkey's stood at \$3,160, compared with \$4,810 for Chile.

Turkey's market potential is certainly greater than Chile's: Turkey's population is four times the size of Chile's population (62 million vs. 15 million) and Turkey's total imports in 1998—about \$42 billion—were double Chile's total imports that year—\$19 billion.

To be sure, more than 50 percent of Turkey's trade—both exports and imports—is conducted with the European Union, but the United States is Turkey's second largest single-country trading partner, after Germany. And in 1993, the Department of Commerce designated Turkey one of 10 "Big Emerging Markets"—a focal point for U.S. export and investment promotion efforts—because of its "outstanding growth prospects" and growing market of 62 million consumers.

I am convinced that there are strong economic arguments for a free trade agreement with Turkey. Our negotiators will have to take care, of course, that the benefits of the FTA are restricted to the United States and Turkey. But this is a matter that will be addressed when the negotiators write the rules of origin that will apply to the FTA.

The legislation that I am introducing today would set us on the course of negotiating and implementing an FTA with Turkey, much as we negotiated an FTA over a decade ago with Turkey's neighbor, and our dear friend, Israel. And much as Turkey and Israel have seen it in their mutual interest to negotiate a free trade agreement.

Dr. Frank made the case persuasively and succinctly in his op-ed piece in *The Washington Post*:

In light of Turkey's strategic role as a U.S. ally in a rough neighborhood, a U.S.-Turkey free-trade agreement would help consolidate Turkey's Western orientation and contribute to stability in a highly volatile region of the world.

I am hopeful that this bill will start us down that path.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of my bill and Dr. Frank's op-ed article be inserted into the RECORD.

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

S. 1746

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 "United States-Turkey Free Trade Agreement Act of 1999".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The Republic of Turkey (in this Act referred to as "Turkey") has played an important strategic, political, and economic role in Europe, Asia, and the Middle East since its founding in 1923 by Mustafa Kemal "Ataturk" following the collapse of the 600-year Ottoman Empire.

(2) The friendship shared between the United States and Turkey dates to the late 18th century and was consecrated by the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the United States and the Ottoman Empire in 1830.

(3) The United States reaffirmed its relationship with Turkey by entering into the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation of 1929.

(4) The United States and Turkey have subsequently entered into over 60 treaties, memoranda of understanding, and other agreements on a broad range of issues, including a bilateral investment treaty (1986), a bilateral tax treaty (1998), and a trade and investment framework agreement (1999), as evidence of their strong friendship.

(5) Turkey is located in the strategic corridor between Europe and Asia, bordering the Black Sea and the Mediterranean Sea.

(6) Turkey has been a strategic partner of the United States since it joined the allies at the end of World War II.

(7) The strategic alliance between Turkey and the United States was cemented by—

(A) the agreement of July 12, 1947 implementing the Truman doctrine;

(B) Turkey's membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in 1952; and

(C) the United States-Turkey Agreement for Cooperation on Defense and Economy of 1980.

(8) Turkey is also an important industrialized economy and was a founding member of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the United Nations.

(9) Turkey has made significant progress since the 1980's in liberalizing its economy and integrating with the global economy.

(10) Turkey has joined other nations in advocating an open trading system through its membership in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the World Trade Organization.

(11) Despite the deep friendship between the United States and Turkey, their trading relationship remains small.

(12) In 1998, United States merchandise exports to Turkey reached \$3,500,000,000.

(13) In 1998, United States imports from Turkey totaled \$2,500,000,000 or less than 0.3 percent of United States total imports.

(14) A free trade agreement between the United States and Turkey would greatly benefit both the United States and Turkey by expanding their commercial ties.

SEC. 3. NEGOTIATING OBJECTIVES FOR A UNITED STATES-TURKEY FREE TRADE AGREEMENT.

The overall trade negotiating objectives of the United States with respect to a United States-Turkey Free Trade Agreement are to obtain—

(1) more open, equitable, and reciprocal market access between the United States and Turkey; and

(2) the reduction or elimination of barriers and other trade-distorting policies and practices that inhibit trade between the United States and Turkey.

SEC. 4. NEGOTIATION OF A UNITED STATES-TURKEY FREE TRADE AGREEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to sections 5 and 6, the President is authorized to enter into an agreement described in subsection (c). The provisions of section 151(c) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2191(c)) shall apply with respect to a bill to implement such agreement if such agreement is entered into on or before December 31, 2005.

(b) TARIFF PROCLAMATION AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President is authorized to proclaim—

(A) such modification or continuation of any existing duty,

(B) such continuance of existing duty-free or excise treatment, or

(C) such additional duties as the President determines to be required or appropriate to carry out the trade agreement described in subsection (c).

(2) LIMITATIONS.—No proclamation may be made under paragraph (1) that—

(A) reduces any rate of duty (other than a rate of duty that does not exceed 5 percent ad valorem on the date of enactment of this Act) to a rate which is less than 50 percent of the rate of such duty that applies on such date of enactment;

(B) provides for a reduction of duty on an article to take effect on a date that is more than 10 years after the first reduction that is proclaimed to carry out a trade agreement with respect to such article; or

(C) increases any rate of duty above the rate that applied on the date of enactment of this Act.

(3) AGGREGATE REDUCTION; EXEMPTION FROM STAGING.—

(A) AGGREGATE REDUCTION.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the aggregate reduction in the rate of duty on any article which is in effect on any day pursuant to a

trade agreement entered into under paragraph (1) shall not exceed the aggregate reduction which would have been in effect on such day if—

(i) a reduction of 3 percent ad valorem or a reduction of one-tenth of the total reduction, whichever is greater, had taken effect on the effective date of the first reduction proclaimed under paragraph (1) to carry out such agreement with respect to such article; and

(ii) a reduction equal to the amount applicable under clause (i) had taken effect at 1-year intervals after the effective date of such first reduction.

(B) EXEMPTION FROM STAGING.—No staging under subparagraph (A) is required with respect to a rate reduction that is proclaimed under paragraph (1) for an article of a kind that is not produced in the United States. The United States International Trade Commission shall advise the President of the identity of articles that may be exempted from staging under this subparagraph.

(4) ROUNDING.—If the President determines that such action will simplify the computation of reductions under paragraph (3), the President may round an annual reduction by the lesser of—

(A) the difference between the reduction without regard to this paragraph and the next lower whole number; or

(B) one-half of 1 percent ad valorem.

(5) OTHER LIMITATIONS.—A rate of duty reduction or increase that may not be proclaimed by reason of paragraph (2) may take effect only if a provision authorizing such reduction or increase is included within an implementing bill provided for under section 6(c) and that bill is enacted into law.

(c) AGREEMENT DESCRIBED.—An agreement described in this subsection means a bilateral agreement between the United States and Turkey that provides for the reduction and ultimate elimination of tariffs and non-tariff barriers to trade and the eventual establishment of a free trade agreement between the United States and Turkey.

SEC. 5. CONSULTATIONS WITH CONGRESS ON NEGOTIATIONS OF A UNITED STATES-TURKEY FREE TRADE AGREEMENT.

Before entering into any trade agreement under section 4 (including immediately before initialing an agreement), the President shall consult closely and on a timely basis on the nature of the agreement and the extent to which it will achieve the purposes of this Act with—

(1) the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate;

(2) the congressional advisers for trade policy and negotiations appointed under section 161 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2211); and

(3) each other committee of the House of Representatives and the Senate, and each joint committee of Congress, which has jurisdiction over legislation involving subject matters that would be affected by the trade agreement.

SEC. 6. IMPLEMENTATION OF UNITED STATES-TURKEY FREE TRADE AGREEMENT.

(a) NOTIFICATION AND SUBMISSION.—Any agreement entered into under section 4 shall enter into force with respect to the United States if (and only if)—

(1) the President, at least 60 calendar days before the day on which the President enters into the trade agreement, notifies the House of Representatives and the Senate of the President's intention to enter into the agreement, and promptly thereafter publishes notice of such intention in the Federal Register;

(2) within 60 calendar days after entering into the agreement, the President submits to Congress a description of those changes to

existing laws that the President considers would be required in order to bring the United States into compliance with the agreement;

(3) after entering into the agreement, the President submits a copy of the final legal text of the agreement, together with—

(A) a draft of an implementing bill described in subsection (c);

(B) a statement of any administrative action proposed to implement the trade agreement; and

(C) the supporting information described in subsection (b); and

(4) the implementing bill is enacted into law.

(b) SUPPORTING INFORMATION.—The supporting information required under subsection (a)(3)(C) consists of—

(1) an explanation as to how the implementing bill and proposed administrative action will change or affect existing law; and

(2) a statement—

(A) asserting that the agreement makes progress in achieving the objectives of this Act; and

(B) setting forth the reasons of the President regarding—

(i) how and to what extent the agreement makes progress in achieving the objectives referred to in subparagraph (A);

(ii) whether and how the agreement changes provisions of an agreement previously negotiated;

(iii) how the agreement serves the interests of United States commerce; and

(iv) any proposed administrative action.

(c) BILLS QUALIFYING FOR TRADE AGREEMENT APPROVAL PROCEDURES.—The provisions of section 151 of the Trade Act of 1974 apply to an implementing bill submitted pursuant to subsection (b) that contains only—

(1) provisions that approve a trade agreement entered into under section 4 that achieves the negotiating objectives set forth in section 3 and the statement of administrative action (if any) proposed to implement such trade agreement;

(2) provisions that are—

(A) necessary to implement such agreement; or

(B) otherwise related to the implementation, enforcement, and adjustment to the effects of such trade agreement; and

(3) provisions necessary for purposes of complying with section 252 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 in implementing the applicable trade agreement.

SEC. 7. CONSIDERATION OF IMPLEMENTING BILL.

(a) CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF IMPLEMENTING BILL.—When the President submits to Congress a bill to implement the trade agreement as described in section 6(c), the bill shall be introduced and considered pursuant to the provisions of section 151 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2191).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 151 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2191) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting “section 6 of the United States-Turkey Free Trade Agreement Act of 1999” after “the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988,”; and

(2) in subsection (c)(1), by inserting “or under section 6 of the United States-Turkey Free Trade Agreement Act of 1999,” after “the Uruguay Round Agreements Act,”.

[From the Washington Post, Sept. 28, 1999]

A PLACE FOR TURKEY

(By Isaiah Frank)

As Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit visits President Clinton today, an important

and highly sensitive subject belongs on the agenda.

As a staunch ally of the United States, Turkey is unique. It is the only member of NATO that has sought entry into the European Union (EU) without success. The three most recent NATO members—Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic—are already engaged in accession negotiations with the EU, but Turkey, whose NATO membership dates back to 1952, has been kept at arm's length. Is there anything the United States can do to counter the deep disappointment and alienation felt in Turkey at being excluded from full acceptance into an ever more economically integrated European community?

During the Cold War, Turkey was regarded by the United States and its Western allies as the main bulwark against the southern expansion of Soviet power. Among NATO countries, its military establishment has ranked second in size to that of the United States. Since the end of the Cold War, Turkey has continued its close security cooperation with the United States. It played a key role in the U.S.-led Gulf War, its soldiers joined U.S. troops in international peace-keeping operations in Bosnia, and its provided valuable logistical support to the recent U.S. air operation in Serbia. As the only firmly established secular democracy among Muslim states, Turkey is vital to U.S. interest in sensitive regions, including the Balkans, the Caucasus, the Middle East and Central Asia.

In order to consolidate its secular and pro-Western orientation as well as tighten its economic links to Europe, Turkey has sought full membership in the EU virtually from the organization's inception. The EU, however, has decided that Turkey does not yet meet the required criteria. Instead, the EU signed a customs union agreement with Turkey, which went into effect on Jan. 1, 1996. While Turkish officials initially considered the customs union a step toward full membership, it soon became clear that the European Union regarded it as a substitute for full membership.

Despite continuing official EU reaffirmations of Turkey's eligibility for full membership, the reality of de facto rejection has increasingly sunk in. Not only is Turkey omitted from the list of countries (Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovenia, Estonia and Cyprus) with which accession negotiations have already begun, it is also left out of a project second wave of expansion that will include five additional countries: Bulgaria, Romania, Lithuania, Latvia and Slovakia.

Why is Turkey being excluded? A variety of reasons have been given, including the Kurdish problem and related issues of human rights, Turkey's macroeconomic situation, and the opposition of Greece because of the Cyprus situation. But there is some indication of a softening of the Greek position, provided Turkey does not place roadblocks in the way of Cyprus's current efforts to join the EU. As for the Kurdish problem, Turkey is making progress in working out a peaceful solution. And the EU acknowledges that the country is headed in the right direction in reforming its economy.

If EU standards for resolving these problems are ultimately met, will Turkey then be admitted? Many Turkish leaders believe this unlikely because of officially unspoken EU apprehensions. Turkey's population of 64 million is second in size only to Germany's among present and prospective members of the EU. In some European circles, this sends up several red flags. If admitted, would Turkey exert undue weight in EU decision-making? With EU membership entailing the free movement of workers, what effects would the admission of a populous and relatively

low-income country have on European labor markets? And finally, would the EU be willing to integrate fully with a country that is almost entirely Muslim? None of these considerations is discussed openly, but they are clearly in the background of the debate.

The EU's equivocation has bred Turkish disaffection from Europe and plays into the political hands of the Islamists who as recently as 1996 were at the helm of the government. Clearly, the enormous U.S. stake in a secular, Western-oriented Turkey warrants action by the United States to offset the EU's arm's length treatment and to strengthen and solidify the country's Western political and economic integration.

One such step would be for the United States to offer to negotiate a free-trade agreement with Turkey. Indeed, there is precedent for such a bilateral agreement, one motivated more by political considerations than economic advantages, and that is the 1985 U.S. free-trade agreement with Israel.

But the economic rationale for such an agreement with Turkey should not be dismissed. For Turkey the advantages are obvious; the United States ranks second as a market for its exports and third as a source of its imports. For the United States, Turkey is one of the world's 10 big "emerging markets," and this country is Turkey's largest foreign investor.

A U.S.-Turkey free-trade agreement would not be a substitute for Turkish membership in the EU, a goal that Turkey should continue to pursue as it gets its political and economic house in order. But it would help compensate for a growing belief in Turkey that the country has little prospect of entry into the EU mainly because of European prejudice against a Muslim country. In light of Turkey's strategic role as a U.S. ally in a rough neighborhood, a U.S.-Turkey free-trade agreement would help consolidate Turkey's Western orientation and contribute to stability in a highly volatile region of the world.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 16

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 16, a bill to reform the Federal election campaign laws applicable to Congress.

S. 88

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 88, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to exempt disabled individuals from being required to enroll with a managed care entity under the Medicaid program.

S. 541

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 541, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make certain changes related to payments for graduate medical education under the Medicare program.

S. 751

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 751, a bill to combat nurs-

ing home fraud and abuse, increase protections for victims of telemarketing fraud, enhance safeguards for pension plans and health care benefit programs, and enhance penalties for crimes against seniors, and for other purposes.

S. 866

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 866, a bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to revise existing regulations concerning the conditions of participation for hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers under the Medicare program relating to certified registered nurse anesthetists' services to make the regulations consistent with State supervision requirements.

S. 882

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. ASHCROFT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 882, a bill to strengthen provisions in the Energy Policy Act of 1992 and the Federal Nonnuclear Energy Research and Development Act of 1974 with respect to potential Climate Change.

S. 922

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH), and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 922, a bill to prohibit the use of the "Made in the USA" label on products of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and to deny such products duty-free and quota-free treatment.

S. 934

At the request of Mr. ROBB, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 934, a bill to enhance rights and protections for victims of crime.

S. 1017

At the request of Mr. MACK, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1017, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the State ceiling on the low-income housing credit.

S. 1144

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1144, a bill to provide increased flexibility in use of highway funding, and for other purposes.

S. 1178

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of 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 preferential leaseholders shall have an option to purchase the parcels from the Commission, and for other purposes.

S. 1242

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1242, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to make permanent the visa waiver program for certain visitors to the United States.

S. 1322

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1322, a bill to prohibit health insurance and employment discrimination against individuals and their family members on the basis of predictive genetic information or genetic services.

S. 1452

At the request of Mr. SHELBY, the names of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 1452, a bill to modernize the requirements under the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards of 1974 and to establish a balanced consensus process for the development, revision, and interpretation of Federal construction and safety standards for manufactured homes.

S. 1495

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1495, a bill to establish, wherever feasible, guidelines, recommendations, and regulations that promote the regulatory acceptance of new and revised toxicological tests that protect human and animal health and the environment while reducing, refining, or replacing animal tests and ensuring human safety and product effectiveness.

S. 1500

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. THURMOND) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. ASHCROFT) were added as cosponsors of S. 1500, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an additional payment for services provided to certain high-cost individuals under the prospective payment system for skilled nursing facility services, and for other purposes.

S. 1547

At the request of Mr. BURNS, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) and the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) were added as cosponsors of S. 1547, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require the Federal Communications Commission to preserve low-power television stations that provide community broadcasting, and for other purposes.