

(1) the country has established by law a requirement that employees in that country who are compensated on an hourly basis be compensated at a rate of not less than \$1 per hour; and

(2) the goods imported from that country that are eligible for such benefits are produced in accordance with that law.

This section shall become effective one day after enactment.

AMENDMENT NO. 2422

Strike all after the first word and insert the following:

SEC. . MINIMUM WAGE.

(a) INCREASE.—Paragraph (1) of section 6(a) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 206(a)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) except as otherwise provided in this section, not less than—

“(A) \$5.65 an hour during the year beginning on January 1, 2000; and

“(B) \$6.15 an hour beginning on January 1, 2001.”

(b) APPLICATION TO COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.—The provisions of section 6 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 206) shall apply to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

AMENDMENT NO. 2423

At the appropriate place insert the following:

SEC. . LABOR AGREEMENT REQUIRED.

The benefits provided by the amendments made by this Act shall not become available to any country until—

(1) the President has negotiated with that country a side agreement concerning labor standards, similar to the North American Agreement on Labor Cooperation (as defined in section 532(b)(2) of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979 (19 U.S.C. 3471(b)(2)); and

(2) submitted that agreement to the Congress.

This section shall become effective one day after enactment.

AMENDMENT NO. 2424

At the appropriate place insert the following:

SEC. . CHILD LABOR LAW REQUIREMENT.

The benefits provided by the amendments made by this Act shall not be available to any country unless the President determines that—

(1) the country prohibits by law the employment of children under the age of 14 in the manufacture and production of goods; and

(2) no goods exported from that country to the United States produced in violation of that law received those benefits.

This section shall become effective one day after enactment.

HELMS AMENDMENT NO. 2425

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. HELMS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to amendment No. 2401 submitted by Mr. ASHCROFT to the bill, H.R. 434, supra; as follows:

Strike section 2(a)(1) and insert the following:

(1) AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “agricultural commodity” has the meaning given that term in section 402(2) of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1732(2)).

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term does not include any pesticide, fertilizer, or agricultural machinery or equipment.

Strike section 2(c)(1) and insert the following:

(1) against a foreign country with respect to which—

(A) Congress has declared war or enacted a law containing specific authorization for the use of force;

(B) the United States is involved in ongoing hostilities; or

(C) the President has proclaimed a state of national emergency; or

At the end of section 2(c)(2)(C), add the following:

(C) used or could be used to facilitate the development or production of a chemical or biological weapon or weapons of mass destruction.

Strike section (2)(d) and insert the following:

(d) COUNTRIES SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.—This section shall not affect the prohibitions in effect on the date of enactment of this Act under section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2371), on providing, to the government, or a corporation, partnership, or entity owned or controlled by the government, of any country supporting international terrorism, United States Government assistance, including United States foreign assistance, United States export assistance, or any United States credits or credit guarantees.

HELMS AMENDMENT NO. 2426

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. HELMS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to amendment No. 2361 submitted by Mr. CONRAD to the bill, H.R. 434, supra; as follows:

Strike section 2(a)(1) and insert the following:

(1) AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “agricultural commodity” has the meaning given that term in section 402(2) of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1732(2)).

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term does not include any pesticide, fertilizer, or agricultural machinery or equipment.

Strike section 2(c)(1) and insert the following:

(1) against a foreign country with respect to which—

(A) Congress has declared war or enacted a law containing specific authorization for the use of force;

(B) the United States is involved in ongoing hostilities; or

(C) the President has proclaimed a state of national emergency; or

At the end of section 2(c)(2)(C), add the following:

(C) used or could be used to facilitate the development or production of a chemical or biological weapon or weapons of mass destruction.

Strike section (2)(d) and insert the following:

(d) COUNTRIES SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.—This section shall not affect the prohibitions in effect on the date of enactment of this Act under section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2371), on providing, to the government, or a corporation, partnership, or entity owned or controlled by the government, of any country supporting international terrorism, United States Government assistance, including United States foreign assistance, United States export assistance, or any United States credits or credit guarantees.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEE TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Friday, October 29, 1999, at 10 a.m. to hold a hearing.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

UNITED NATIONS DAY

• Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, as Chairman of the International Operations Subcommittee, which has United Nations oversight responsibilities, and having been appointed by the President to serve two terms as a congressional delegate to the United Nations, I have focused significant attention on the United Nations. On the anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, I think it is appropriate to take time for us all to reflect on that important institution.

Fifty-four years ago this week, the members of the United Nations' founding delegation met in San Francisco for the signing ceremony that created the United Nations. There was great anticipation and a collective enthusiasm for this new, global institution. Delegates spoke of hope, of expectation, of the promise of peace. President Truman echoed the thoughts of those founding members when he told the delegates they had, “created a great instrument for peace and security and human progress in the world.” Fifty-four years later, however, the United Nations is struggling to meet its potential.

In Congress, the need for the United Nations to reform itself often overshadows the activities United Nations does well. As we saw in the Persian Gulf war, the United Nations can play a useful role in building coalitions to address matters of international security. Moreover, the United Nations has the ability to effectively conduct traditional peacekeeping operations, such as those in Cyprus and the Sinai Peninsula, where hostilities have ceased and all parties agree to the U.N. peacekeeping role. In the areas of humanitarian relief, child survival, and refugee assistance, much of the work of UNICEF and the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees deserves praise. And many of the U.N. agencies that focus on technical cooperation play a crucial role in establishing and coordinating international standards for governments and businesses, including the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Telecommunications Union, the Universal Postal Union, and the World Intellectual Property Organization.

However, the ability of the United Nations to live up to the goals stated

at its founding has been stymied by its massive, uncoordinated growth. Fortunately, a consensus appears to be building that the United Nations needs to reform in order to be a viable institution. As Secretary-General Annan noted, "a reformed United Nations will be a more relevant United Nations in the eyes of the world." To this end, the United States must help shape the United Nations to be an organization that the United States needs as much as the United Nations needs the United States.

In an effort to push the United Nations toward reform, the Senate has passed a comprehensive package that links the payment of arrears to the achievement of reform benchmarks. These are achievable, common-sense reforms. We are calling for a code of conduct with an anti-nepotism provision; a mechanism to sunset outdated and unnecessary programs; and transparency in the budget process. We do not need to micro-manage the United Nations, but we need to make sure a proper structure is in place for the United Nations to be able to manage itself.

We must pay our arrears to the United Nations. In doing so, however, we should put the arrears in perspective. Throughout the history of the United Nations, the United States has always been its most generous donor. The United States contributes around \$2 billion to U.N. organizations and activities every year. This is three times more generous than any other permanent member of the Security Council. I do not believe success in any of the areas where the United Nations excels would be possible without a high level of U.S. support.

The U.S. mission will have a difficult job implementing reforms when a massive U.N. bureaucracy and numerous member states have a vested interest in resisting reform and maintaining the status quo. And I recognize the U.S. mission's job is more difficult without the arrears package signed into law. But Ambassador Holbrooke has shown that it can be done. He has already won a seat for an American on the budget committee of the United Nations and is making progress in getting our assessment rates reduced.

As I renew my commitment to champion the arrears package in the Congress, I want to underscore that the reforms proposed by the United States are critical to ensure the United Nations is effective and relevant. Any reforms that improve the effectiveness of the United Nations must be viewed in this light. We must reform the United Nations now and the United States has the responsibility to play a major role. If we do nothing, and the United Nations collapses under its own weight, then we will have only ourselves to blame.●

A SAND COUNTY ALMANAC

● Mr. FEINGOLD. I rise to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the publi-

cation of Aldo Leopold's *A Sand County Almanac*. The publication of this work has been celebrated in my home state throughout 1999, most recently with a major national conference on the future of the land ethic at the beginning of this month. However, October 27, 1949 is the date that Oxford Press released the first edition of the book.

Aldo Leopold is considered to be the father of wildlife ecology. He was a renowned scientist and scholar, exceptional teacher, philosopher, and gifted writer. It is for this book, *A Sand County Almanac*, that Leopold is best known by millions of people around the globe. The book has been acclaimed as the century's literary landmark in conservation. It led to a philosophy that has guided many to discovering what it means to live in harmony with the land.

When Leopold died in 1948, he had yet to see his *Sand County Almanac* in print, and it was through the efforts of his son Luna that the first version of *A Sand County Almanac* was made available to the public.

Aldo Leopold's authority as a philosopher of conservation came from a lifelong love of wilderness and the recognition of his need to be surrounded by "things natural, wild, and free." Upon graduation from Yale University, Leopold went to work for the United States Forest Service in 1909, helped to found the Wilderness Society, and in 1924 was responsible for the institution, through administrative action, of the first of the United States' Wilderness Areas, the Gila National Forest in New Mexico. From 1933 until his death, Leopold held a chair in game management at the University of Wisconsin.

Although Leopold's love of the land is apparent in the book, his book does not cry out in defense of particular tracts of land about to go under the axe or plow. Rather Leopold deals with the minutiae of often unnoticed plants and animals, all the little things that one might overlook in the task of managing lands but which must be present to add up to healthy ecosystems.

Part I of *A Sand County Almanac* is devoted to the details of a single piece of land: Leopold's 120-acre property in central Wisconsin, abandoned as a working farm years before because of the prevalence of sandy soil from which the "Sand Counties" took their nickname. It was at this weekend retreat, Leopold says, "that we try to rebuild, with shovel and axe, what we are losing elsewhere."

Month by month, Leopold leads the reader through the progression of the seasons with descriptions of such things as skunk tracks, the songs, habits, and attitudes of dozens of bird species, cycles of high water in the river, the timely appearance and blooming of several plants, and the joys of cutting one's own firewood. Part of Leopold's request, toward the end of the book, that we attach values to the things in nature that have no apparent economic

worth. At the time Leopold's Wisconsin sand farm itself was economically valueless because of its unsuitability for crops, timber or pasture. However, from Leopold's essays one comes to realize that here is a parcel of land that is anything but worthless; the property that yields to its owner the multitude of joys and insights that Leopold describes is a rich piece of ground indeed.

In Part II of *A Sand County Almanac*, titled "The Quality of Landscape," Leopold takes his reader away from the farm; first into the surrounding Wisconsin countryside and then even farther. Leopold describes an Illinois bus ride, a visit to the Iowa of his boyhood, on to Arizona and New Mexico where he first worked with the U.S. Forest Service, across the southern border into Chihuahua and Sonora, Mexico, north to Oregon and Utah, and finally travel across the northern border into Manitoba, Canada.

In each of these places, Leopold outlines the natural history of the region. Leopold understood the difficulty of the choices before us, and certainly knew the paradox with which we are faced: "But all conservation of wilderness is self-defeating," he writes, "for to cherish we must see and fondle, and when we have seen and fondled, there is no wilderness left to cherish."

In the final pages of *A Sand County Almanac*, Leopold introduces the concept of a "land ethic" and a plea that such an ethic be adopted. Leopold defines philosophical ethics as "the differentiation of social from anti-social conduct" for the common good of the community, and declares that a land ethic, wherein the ecologies in which we erect our developments would be considered an integral part of the community, amounts to the same thing as social ethics. A land ethic, in the author's terms, means a "willing limitation on freedom of action in the struggle for survival."

A Sand County Almanac was not written specifically for wilderness activists. It was written for everyone, regardless of vocation. I recommend this book to colleagues not only because it is enjoyable, but also because it raises important questions that the Senate will eventually be forced to address. As members of the Senate, the decisions we will make regarding land use are critically important. The responsibility is there, as well as the rewards, for those who seek to conduct themselves in a fashion consistent with Leopold's vision.

A Sand County Almanac continues to inspire new generations of Americans to take up the cause of conservation. And 50 years later, the land ethic continues to serve as the guiding beacon for American conservation policy. We do well in the Senate to mark this Anniversary, and to dedicate ourselves to Leopold's legacy.●