

thank Senators ROBB, COCHRAN, and JEFFORDS for cosponsoring this measure. I also express my appreciation to Chairman THOMAS for his ever vigilant efforts on parks legislation, and in particular, for moving both the Vicksburg Campaign Trail and Corinth battlefield bills forward. I take this opportunity to recognize Chairman MURKOWSKI for his continued stewardship over the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Mr. President, I also want to recognize Ken P'Pool, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for Mississippi; Rosemary Williams, chairman of the Siege and Battle of Corinth Commission; John Sullivan, president of the Friends of the Vicksburg Campaign and Historic Trail; and Terry Winschel and Woody Harrell of the U.S. Park Service for their support and guidance on these important preservation measures. Lastly, I recognize several staff members including Randy Turner, Jim O'Toole, and Andrew Lundquist from the Senate Energy Committee, Darcie Tomasallo from Senate Legislative Counsel, and Stan Harris, Angel Campbell, Steven Wall, Jim Sartucci, and Steven Apicella from my office, for their efforts to preserve Mississippi's and America's historic resources. Mr. President, as a result of the Senate's action today, our children will be better able to understand and appreciate the full historic, social, and economic impact of the Vicksburg Campaign Trail and the Siege and Battle of Corinth.

REGIONAL COOPERATIVE HEALTH PROGRAM FUNDING THROUGH WYE SUPPLEMENTAL ASSISTANCE-FUNDING

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I rise today to urge the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to allocate some of its Wye Supplemental Assistance Funding to the first regional cooperative health program ever designed to serve both the Palestinians and Israelis. Improving the health of Palestinians and Israelis through a successful cooperative endeavor would provide a vibrant prescription for peace in the Middle East.

This important health program, which pairs the Kuvim Center for the Study of Infectious and Tropical Diseases of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem with the Palestinian Al-Quds University, has requested support from USAID as a \$20 million, five-year program. The purpose of this program is to find innovative ways to fight infectious diseases in the region, and calls upon these Universities to build a permanent, collaborative infrastructure for improving the health of the Palestinians and Israeli people.

United States Secretary of State Madeleine Albright has said the most important projects for promoting peace and cooperation between nations are what she calls "people projects"—those

projects that people of all races, religions, and beliefs can support. This program, which seeks to protect local people from the infectious and parasitic diseases that are among the leading causes of death in the West Bank and Gaza, is a great example of fostering cooperation through people projects of mutual interest.

USAID has successfully funded similar health programs in Egypt and Turkey, but this is the first such program proposed for the Israeli and Palestinian people. Members of Congress, the President, and the State Department all support this program. If USAID funds the program, it would give the United States scientific and fiscal oversight through both USAID and the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

I support the funding for this regional collaborative effort as a powerful example of what a working relationship should be in the Middle East and I believe that it should be given the highest funding priority out of the Wye package.

THE FEMA EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER ACT

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, as a cosponsor of S. 1516, legislation reauthorizing the Federal Emergency Administration's Emergency Food and Shelter program, I am very pleased that the Senate is about to pass this legislation and send it to the House of Representatives. I hope that our colleagues in the House will swiftly approve this important bill, so that it can be sent to President Clinton for his signature before our legislative session adjourns for the year.

FEMA's Emergency Food and Shelter (EFS) program provides financial assistance to supplement community efforts to provide food, shelter, and other valuable items to homeless and hungry people around the country. Most of the EFS' monies are distributed directly to local boards, which are comprised of representatives from religious and charitable organizations from the surrounding area. These boards then award grants to non-profit, voluntary, and social service organizations, which assist individuals with their food, shelter, or emergency assistance costs. Using a local distribution network helps to ensure that the EFS' funds are targeted to those who most need assistance.

To its credit, FEMA has been very successful in keeping the administrative costs of this program very low. In fact, these costs consume less than 3 percent of the funding, which is an inspiring example that all of the Federal Government's agencies and departments should strive to follow.

In Maine, the EFS program has been extremely helpful. For example the Sister Mary O'Donnell Shelter, located in Presque Isle, Maine, received a \$10,500 grant from this program. Amazingly enough, this shelter was able to use this modest funding to provide the

equivalent of 1,974 nights of shelter for the homeless in northern Maine.

EFS is a very successful program that carefully targets its resources where they are needed most, and does so with an absolute minimum of administrative expense. The Government Affairs Committee approved this legislation with a unanimous voice vote on November 3, 1999, and I hope the full Senate will do likewise.

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ASSISTANCE AND BILL OF RIGHTS ACT

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I strongly support the current reauthorization of the Developmental Disabilities Act, and I commend Senator JEFFORDS for his leadership in making this reauthorization a priority.

I also commend the members of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee and the administration for their leadership in developing this bipartisan bill. I especially want to recognize TOM HARKIN for his leadership and continued commitment to individuals with disabilities. I also commend all the staff members for their skillful work to make this process successful.

Today, I particularly want to take this opportunity to say thank you to my sister Eunice Kennedy Shriver for her many years of extraordinary dedication and commitment to children and adults with mental retardation and their families. Had it not been for her vision and commitment on behalf of people with mental retardation, the Developmental Disabilities Act would not be the impressive success it is today.

For many years, since the Developmental Disabilities Act was first signed into law by President Kennedy in 1963, developmental disabilities programs in the states have worked effectively to improve the lives of children and adults with mental retardation and other developmental disabilities. The act serves as the foundation for a network of programs that offer them real choices on where to live, work, go to school, and participate in community life.

Through these programs, the 4 million individuals with mental retardation and other developmental disabilities are able to obtain the support they need to participate in all aspects of the community. They receive needed assistance in education, and early intervention efforts are used to provide appropriate health care services and support.

For millions of Americans these services can mean the difference between dependence and independence, between lost potential and becoming contributing and participating members of their communities.

Throughout the preparation of this legislation, we have listened to consumers, advocates, families, and program administrators—all of whom have

contributed significantly to this legislation. Their commitment to constructive compromise will improve the lives and choices of all people with disabilities and their families.

This reauthorization builds on the gains of the past three decades, while addressing critical and emerging needs of individuals with disabilities.

It improves the accountability of the programs under the Act by emphasizing better coordination, and by concentrating on activities related to child care, health care, housing, transportation, and recreation;

It offers wider training opportunities by strengthening the network of university centers that provide technical assistance to persons with disabilities, to their families, and to service providers across the country;

It supports stronger protection and advocacy services to prevent abuse and neglect, so that people with disabilities can live safely;

It targets funds for the development of statewide self-advocacy organizations, so that people with disabilities will have a stronger voice in determining their lives and their future;

It helps states to develop support programs for families with a disabled family member, so that living at home and becoming part of the community is a real choice for persons with disabilities; and

It provides funds to develop a new educational curriculum and establish scholarship opportunities for support workers who assist people with developmental disabilities.

This bill gives us an excellent opportunity to do more to keep the promise of the Americans with Disabilities Act—by ensuring that individuals with mental retardation and other significant developmental disabilities, and their families, have realistic opportunities to obtain the support and services they need to reach their dream of being contributing members of their communities.

Disabled people are not unable. We are a better and stronger and fairer country when we open the door of choice and opportunity to all Americans, and enable them to be full partners in the American dream. For countless persons with mental retardation and other developmental disabilities across the country, this legislation will continue to help to make that dream come true.

This bill deserves the support of every Member of Congress, and I look forward to its prompt enactment into law.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business Friday, November 5, 1999, the Federal debt stood at \$5,661,710,720,483.34 (Five trillion, six hundred sixty-one billion, seven hundred ten million, seven hundred twenty thousand, four hundred eighty-three dollars and thirty-four cents).

One year ago, November 5, 1998, the Federal debt stood at \$5,561,271,000,000 (Five trillion, five hundred sixty-one billion, two hundred seventy-one million).

Fifteen years ago, November 5, 1984, the Federal debt stood at \$1,619,575,000,000 (One trillion, six hundred nineteen billion, five hundred seventy-five million).

Twenty-five years ago, November 5, 1974, the Federal debt stood at \$475,739,000,000 (Four hundred seventy-five billion, seven hundred thirty-nine million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,185,971,720,483.34 (Five trillion, one hundred eighty-five billion, nine hundred seventy-one million, seven hundred twenty thousand, four hundred eighty-three dollars and thirty-four cents) during the past 25 years.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO IRAN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 71

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c) and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Sudan that was declared in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, November 5, 1999.

PERIODIC REPORT ON THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SUDAN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 72

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice, stating that the Iran emergency declared in 1979 is to continue in effect beyond November 14, 1999, to the *Federal Register* for publication. Similar notices have been sent annually to the Congress and published in the *Federal Register* since November 12, 1980. The most recent notice appeared in the *Federal Register* on November 12, 1998. This emergency is separate from that declared with respect to Iran on March 15, 1995, in Executive Order 12957.

The crisis between the United States and Iran that began in 1979 has not been fully resolved. The international tribunal established to adjudicate claims of the United States and U.S. nationals against Iran and of the Iranian government and Iranian nationals against the United States continues to function, and normalization of commercial and diplomatic relations between the United States and Iran has not been achieved. On March 15, 1995, I declared a separate national emergency with respect to Iran pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act and imposed separate sanctions. By Executive Order 12959 of May 6, 1995, these sanctions were significantly augmented, and by Executive Order 13059 of August 19, 1997, the sanctions imposed in 1995 were further clarified. In these circumstances, I have determined that it is necessary to maintain in force the broad authorities that are in place by virtue of the November 14, 1979, declaration of emergency, including the authority to block certain property of the Government of Iran, and which are needed in the process of implementing the January 1981 agreements with Iran.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, November 5, 1999.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:09 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1693. An act to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to clarify the overtime exemption for employees engaged in fire protection activities.

H.R. 3079. An act to amend titles XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Social Security Act to make corrections and refinements in the Medicare, Medicaid, and State children's health insurance programs, as revised by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 6:45 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by