

filing. To combat potential abuse, debtors must disclose their full interest in such accounts in the statement of financial affairs filed with the bankruptcy court. With respect to education IRAs, there is no limit on the amount that may be excluded from the bankruptcy estate, though the size of education IRAs are effectively limited by the \$500 annual contribution limit. With respect to qualified State tuition savings programs, the excluded amount is the full, State-established amount deemed necessary to provide for the qualified education expenses of a beneficiary.

College savings accounts encourage families to save for college, thereby increasing access to higher education. In my home State of Utah, 775 children, with account balances nearing \$1.2 million, are beneficiaries of such accounts. Nationwide, over one million children benefit from such accounts. Bona fide contributions to such college savings accounts, which are made for the benefit of children, should be beyond the reach of creditors. The ability to use dedicated funds to pay the educational costs of current and future college students should not be jeopardized by a bankruptcy of their parents or grandparents. The amendment I offer today prevents bona fide educational accounts of children from being accessed by their parents' or grandparents' creditors, while also protecting this exclusion from being abused as a means of sheltering assets from the bankruptcy estate.

I urge your support of this amendment.

Mr. DODD. I ask unanimous consent I be able to speak for up to 2 minutes.

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

Mr. DODD. I know this will be somewhat confusing to people watching the debate over the last 15 or 20 minutes, but this is an amendment offered by my distinguished friend and colleague from Utah of which I am a cosponsor. This is a very good amendment. We hope our colleagues will support it.

Many parents have put aside money for college education in special accounts. This ought not to be the subject of first attack when creditors come after family income.

I commend my colleague from Utah for trying to preserve and protect these resources which working families spend years trying to accumulate, and then get behind the 8 ball for problems that may not be of their own making, and all of a sudden the resources are subject to attack. This is a good amendment that will strengthen working families' ability to educate their children. I commend my colleague from Utah for offering it. I am pleased to be a cosponsor of it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. BOND. I ask unanimous consent, notwithstanding the order for recess, I be permitted to speak for 2 minutes as in morning business.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent, as part of the request of the Senator from Missouri, I be allowed to speak for up to 12 minutes. At the conclusion of the 12 minutes, I will call up an amendment.

Mrs. LINCOLN. I ask unanimous consent to be able to address the Senate as in morning business for 7 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The problem is, the previous order says 12:30 so we can attend policy conferences. That runs me past the time for making decisions as a part of that conference.

Is there a way to reduce the time so we can complete statements by 12:45?

Mr. BOND. I just asked for 2 minutes, and I will make it shorter than that.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, the managers have asked Members to offer amendments. I am trying to offer an amendment. I need 11 minutes in order to present the amendment. I am trying to facilitate the progress on the bill. I thought this would be a good opportunity. It is a total of 11 minutes. The conferences don't really begin in earnest until 1 o'clock anyway.

I renew my request to be granted 12 minutes total.

Mrs. LINCOLN. I will certainly try to complete my statement in 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair objects.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now stand in recess until the hour of 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:35 p.m., recessed until p.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer [Mr. INHOFE].

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to proceed in morning business for 7 minutes.

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

LITTLE ROCK NINE AND DAISY BATES

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, mere words seem inadequate to honor the courage of some people and so I am humbled to lend my voice to the chorus of praise for the Little Rock Nine, who today will receive the Congressional Gold Medal, and I will also speak in remembrance of Daisy Bates, a daughter of Arkansas and a civil rights activist.

Receiving the medal today are: Jean Brown Trickery, Carlotta Walls LaNier, Melba Patillo Beals, Terrence Roberts, Gloria Ray Karlmark, Thelma Mothershed Wait, Ernest Green, Elizabeth Eckford, and Jefferson Thomas. As teenagers, when they bravely walked through the doors of Central High School in Little Rock, they led our Nation one step closer to social justice and equality. While it is still painful to look at pictures from that time, where white teens sneered at

their black peers, seeing the harsh face of hatred opened our Nation's eyes and propelled the civil rights movement forward.

Before the "Crisis of 1957," as some call the events at Central High, Little Rock was not associated with the pervasive segregation of the Deep South. In fact, Little Rock was considered quite a progressive place and some schools in Arkansas had already integrated following the Brown v. Board of Education decision in May of 1954. So, when nine students sought to integrate Central, few Arkansans envisioned a confrontation with the National Guard at the schools entrance. And I doubt many imagined the long-lasting, profound effects of this confrontation on the entire State. While the country witnessed countless images of this face-off, they were not necessarily aware of the continuing abuse endured by the Little Rock Nine, or the fact that Central High School had to be closed because the atmosphere was so hostile.

Now, we all know that the high school years aren't easy for any teenager. For these men and women, high school was inordinately difficult. In addition to enduring the verbal taunts and even beatings, some had to uproot to other schools in the middle of the school year. Luckily for Carlotta, Thelma, Ernest, Jefferson, and the others, a woman named Daisy Bates entered their lives as a "guardian angel" of sorts.

According to Daisy's own accounts and those of the Little Rock Nine, the students would gather each night at the Bates' home to receive guidance and strength. It was through the encouragement of Daisy Bates and her husband, L.C., that these young men and women were able to face the vicious and hateful actions of those so passionately opposed to their attendance at Central. Ironically, Daisy Bates passed away last Thursday. She was laid to rest this morning, the very day the Little Rock Nine will receive their medals. I know she is with us in spirit—acting again as a guardian angel to these brave men and women. This great woman leaves a legacy to our children, our State and our Nation: a love of justice, freedom, and the right to be educated. As a result of her efforts, the newspaper Mrs. Bates and L.C. published was forced to close. She and L.C. were threatened with bombs and guns. They were hanged in effigy by segregationists. But Daisy Bates persevered. She did all this, withstood these challenges, because she loved children and she loved her country. She had an internal fire, instilled in her during a childhood spent in Huttig, AR. And this strong character shone through as she willingly took a leadership role to battle the legal and political inequities of segregation in our state and the nation.

Many have called that confrontation at Central High an historic moment, a pivotal moment, a defining moment.

But it was more than just one moment. When these nine men and women walked into Central High School, they opened more than a door, they opened the flood gates. For them and for the rest of our country, the battle didn't end at the schoolhouse steps. Their struggle lasted for years and, in reality, it still continues. My husband and I are both products of an integrated public school system in Arkansas. We are personally grateful to the Little Rock Nine for making our school experience rich with diversity. I truly value the lifelong lessons that I learned at an early age and I might not have had the wonderful privilege of studying with children of all races were it not for the Little Rock Nine. There is still much work to be done to bring complete civil rights and equality to our Nation.

Today, as we pause to remember Daisy Bates and to honor the Little Rock Nine, I hope we will be renewed and refreshed in our efforts. I'm encouraged by the words of Daisy Bates' niece, Sharon Gaston, who said, "Just don't let her work be in vain. There's plenty of work for us to do." I hope my colleagues will join me in extending appreciation and commendation to the Little Rock Nine. And in remembering a matriarch of the civil rights movement, Daisy Gaston Bates.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. L. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for up to 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The distinguished Senator from Rhode Island is recognized for up to 10 minutes.

Mr. L. CHAFEE. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. L. CHAFEE and Mr. JEFFORDS pertaining to the introduction of S. 1891 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative assistant proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator BINGAMAN and I be permitted to proceed for 10 minutes as in morning business for the purposes of introduction of an important bill.

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object, I did not hear the request. What was it?

Mr. DOMENICI. Senator BINGAMAN and I want to introduce a bill that is very historic to New Mexico, and we would like to each speak for about 5 minutes on it. We do not ask for any action. It will be referred to its appropriate committee.

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

The Senator from New Mexico.

(The remarks of Mr. DOMENICI and Mr. BINGAMAN pertaining to the introduction of S. 1892 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

BANKRUPTCY REFORM ACT OF 1999—Continued

Mr. SCHUMER addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the pending amendment be laid aside temporarily.

Mr. GRASSLEY. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative assistant proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. AKAKA. I ask unanimous consent to be given 10 minutes as in morning business.

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

(The remarks of Mr. AKAKA pertaining to the introduction of S. 1888 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CRAPO). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FEINGOLD. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard. The clerk will continue the call of the roll.

The legislative clerk continued the call of the roll.

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

REJECTING THE DAKOTA WATER RESOURCES ACT

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I come to the floor to speak about some important legislative matters and to announce to my colleagues I cannot and will not clear a bill called S. 623, the Dakota Water Resources Act, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. It would authorize a half billion dollars to divert additional water from the Missouri River system for additional uses, including transfer to the Cheyenne and Red River systems. We

cannot and will not tolerate the diversion of water. This is strongly opposed by the Governor of my State, by the State of Minnesota, by Taxpayers for Common Sense, and a whole list of environmental groups including the National Wildlife Federation, the Audubon Society, Friends of the Earth and American Rivers. The Canadian Government opposes it, the Governor of Minnesota and the Minnesota DNR oppose it.

I understand why the Dakota Senators want to fight for this. It would be a tremendous boon for their States. But I am not going to be blackmailed because 52 other unrelated bills are being held up over this matter. There are strong substantive objections to this bill. It is not appropriate in this process to try to ram this through, to try to steal water from the Missouri River.

I serve notice on my colleagues, if they have a problem because their bills are being held up in an attempt to blackmail me, it is not going to work. We have worked in good faith with the Senators from North Dakota in the past, helping them with their problems, but I do not intend to be blackmailed into allowing diversion of the Missouri River water.

I thank the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon?

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 10 minutes as in morning business. If they have a consent agreement worked out, then I will hold off.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. LEAHY. Reserving the right to object, I shan't object.

Mr. GRASSLEY. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. LEAHY. I said I shan't object.

Mr. President, what is the parliamentary situation?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon has the floor.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I noticed Senator GRASSLEY, who worked very hard on this bill, is trying to get a consent agreement. I will hold off if he is ready to go forward. Otherwise, I will proceed because I have the floor.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Take 5 minutes?

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I gather the consent agreement is not worked out. I did ask consent for the right to speak up to 10 minutes. I gather they can work things out during that period of time.

Mr. GRASSLEY. I ask unanimous consent the Senator from Oregon have 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection the Senator from Oregon has 5 minutes.

SENIOR PRESCRIPTION INSURANCE COVERAGE EQUITY ACT

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I have been coming to the floor for a number