

## AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

EDUCATION FLEXIBILITY  
PARTNERSHIP ACT OF 1999BINGAMAN (AND OTHERS)  
AMENDMENT NO. 35

Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. BRYAN) proposed an amendment to amendment No. 31 proposed by Mr. JEFFORDS to the bill (S. 280) to provide for education flexibility partnerships; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

**TITLE \_\_\_\_\_—DROPOUT PREVENTION AND  
STATE RESPONSIBILITIES****SEC. \_\_\_01. SHORT TITLE.**

This title may be cited as the "National Dropout Prevention Act of 1999".

**Subtitle A—Dropout Prevention****SEC. \_\_\_11. DROPOUT PREVENTION.**

Part C of title V of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7261 et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

**"PART C—ASSISTANCE TO ADDRESS  
SCHOOL DROPOUT PROBLEMS****"Subpart 1—Coordinated National Strategy****"SEC. 5311. NATIONAL ACTIVITIES.**

"(a) NATIONAL PRIORITY.—It shall be a national priority, for the 5-year period beginning on the date of enactment of the National Dropout Prevention Act of 1999, to lower the school dropout rate, and increase school completion, for middle school and secondary school students in accordance with Federal law. As part of this priority, all Federal agencies that carry out activities that serve students at risk of dropping out of school or that are intended to help address the school dropout problem shall make school dropout prevention a top priority in the agencies' funding priorities during the 5-year period.

"(b) ENHANCED DATA COLLECTION.—The Secretary shall collect systematic data on the participation of different racial and ethnic groups (including migrant and limited English proficient students) in all Federal programs.

**"SEC. 5312. NATIONAL SCHOOL DROPOUT PREVENTION STRATEGY.**

"(a) PLAN.—The Director shall develop, implement, and monitor an interagency plan (in this section referred to as the "plan") to assess the coordination, use of resources, and availability of funding under Federal law that can be used to address school dropout prevention, or middle school or secondary school reentry. The plan shall be completed and transmitted to the Secretary and Congress not later than 180 days after the first Director is appointed.

"(b) COORDINATION.—The plan shall address inter- and intra-agency program coordination issues at the Federal level with respect to school dropout prevention and middle school and secondary school reentry, assess the targeting of existing Federal services to students who are most at risk of dropping out of school, and the cost-effectiveness of various programs and approaches used to address school dropout prevention.

"(c) AVAILABLE RESOURCES.—The plan shall also describe the ways in which State and local agencies can implement effective school dropout prevention programs using funds from a variety of Federal programs, including the programs under title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) and the School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1994 (20 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.).

"(d) SCOPE.—The plan will address all Federal programs with school dropout prevention or school reentry elements or objectives, programs under chapter 1 of subpart 2 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a-11 et seq.), title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.), the School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1994 (20 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.), part B of title IV of the Job Training Partnership Act (29 U.S.C. 1691 et seq.), subtitle C of title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2881 et seq.), and other programs.

**"SEC. 5313. NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE.**

"Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of the National Dropout Prevention Act of 1999, the Director shall establish a national clearinghouse on effective school dropout prevention, intervention and reentry programs. The clearinghouse shall be established through a competitive grant or contract awarded to an organization with a demonstrated capacity to provide technical assistance and disseminate information in the area of school dropout prevention, intervention, and reentry programs. The clearinghouse shall—

"(1) collect and disseminate to educators, parents, and policymakers information on research, effective programs, best practices, and available Federal resources with respect to school dropout prevention, intervention, and reentry programs, including dissemination by an electronically accessible database, a worldwide Web site, and a national journal; and

"(2) provide technical assistance regarding securing resources with respect to, and designing and implementing, effective and comprehensive school dropout prevention, intervention, and reentry programs.

**"SEC. 5314. NATIONAL RECOGNITION PROGRAM.**

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall carry out a national recognition program that recognizes schools that have made extraordinary progress in lowering school dropout rates under which a public middle school or secondary school from each State will be recognized. The Director shall use uniform national guidelines that are developed by the Director for the recognition program and shall recognize schools from nominations submitted by State educational agencies.

"(b) ELIGIBLE SCHOOLS.—The Director may recognize any public middle school or secondary school (including a charter school) that has implemented comprehensive reforms regarding the lowering of school dropout rates for all students at that school.

"(c) SUPPORT.—The Director may make monetary awards to schools recognized under this section, in amounts determined by the Director. Amounts received under this section shall be used for dissemination activities within the school district or nationally.

**"Subpart 2—National School Dropout  
Prevention Initiative****"SEC. 5321. FINDINGS.**

"Congress finds that, in order to lower dropout rates and raise academic achievement levels, improved and redesigned schools must—

"(1) challenge all children to attain their highest academic potential; and

"(2) ensure that all students have substantial and ongoing opportunities to—

"(A) achieve high levels of academic and technical skills;

"(B) prepare for college and careers;

"(C) learn by doing;

"(D) work with teachers in small schools within schools;

"(E) receive ongoing support from adult mentors;

"(F) access a wide variety of information about careers and postsecondary education and training;

"(G) use technology to enhance and motivate learning; and

"(H) benefit from strong links among middle schools, secondary schools, and postsecondary institutions.

**"SEC. 5322. PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**

"(a) ALLOTMENTS TO STATES.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—From the sum made available under section 5332(b) for a fiscal year the Secretary shall make an allotment to each State in an amount that bears the same relation to the sum as the amount the State received under title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) for the preceding fiscal year bears to the amount received by all States under such title for the preceding fiscal year.

"(2) DEFINITION OF STATE.—In this subpart, the term "State" means each of the several States of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau.

"(b) GRANTS.—From amounts made available to a State under subsection (a), the State educational agency may award grants to public middle schools or secondary schools, that have school dropout rates which are in the highest 1/3 of all school dropout rates in the State, to enable the schools to pay only the startup and implementation costs of effective, sustainable, coordinated, and whole school dropout prevention programs that involve activities such as—

"(1) professional development;

"(2) obtaining curricular materials;

"(3) release time for professional staff;

"(4) planning and research;

"(5) remedial education;

"(6) reduction in pupil-to-teacher ratios;

"(7) efforts to meet State student achievement standards; and

"(8) counseling for at-risk students.

"(b) INTENT OF CONGRESS.—It is the intent of Congress that the activities started or implemented under subsection (a) shall be continued with funding provided under part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.).

"(c) AMOUNT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (d) and except as provided in paragraph (2), a grant under this subpart shall be awarded—

"(A) in the first year that a school receives a grant payment under this subpart, in an amount that is not less than \$50,000 and not more than \$100,000, based on factors such as—

"(i) school size;

"(ii) costs of the model being implemented; and

"(iii) local cost factors such as poverty rates;

"(B) in the second such year, in an amount that is not less than 75 percent of the amount the school received under this subpart in the first such year;

"(C) in the third year, in an amount that is not less than 50 percent of the amount the school received under this subpart in the first such year; and

"(D) in each succeeding year in an amount that is not less than 30 percent of the amount the school received under this subpart in the first such year.

"(2) INCREASES.—The Director shall increase the amount awarded to a school under this subpart by 10 percent if the school creates smaller learning communities within the school and the creation is certified by the State educational agency.

“(d) DURATION.—A grant under this subpart shall be awarded for a period of 3 years, and may be continued for a period of 2 additional years if the State educational agency determines, based on the annual reports described in section 5328(a), that significant progress has been made in lowering the school dropout rate for students participating in the program assisted under this subpart compared to students at similar schools who are not participating in the program.

**“SEC. 5323. STRATEGIES AND ALLOWABLE MODELS.**

“(a) STRATEGIES.—Each school receiving a grant under this subpart shall implement research-based, sustainable, and widely replicated, strategies for school dropout prevention and reentry that address the needs of an entire school population rather than a subset of students. The strategies may include—

“(1) specific strategies for targeted purposes; and

“(2) approaches such as breaking larger schools down into smaller learning communities and other comprehensive reform approaches, developing clear linkages to career skills and employment, and addressing specific gatekeeper hurdles that often limit student retention and academic success.

“(b) ALLOWABLE MODELS.—The Director shall annually establish and publish in the Federal Register the principles, criteria, models, and other parameters regarding the types of effective, proven program models that are allowed to be used under this subpart, based on existing research.

“(c) CAPACITY BUILDING.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director, through a contract with a non-Federal entity, shall conduct a capacity building and design initiative in order to increase the types of proven strategies for dropout prevention on a schoolwide level.

“(2) NUMBER AND DURATION.—

“(A) NUMBER.—The Director shall award not more than 5 contracts under this subsection.

“(B) DURATION.—The Director shall award a contract under this section for a period of not more than 5 years.

“(d) SUPPORT FOR EXISTING REFORM NETWORKS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall provide appropriate support to eligible entities to enable the eligible entities to provide training, materials, development, and staff assistance to schools assisted under this subpart.

“(2) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible entity’ means an entity that, prior to the date of enactment of the National Dropout Prevention Act of 1999—

“(A) provided training, technical assistance, and materials to 100 or more elementary schools or secondary schools; and

“(B) developed and published a specific educational program or design for use by the schools.

**“SEC. 5324. SELECTION OF SCHOOLS.**

“(a) SCHOOL APPLICATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Each school desiring a grant under this subpart shall submit an application to the State educational agency at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the State educational agency may require.

“(2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted under paragraph (1) shall—

“(A) contain a certification from the local educational agency serving the school that—

“(i) the school has the highest number or rates of school dropouts in the age group served by the local educational agency;

“(ii) the local educational agency is committed to providing ongoing operational support, for the school’s comprehensive reform plan to address the problem of school dropouts, for a period of 5 years; and

“(iii) the local educational agency will support the plan, including—

“(I) release time for teacher training;

“(II) efforts to coordinate activities for feeder schools; and

“(III) encouraging other schools served by the local educational agency to participate in the plan;

“(B) demonstrate that the faculty and administration of the school have agreed to apply for assistance under this subpart, and provide evidence of the school’s willingness and ability to use the funds under this subpart, including providing an assurance of the support of 80 percent or more of the professional staff at the school;

“(C) describe the instructional strategies to be implemented, how the strategies will serve all students, and the effectiveness of the strategies;

“(D) describe a budget and timeline for implementing the strategies;

“(E) contain evidence of interaction with an eligible entity described in section 5323(d)(2);

“(F) contain evidence of coordination with existing resources;

“(G) provide an assurance that funds provided under this subpart will supplement and not supplant other Federal, State, and local funds;

“(H) describe how the activities to be assisted conform with an allowable model described in section 5323(b); and

“(I) demonstrate that the school and local educational agency have agreed to conduct a schoolwide program under 1114.

“(b) STATE AGENCY REVIEW AND AWARD.—The State educational agency shall review applications and award grants to schools under subsection (a) according to a review by a panel of experts on school dropout prevention.

“(c) CRITERIA.—The Director shall establish clear and specific selection criteria for awarding grants to schools under this subpart. Such criteria shall be based on school dropout rates and other relevant factors for State educational agencies to use in determining the number of grants to award and the type of schools to be awarded grants.

“(d) ELIGIBILITY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A school is eligible to receive a grant under this subpart if the school is—

“(A) a public school—

“(i) that is eligible to receive assistance under part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.), including a comprehensive secondary school, a vocational or technical secondary school, and a charter school; and

“(ii) (I) that serves students 50 percent or more of whom are low-income individuals; or

“(II) with respect to which the feeder schools that provide the majority of the incoming students to the school serve students 50 percent or more of whom are low-income individuals; or

“(B) is participating in a schoolwide program under section 1114 during the grant period.

“(2) OTHER SCHOOLS.—A private or parochial school, an alternative school, or a school within a school, is not eligible to receive a grant under this subpart, but an alternative school or school within a school may be served under this subpart as part of a whole school reform effort within an entire school building.

“(e) COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS.—A school that receives a grant under this subpart may use the grant funds to secure necessary services from a community-based organization, including private sector entities, if—

“(1) the school approves the use;

“(2) the funds are used to provide school dropout prevention and reentry activities related to schoolwide efforts; and

“(3) the community-based organization has demonstrated the organization’s ability to provide effective services as described in section 107(a) of the Job Training Partnership Act (29 U.S.C. 1517(a)), or section 122 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2842).

“(f) COORDINATION.—Each school that receives a grant under this subpart shall coordinate the activities assisted under this subpart with other Federal programs, such as programs assisted under chapter 1 of subpart 2 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a-11 et seq.) and the School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1994 (20 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.).

**“SEC. 5325. DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES.**

“Each school that receives a grant under this subpart shall provide information and technical assistance to other schools within the school district, including presentations, document-sharing, and joint staff development.

**“SEC. 5326. PROGRESS INCENTIVES.**

“Notwithstanding any other provision of law, each local educational agency that receives funds under title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) shall use such funding to provide assistance to schools served by the agency that have not made progress toward lowering school dropout rates after receiving assistance under this subpart for 2 fiscal years.

**“SEC. 5327. SCHOOL DROPOUT RATE CALCULATION.**

“For purposes of calculating a school dropout rate under this subpart, a school shall use—

“(1) the annual event school dropout rate for students leaving a school in a single year determined in accordance with the National Center for Education Statistics’ Common Core of Data, if available; or

“(2) in other cases, a standard method for calculating the school dropout rate as determined by the State educational agency.

**“SEC. 5328. REPORTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY.**

“(a) REPORTING.—In order to receive funding under this subpart for a fiscal year after the first fiscal year a school receives funding under this subpart, the school shall provide, on an annual basis, to the Director a report regarding the status of the implementation of activities funded under this subpart, the disaggregated outcome data for students at schools assisted under this subpart such as dropout rates, and certification of progress from the eligible entity whose strategies the school is implementing.

“(b) ACCOUNTABILITY.—On the basis of the reports submitted under subsection (a), the Director shall evaluate the effect of the activities assisted under this subpart on school dropout prevention compared to a control group.

**“SEC. 5329. PROHIBITION ON TRACKING.**

“(a) IN GENERAL.—A school shall be ineligible to receive funding under this subpart for a fiscal year, if the school—

“(1) has in place a general education track;

“(2) provides courses with significantly different material and requirements to students at the same grade level; or

“(3) fails to encourage all students to take a core curriculum of courses.

“(b) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall promulgate regulations implementing subsection (a).

*“Subpart 3—Definitions; Authorization of Appropriations*

**“SEC. 5331. DEFINITIONS.**

“In this Act:

“(1) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means the Director of the Office of Dropout Prevention and Program Completion established under section 220 of the General Education Provisions Act.

“(2) LOW-INCOME.—The term “low-income”, used with respect to an individual, means an individual determined to be low-income in accordance with measures described in section 1113(a)(5) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6313(a)(5)).

“(3) SCHOOL DROPOUT.—The term “school dropout” has the meaning given the term in section 4(17) of the School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1994 (20 U.S.C. 6103(17)).

**“SEC. 5332. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

“(a) SUBPART 1.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out subpart 1, \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2000 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years.

“(b) SUBPART 2.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out subpart 2, \$145,000,000 for fiscal year 2000 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years, of which—

“(1) \$125,000,000 shall be available to carry out section 5322; and

“(2) \$20,000,000 shall be available to carry out section 5323.”.

**SEC. 12. OFFICE OF DROPOUT PREVENTION AND PROGRAM COMPLETION.**

Title II of the Department of Education Organization Act (20 U.S.C. 3411) is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 216 (as added by Public Law 103-227) as section 218; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

**“OFFICE OF DROPOUT PREVENTION AND PROGRAM COMPLETION**

“SEC. 220. (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There shall be in the Department of Education an Office of Dropout Prevention and Program Completion (hereafter in this section referred to as the ‘Office’), to be administered by the Director of the Office of Dropout Prevention and Program Completion. The Director of the Office shall report directly to the Secretary and shall perform such additional functions as the Secretary may prescribe.

“(b) DUTIES.—The Director of the Office of Dropout Prevention and Program Completion (hereafter in this section referred to as the ‘Director’), through the Office, shall—

“(1) help coordinate Federal, State, and local efforts to lower school dropout rates and increase program completion by middle school, secondary school, and college students;

“(2) recommend Federal policies, objectives, and priorities to lower school dropout rates and increase program completion;

“(3) oversee the implementation of subpart 2 of part C of title V of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965;

“(4) develop and implement the National School Dropout Prevention Strategy under section 5312 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965;

“(5) annually prepare and submit to Congress and the Secretary a national report describing efforts and recommended actions regarding school dropout prevention and program completion;

“(6) recommend action to the Secretary and the President, as appropriate, regarding school dropout prevention and program completion; and

“(7) consult with and assist State and local governments regarding school dropout prevention and program completion.

“(c) SCOPE OF DUTIES.—The scope of the Director’s duties under subsection (b) shall include examination of all Federal and non-Federal efforts related to—

“(1) promoting program completion for children attending middle school or secondary school;

“(2) programs to obtain a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent (including general equivalency diploma (GED) programs), or college degree programs; and

“(3) reentry programs for individuals aged 12 to 24 who are out of school.

“(d) DETAILING.—In carrying out the Director’s duties under this section, the Director may request the head of any Federal department or agency to detail personnel who are engaged in school dropout prevention activities to another Federal department or agency in order to implement the National School Dropout Prevention Strategy.”.

**Subtitle B—State Responsibilities**

**SEC. 21. STATE RESPONSIBILITIES.**

Title XIV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8801 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“PART I—DROPOUT PREVENTION**

**“SEC. 14851. DROPOUT PREVENTION.**

“In order to receive any assistance under this Act, a State educational agency shall comply with the following provisions regarding school dropouts:

“(1) UNIFORM DATA COLLECTION.—Within 1 year after the date of enactment of the National Dropout Prevention Act of 1999, a State educational agency shall report to the Secretary and statewide, all school district and school data regarding school dropout rates in the State, and demographic breakdowns, according to procedures that conform with the National Center for Education Statistics’ Common Core of Data.

“(2) ATTENDANCE-NEUTRAL FUNDING POLICIES.—Within 2 years after the date of enactment of the National Dropout Prevention Act of 1999, a State educational agency shall develop and implement education funding formula policies for public schools that provide appropriate incentives to retain students in school throughout the school year, such as—

“(A) a student count methodology that does not determine annual budgets based on attendance on a single day early in the academic year; and

“(B) specific incentives for retaining enrolled students throughout each year.

“(3) SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION POLICIES.—Within 2 years after the date of enactment of the National Dropout Prevention Act of 1998, a State educational agency shall develop uniform, long-term suspension and expulsion policies for serious infractions resulting in more than 10 days of exclusion from school per academic year so that similar violations result in similar penalties.”.

**JEFFORDS (AND OTHERS)  
AMENDMENT NO. 36**

Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself, Mr. GREGG, and Ms. COLLINS) proposed an amendment to amendment No. 35 proposed by Mr. BINGAMAN to the bill, supra; as follows:

On page 20, between lines 4 and 5, insert the following:

**“SEC. . FUNDING FOR IDEA.**

“Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the provisions of this part, other than this section, shall have no effect, except that funds appropriated pursuant to the authority of this part shall be used to carry out part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1411 et seq.).

**JEFFORDS (AND OTHERS)  
AMENDMENT NO. 37**

Mr. LOTT (for Mr. JEFFORDS for himself, Mr. GREGG, and Ms. COLLINS) proposed an amendment to amendment No. 35 proposed by Mr. BINGAMAN to the bill, supra; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

**SEC. . AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

In addition to other funds authorized to be appropriated to carry out part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1411 et seq.), there are authorized to be appropriated \$150,000,000 to carry out such part.

**JEFFORDS AMENDMENT NO. 38**

Mr. JEFFORDS proposed an amendment to amendment No. 31 proposed by him to the bill, supra; as follows:

In the language proposed to be stricken by amendment No. 31, at the appropriate place insert the following:

**SEC. . PUBLIC NOTICE AND COMMENT.**

The Secretary of Education shall prescribe requirements on how States will provide for public comments and notice.

**ALLARD AMENDMENT NO. 39**

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. ALLARD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill, S. 280, supra; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

**SEC. . ‘KNOW YOUR CUSTOMER’ REGULATIONS RESCINDED**

(a) IN GENERAL.—None of the following proposed regulations may be published in final form and, to the extent that any such regulation has become effective before the date of the date of the enactment of this legislation, such regulation shall cease to be effective as of such date:

(1) The regulation proposed by the Comptroller of the Currency to amend part 21 of title 12 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as published in the Federal Register on December 7, 1998.

(2) The regulation proposed by the Director of the Office of Thrift Supervision to amend part 563 of title 12 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as published in the Federal Register on December 7, 1998.

(3) The regulation proposed by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System to amend parts 208, 211, and 225 of title 12 of the Code of Federal Regulation, as published in the Federal Register on December 7, 1998.

(4) The regulation proposed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to amend part 326 of title 12 of the Code of Federal Regulations as published in the Federal Register on December 7, 1998.

(b) PROHIBITION ON SIMILAR REGULATIONS.—None of the Federal Banking Agencies referred to in subsection (a) may prescribe any regulation which is substantially similar to, or would have substantially the same effect as, any proposed regulation described in paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (4) of subsection (a).

**ALLARD AMENDMENT NO. 40**

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. ALLARD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to amendment No. 31 proposed by Mr. JEFFORDS to the bill, supra; as follows:

In the language proposed to be stricken, insert the following:

**SEC. . 'KNOW YOUR CUSTOMER' REGULATIONS RESCINDED**

(a) IN GENERAL.—None of the following proposed regulations may be published in final form and, to the extent that any such regulation has become effective before the date of the date of the enactment of this legislation, such regulation shall cease to be effective as of such date:

(1) The regulation proposed by the Comptroller of the Currency to amend part 21 of title 12 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as published in the Federal Register on December 7, 1998.

(2) The regulation proposed by the Director of the Office of Thrift Supervision to amend part 563 of title 12 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as published in the Federal Register on December 7, 1998.

(3) The regulation proposed by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System to amend parts 208, 211, and 225 of title 12 of the Code of Federal Regulation, as published in the Federal Register on December 7, 1998.

(4) The regulation proposed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to amend part 326 title 12 of the Code of Federal Regulations as published in the Federal Register on December 7, 1998.

(b) PROHIBITION ON SIMILAR REGULATIONS.—None of the Federal Banking Agencies referred to in subsection (a) may prescribe any regulation which is substantially similar to, or would have substantially the same effect as, any proposed regulation described in paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (4) of subsection (a).

**AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**

**COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES**

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 4, 1999, in open session, to receive testimony from the unified and regional commanders on their military strategy and operational requirements in review of the fiscal year 2000 Defense authorization request and future years Defense program.

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

**COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS**

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 4, 1999, to conduct a markup of the committee print on "The Financial Services Modernization Act of 1999."

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

**COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION**

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be allowed to meet on Thursday, March 4, 1999, at 9:30 a.m. on Internet filtering.

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

**COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 4 for purposes of conducting a full committee business meeting which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of this business meeting is to consider pending calendar business.

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

**COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 4, for purposes of conducting a full committee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. The purpose of this hearing is to consider the nomination of Robert Gee to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy for Fossil Energy.

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

**COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC WORKS**

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environmental and Public Works be granted permission to conduct a hearing Thursday, March 4, 9 a.m., to receive testimony from Gary S. Guzy, nominated by the President to be General Counsel for the Environmental Protection Agency and Ann Jeanette Udall, nominated by the President to be a member of the board of trustees of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation.

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

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be permitted to meet Thursday, March 4, 1999 beginning at 10 a.m. in room SH-215, to conduct a markup.

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

**COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Thursday, March 4, 1999, at 10 a.m. to mark up legislation at a business meeting.

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

**COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS**

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, Subcommittee on Employment, Safety, and Training be authorized to meet for a hearing on the New SAFE Act during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 4, 1999, at 9:30 a.m.

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

**COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to

hold an executive business meeting during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 4, 1999, at 10 a.m. in room 226 of the Senate Dirksen Office Building.

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

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE**

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 4, 1999, at 3 p.m., to hold a closed business meeting.

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

**JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE**

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to allow the Joint Economic Committee to meet on the issue of economic growth through tax cuts on March 4, 1999, at 9:30 a.m.

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

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS**

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on International Operations of the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 4, 1999, at 2 p.m., to hold a hearing.

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

**ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS**

**100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VICKSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK**

• Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I bring to the attention of the Senate the recent celebration of a special anniversary of one of our finest national treasures and most historic sites—the Vicksburg National Military Park.

On February 20, 1999, ceremonies were held at the Vicksburg National Military Park in Vicksburg, Mississippi, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the park. The statues of the first two superintendents of the park, Stephen D. Lee and William T. Rigby, were rededicated with several of their descendants in attendance.

This park was the seventh National Park established, and is the site of the campaign and siege of Vicksburg. On February 21, 1899, President William McKinley signed the legislation which created the park. Although originally envisioned to include 4,000 acres, today the park is comprised of over 1,800 acres with 1,324 monuments, markers and tablets. There are twenty-seven state monuments. In July of this year, the Kentucky monument will be dedicated.

The U.S.S. *Cairo*, a Civil War gunboat, which was sunk by Confederate mines just North of Vicksburg on the Yazoo River on December 12, 1862, was raised in 1964 and is displayed at the park as one of the best-preserved Vessels of its type.