

(Mr. ASHCROFT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 542, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the deduction for computer donations to schools and allow a tax credit for donated computers.

S. 575

At the request of Mr. CLELAND, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 575, a bill to redesignate the National School Lunch Act as the "Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act".

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 5

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. MOYNIHAN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ROBB) were added as cosponsors of Senate Concurrent Resolution 5, a concurrent resolution expressing congressional opposition to the unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state and urging the President to assert clearly United States opposition to such a unilateral declaration of statehood.

SENATE RESOLUTION 19

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 19, a resolution to express the sense of the Senate that the Federal investment in biomedical research should be increased by \$2,000,000,000 in fiscal year 2000.

SENATE RESOLUTION 47

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAU), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. CAMPBELL), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. FRIST), the Senator from Washington (Mr. GORTON), the Senator from Florida (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Texas (Mr. GRAMM), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. NICKLES), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. THOMAS), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. WELLSTONE) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 47, a resolution designating the week of March 21 through March 27, 1999, as "National Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week."

SENATE RESOLUTION 60

At the request of Mr. MACK, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 60, a resolution recognizing the plight of the Tibetan people on the fortieth anniversary of Tibet's attempt to restore its independence and calling for serious negotiations between China and the Dalai Lama to achieve a peaceful solution to the situation in Tibet.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 17—CONCERNING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT

Mr. MURKOWSKI (for himself, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. LOTT, Mr. HELMS, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. BURNS, Mr. KYL, and Mr. ROCKEFELLER) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 17

Whereas April 10, 1999, will mark the 20th anniversary of the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act, codifying in public law the basis for continued commercial, cultural, and other relations between the United States and democratic Taiwan;

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act was advanced by Congress and supported by the executive branch as a critical tool to preserve and promote extensive, close, and friendly commercial, cultural, and other relations between the United States and the Republic of China on Taiwan;

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act has been instrumental in maintaining peace, security, and stability in the Taiwan Strait since its enactment in 1979;

Whereas, when the Taiwan Relations Act was enacted, it reaffirmed that the United States decision to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China is based upon the expectation that the future of Taiwan will be determined by peaceful means;

Whereas officials of the People's Republic of China refuse to renounce the use of force against democratic Taiwan;

Whereas the defense modernization and weapons procurement efforts by the People's Republic of China, as documented in the February 1, 1999, report by the Secretary of Defense on "The Security Situation in the Taiwan Strait", could threaten cross-strait and East Asian stability and United States interests in the East Asia region;

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act provides explicit guarantees that the United States will make available defense articles and defense services in such quantities as may be necessary for Taiwan to maintain a sufficient self-defense capability;

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act requires timely reviews by United States military authorities of Taiwan's defense needs in connection with recommendations to the President and Congress;

Whereas Congress and the President are committed by section 3(b) of the Taiwan Relations Act (22 U.S.C. 3302(b)) to determine the nature and quantity of what Taiwan's legitimate needs are for its self-defense;

Whereas the Republic of China on Taiwan routinely makes informal requests to United States Government officials, which are discouraged or declined informally by United States Government personnel;

Whereas it is the policy of the United States to reject any attempt to curb the pro-

vision by the United States of defense articles and defense services legitimately needed for Taiwan's self-defense;

Whereas it is the current executive branch policy to bar most high-level dialog regarding regional stability with senior military officials on Taiwan;

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act sets forth the policy to promote extensive commercial relations between the people of the United States and the people on Taiwan, and that policy is advanced by membership in the World Trade Organization;

Whereas the human rights provisions in the Taiwan Relations Act helped stimulate the democratization of Taiwan;

Whereas Taiwan today is a full-fledged, multiparty democracy that fully respects human rights and civil liberties and, as such, serves as a successful model of democratic reform for the People's Republic of China;

Whereas it is the policy of the United States to promote extensive cultural relations between the United States and Taiwan, ties that should be further encouraged and expanded;

Whereas any attempt to determine Taiwan's future by other than peaceful means, including boycotts or embargoes, would be considered as a threat to the peace and security of the Western Pacific and of grave concern to the United States;

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act established the American Institute in Taiwan to carry out the programs, transactions, and other relations of the United States with respect to Taiwan; and

Whereas the American Institute in Taiwan has played a successful role in sustaining and enhancing United States relations with Taiwan; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),* That it is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) the United States should reaffirm its commitment to the Taiwan Relations Act and the specific guarantees of provision of legitimate defense articles to Taiwan contained therein;

(2) the Congress has grave concerns over China's growing arsenal of nuclear and conventionally armed ballistic missiles, the movement of those missiles into a closer geographic proximity to Taiwan, and the effect that the buildup may have on stability in the Taiwan Strait;

(3) the President should direct all appropriate officials to raise with officials from the People's Republic of China the grave concern of the United States over China's growing arsenal of nuclear and conventionally armed ballistic missiles, the movement of those missiles into a closer geographic proximity to Taiwan, and the effect that the buildup may have on stability in the Taiwan Strait;

(4) the President should seek from the leaders of the People's Republic of China a public renunciation of any use of force, or threat to use force, against democratic Taiwan;

(5) the President should provide annually a report detailing the military balance on both sides of the Taiwan Strait, including the impact of procurement and modernization programs underway;

(6) the Secretary of Defense should inform the appropriate committees of Congress when officials from Taiwan seek to purchase defense articles for self-defense;

(7) the United States Government should encourage a high-level dialog with officials of Taiwan and of other United States allies in East Asia, including Japan and South Korea, on the best means to ensure stability, peace, and freedom of the seas in East Asia;

(8) it should be United States policy, in conformity with the spirit of section 4(d) of

the Taiwan Relations Act (22 U.S.C. 3303(d)), to publicly support Taiwan's admission to the World Trade Organization forthwith, on its own merits as well as to encourage others to adopt similar policies, without making such admission conditional on the previous or simultaneous admission of the People's Republic of China to the World Trade Organization.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, April 10, 1999 will mark the twentieth anniversary of the signing of the Taiwan Relations Act ("TRA"). Today, I am submitting a concurrent resolution commemorating this important piece of legislation and the commitments that the United States made to the people of Taiwan. The resolution is co-sponsored by Senator LOTT, the majority leader, Senator HELMS, the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Senator THOMAS, the chairman of the East Asia Subcommittee of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Senator TORRICElli, also on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Senator ROCKEFELLER, Senator BURNS, and Senator KYL. A similar resolution is being introduced today in the House of Representatives by Representative DANA ROHRABACHER.

Mr. President. I was not here when Congress passed the TRA in 1979, but I have great respect for the wisdom that those who proceeded me played in passing this enduring piece of legislation. As former Senator Dole said in commenting on the changes the Congress made to the legislation proposed by the Carter Administration:

[The changes in the bill] "were meant only to recognize the simple reality of U.S. concerns in the Asia-Pacific region and our desire for peace for an old and faithful ally." — March 7, 1979.

In talking to colleagues and former Administration officials who were here for the creation of the TRA, you get the sense that no one expected Taiwan to be around for very long. But Taiwan not only survived, she thrived. Taiwan turned into one of the Asian Tigers, and has managed to weather the Asian flu. She is a full-fledged multi-party democracy that respects human rights and civil liberties. She serves as a model of successful democratic reform.

The positive changes in Taiwan are a tribute to the spirit and perseverance of her people, who have achieved an almost impossible dream in the view of many. The United States cannot take credit for Taiwan's achievements, but we can be proud of East Asia. So I think it is appropriate that we take up this resolution that commemorates the anniversary of this piece of legislation.

Mr. President. The resolution praises the TRA for contributing to peace, security and stability in the Taiwan Strait. The resolution also praises the growth of democracy, human rights and civil liberties on Taiwan. And the resolution notes the successful role that the American Institute in Taiwan has played in sustaining and enhancing our relations with Taiwan.

The resolution does express concern about several issues including the proc-

ess for evaluating Taiwan's legitimate defense needs, the lack of high-level dialog between senior military officials on Taiwan and American defense officials regarding regional stability. The resolution also expresses Congress's grave concern over the possible threat to security in the Taiwan Strait from China's defense modernization and procurement as documented in the February 1, 1999, report to Congress by the Secretary of Defense on "The Security Situation in the Taiwan Strait".

Mr. president. This resolution calls for the Congress to reaffirm our commitment to the TRA and to the specific guarantees to provide legitimate defense articles to Taiwan. The Resolution also expresses our grave concern over the threat to Taiwan from China's growing arsenal of nuclear and conventionally armed ballistic missiles, the movement to those missiles into a closer geographic proximity to Taiwan, and the effect that the buildup may have on stability in the Taiwan Strait.

The resolution also encourages a high-level dialog with officials of Taiwan and our other East Asia allies concerning the best means to ensure peace and stability in East Asia.

To provide the Congress with timely information to evaluate Taiwan's self-defense needs, this resolution asks the President to provide an annual report detailing the military balance on both sides of the Taiwan Strait.

Finally, this resolution notes that it should be United States policy to publicly support Taiwan's admission to the World Trade Organization on its own merits as well as to encourage other countries to adopt similar policies, without making such admission conditional on the previous or simultaneous admission of the People's Republic of China to the World Trade Organization.

Mr. President. I hope that the full Senate will have the opportunity to vote on this resolution in the near future.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

##### COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities be authorized to meet at 3 p.m. on Thursday, March 11, 1999, in open session, to receive testimony on Department of Defense policies and programs to combat terrorism.

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

##### COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be allowed to meet on Thursday, March 11, 1999 at 9:30 a.m. on S. 383—Airline Passenger Fairness Act.

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

##### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. GORTON. 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 11, for purposes of conducting a full committee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. The purpose of this oversight hearing is to consider the President's proposed budget for FY2000 for the U.S. Forest Service.

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

##### COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the full Committee on Environment and Public Works be granted permission to conduct a hearing Thursday, March 11, 9:30 a.m., Hearing Room (SD-406), on S. 507, the Water Resources Development Act of 1999.

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

##### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, the Finance Committee requests unanimous consent to conduct a hearing on Thursday, March 11, 1999 beginning at 10 a.m. in room 215 Dirksen.

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

##### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 11, 1999 at 10 a.m. to hold a hearing.

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

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

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet for a hearing on "Key Patients' Protections: Lessons from the Field" during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 11, 1999 at 10 a.m.

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

##### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON YEAR 2000 TECHNOLOGY PROBLEM

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem be permitted to meet on Thursday, March 11, 1999 at 9:30 a.m. for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

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

##### SUBCOMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHTS AND THE COURTS

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Courts, together with the House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March