

shown to be effective, such as tobacco use cessation programs, enforcement of laws relating to tobacco products, community-based programs to discourage the use of tobacco products, school-based and child-oriented education programs to discourage the use of tobacco products, and State-wide awareness and counter-marketing advertising efforts to educate people about the dangers of using tobacco products, and for ongoing evaluations of these programs; and

“(II) at least 30 percent of such amounts recovered or paid in any fiscal year will be spent—

“(aa) on Federally or State funded health or public health programs; or

“(bb) to assist in economic development efforts designed to aid tobacco farmers and tobacco-producing communities as they transition to a more broadly diversified economy.

“(ii) All programs conducted under clause (i) take into account the needs of minority populations and other high risk groups who have a greater threat of exposure to tobacco products and advertising.

“(iii) All amounts spent under clause (i) are spent only in a manner that supplements (and does not supplant) funds previously being spent by the State (or local governments in the State) for such or similar programs or activities.

“(iv) Before the beginning of each fiscal year, the Governor or Chief Executive Officer of the State files with the Secretary a report which details how the amounts so recovered or paid have been spent consistent with the plan described in clause (i) and the requirements of clauses (ii) and (iii).”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) apply to amounts recovered or paid to a State before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act.

HUTCHINSON AMENDMENT NO. 78

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. HUTCHINSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill, S. 544, *supra*; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following new title:

TITLE —REQUIREMENT FOR CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF ADMISSION OF CHINA TO WTO.

SEC. __01. PRIOR CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL FOR SUPPORTING ADMISSION OF CHINA INTO THE WTO.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the United States may not support the admission of the People's Republic of China as a member of the World Trade Organization unless a provision of law is passed by both Houses of Congress and enacted into law after the enactment of this Act that specifically allows the United States to support such admission.

(b) PROCEDURES FOR CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF UNITED STATES SUPPORT FOR ADMISSION OF CHINA INTO THE WTO.—

(1) NOTIFICATION OF CONGRESS.—The President shall notify the Congress in writing if he determines that the United States should support the admission of the People's Republic of China into the World Trade Organization.

(2) SUPPORT OF CHINA'S ADMISSION INTO THE WTO.—The United States may support the admission of the People's Republic of China into the World Trade Organization if a joint resolution is enacted into law under subsection (c) and the Congress adopts and transmits the joint resolution to the President before the end of the 90-day period (excluding any day described in section 154(b) of the Trade Act of 1974), beginning on the date on which the Congress receives the notification referred to in paragraph (1).

(c) JOINT RESOLUTION.—

(1) JOINT RESOLUTION.—For purposes of this section, the term “joint resolution” means only a joint resolution of the 2 Houses of Congress, the matter after the resolving clause of which is as follows: “That the Congress approves the support of the United States for the admission of the People's Republic of China into the World Trade Organization.”.

(2) PROCEDURES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A joint resolution may be introduced at any time on or after the date on which the Congress receives the notification referred to in subsection (b)(1), and before the end of the 90-day period referred to in subsection (b)(2). A joint resolution may be introduced in either House of the Congress by any member of such House.

(B) APPLICATION OF SECTION 152.—Subject to the provisions of this subsection, the provisions of subsections (b), (d), (e), and (f) of section 152 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2192(b), (d), (e), and (f)) apply to a joint resolution under this section to the same extent as such provisions apply to resolutions under section 152.

(C) DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE.—If the committee of either House to which a joint resolution has been referred has not reported it by the close of the 45th day after its introduction (excluding any day described in section 154(b) of the Trade Act of 1974), such committee shall be automatically discharged from further consideration of the joint resolution and it shall be placed on the appropriate calendar.

(D) CONSIDERATION BY APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE.—It is not in order for—

(i) the Senate to consider any joint resolution unless it has been reported by the Committee on Finance or the committee has been discharged under subparagraph (C); or

(ii) the House of Representatives to consider any joint resolution unless it has been reported by the Committee on Ways and Means or the committee has been discharged under subparagraph (C).

(E) CONSIDERATION IN THE HOUSE.—A motion in the House of Representatives to proceed to the consideration of a joint resolution may only be made on the second legislative day after the calendar day on which the Member making the motion announces to the House his or her intention to do so.

(3) CONSIDERATION OF SECOND RESOLUTION NOT IN ORDER.—It shall not be in order in either the House of Representatives or the Senate to consider a joint resolution (other than a joint resolution received from the other House), if that House has previously adopted a joint resolution under this section.

SEC. __03. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.

Section 125(b)(1) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3535(b)(1)) is amended by striking “, and only if,.”.

NOTICE OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Full Energy and Natural Resources Committee to consider the results of the December 1998 plebiscite on Puerto Rico.

The hearing will take place on Thursday, May 6, 1999, at 9:30 a.m., in room SH-216 of the Hart Senate Office Building.

For further information, please call James Beirne, Deputy Chief Counsel at (202) 224-2564 or Betty Nevitt, Staff Assistant at (202) 224-0765.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that a field hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Water and Power of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place on Tuesday, April 6 at 10:30 a.m., at the Hood River Inn in Hood River, OR.

The purpose of the hearing is to conduct oversight on the process to determine the future of the four lower Snake River dams.

Those who wish to submit written statements should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510. For further information, please contact Ms. Julia McCaul or Colleen Deegan at 202-224-8115.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be allowed to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 17, 1999. The purpose of this meeting will be to review the current status of the Federal Crop Insurance Program and explore the various proposals to expand and/or restructure the program.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Full Energy and Natural Resources Committee to consider Nuclear Waste Storage and Disposal Policy, including S. 608, the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1999.

The hearing will take place on Wednesday, March 24, 1999, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

For further information, please call Karen Hunsicker at (202) 224-3543 or Betty Nevitt, Staff Assistant at (202) 224-0765.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the full Committee on Environment and Public Works be granted permission to conduct a business meeting to consider pending business Wednesday, March 17, 9 a.m., Hearing Room (SD-406).

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the full Committee on Environment and Public Works be granted permission to conduct a hearing on loss of open space

and environmental quality Wednesday, March 17, 10:30 a.m., Hearing Room (SD-406).

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, the Finance Committee requests unanimous consent to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, March 17, 1999, beginning at 10 a.m., in room 215 Dirksen.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Energy be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 17, 1999, at 10 a.m. to hold a joint hearing.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 17, 1999, at 2 p.m., to hold two hearings.

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Wednesday, March 17, 1999; at 9:30 a.m., for a hearing on the Independent Counsel Act.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 17, 1999, at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 17, 1999, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a Hearing on S. 400, the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act Amendments of 1999. The Hearing will be held in room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs would like to request unanimous consent to hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to receive the legislative presentations of the Disabled American Veterans. The hearing will be held on Wednesday, March 17, 1999, at 10 a.m., in room 345 of the Cannon House Office Building.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 17, 1999, at 2:30 p.m., to hold a closed hearing on Intelligence Matters.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AIRLAND FORCES

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Airland Forces of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet on Wednesday, March 17, 1999, at 2 p.m., in open session, to receive testimony on tactical aircraft modernization programs.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS AND MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, March 17, 1999, in open session to review the efforts to reform and streamline the Department of Defense's acquisition process.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REAUTHORIZATION OF THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

• Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, today I am addressing the Senate to express my view on the importance of maintaining a regulatory system that has resulted in a renaissance of the nation's rail freight railroads, which are so critical to the economic vitality of my state of Georgia.

In Georgia, we depend heavily on railroads to bring us raw materials and to carry our finished goods to market. Two major railroads, CSX and Norfolk Southern, operate more than 3,500 miles of rail line in Georgia, and service is provided over more than 1,000 miles of track by regional and local railroads. More than 3 million carloads of such commodities as coal, minerals, and pulp and paper are carried through Georgia every year, and more than 6,000 Georgians are directly employed in the rail industry.

The importance of railroads in my state reaches much deeper than the customers they serve and the citizens they employ, however. As a member of the Small Business Committee, I am particularly aware of the numerous small businesses throughout my state—including hundreds of logging and sawmill operations that produce crossties—which depend for their livelihood on railroads having the financial

resources to undertake infrastructure maintenance and improvements. If the railroads do not have the resources for that investment, these small businesses—as well as rail shippers and employees—will suffer.

This financial strength has not always been there. Indeed, the rail industry has undergone a remarkable resurgence from the late 1970s, when much of the industry was in bankruptcy and facing nationalization. The foundation of this resurgence has been the statutory changes made under the Staggers Rail Act of 1980. This bipartisan legislation lifted much of the regulatory burden that was stifling the industry, and permitted the railroads to compete in the marketplace for business, make contracts with customers, and use differential pricing to support the enormous capital investment they require for safe, efficient operations. These are basic activities engaged in by businesses across the nation, activities which had been denied the railroads for nearly a century.

The results have been little short of amazing. A moribund industry has come back to life, investing \$225 billion in its infrastructure, and providing good jobs to a quarter of a million employees. And, while the industry has had capacity constraints and other difficulties in some areas in providing the high level of service customers deserve, I believe the industry is committed to making needed investments and working with its customers to do better.

Despite the rail industry's gains, there are current efforts to turn back the clock and reimpose some of the destructive regulatory interventions which in the past hindered the railroads' ability to operate efficiently and price their services competitively. If we do so, we will be heading right back from where we have come: inefficient, poorly-performing railroads that were not dependable carriers of goods. We cannot afford that, if our nation's businesses are to grow and remain globally competitive.

Reauthorizing the Surface Transportation Board (STB), which administers the statute regulating the industry, is an important goal of the Senate Commerce Committee, and it is an objective that I endorse. Only by having a stable regulatory agency in place, can we ensure the continued application of the law in a balanced manner that takes into account the need to enable the railroads to earn enough to maintain their infrastructure, while ensuring fair rates for shippers. Indeed, the railroads are one of the most capital intensive industries in our nation, and despite their increased viability, they still fall short of the capital necessary to sustain and improve their plant and equipment. I support the current economic regulatory regime that has served the nation well by sparking this rail rebirth. At the same time, I intend to carefully evaluate issues brought to the Committee's attention by rail labor organizations as this review goes forward.