

our allies, and to the world that not only does the United States plan to defend itself from the threat of limited ballistic missile attacks, but that the best protection we can offer our nation is a world in which the fewest possible weapons of mass destruction exist.

Again, I thank Senator COCHRAN and all the cosponsors for introducing this important piece of legislation and for allowing the modifications to be made that garnered broad bipartisan support. I believe it is entirely appropriate for Congress to make it the policy of the United States to deploy an effective missile defense when technologically possible. The National Missile Defense Act will help allow this Government to keep its most important covenant with the American people—to protect their life and liberty.

DRUG FREE BORDERS ACT OF 1999

• Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, I rise in support of the Drug Free Borders Act of 1999, of which I am an original cosponsor. This legislation, identical to S. 1787 from the 105th Congress, authorizes funding for advanced sensing equipment for detecting illegal drugs before they can cross our border and emerge on the streets of America's cities. I would like to commend my good friend, Senator PHIL GRAMM, for once again taking the lead in introducing the Drug Free Borders Act during the 106th Congress.

Those of us who represent States bordering Mexico are particularly sensitive to the dangers implicit in failing to properly monitor traffic crossing that border. Yet, we also recognize that Mexico is one of our largest trading partners, and a country with which it is in our best interest to maintain as open a border as possible. It is a careful balancing act, but one that merits our greatest efforts.

While the effects of the North American Free Trade Agreement are being closely monitored by supporters and critics of that pact alike, it has become clear that NAFTA represents an important component of our international economic policy, contributing to the creation of 300,000 new American jobs since its passage. The agreement only went into effect in 1994, and it will likely be several more years before its full impact can be determined. The results from the first five years, however, unambiguously demonstrate that the agreement has a net positive impact on the U.S. economy.

But this bill is not about trade, it is about drugs, and about the measures that must be taken to ensure that we are doing everything we can to stem the flow of illegal drugs into our cities without impeding the flow of legitimate commerce. The key to finding that balance is the procurement of the equipment needed to expeditiously scan incoming cargo, not just on the U.S.-Mexican border, but at our other ports of entry as well—and I should point out the emphasis in this bill on

your maritime ports of entry. The Drug Free Borders Act of 1999 represents an important and substantive step in that direction. Authorizing over \$1 billion to beef-up Customs Department operations along our borders with Mexico and Canada, as well as at the maritime ports of entry, this legislation is a sound, responsible approach to enhancing this country's capabilities to interdict the flow of drugs before they reach our children.

Mr. President, I urge the support of all of my colleagues for the Drug Free Borders Act of 1999. This bill passed both Chambers of Congress last year, but fell victim to the vagaries of time, as the 105th Congress adjourned while the bill was still in conference. Its passage by both the Senate and the House of Representatives, however, clearly illustrates its broad bipartisan support, and I look forward to its passage into law during the current session of Congress.●

DESIGNATING MARCH 25, 1999, AS "GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY"

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that S. Res. 50 be discharged from the Judiciary Committee, and further, that the Senate now proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows: A resolution (S. Res. 50) designating March 25, 1999, as "Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution appear in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 50) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 50

Whereas the ancient Greeks developed the concept of democracy, in which the supreme power to govern was invested in the people;

Whereas the Founding Fathers of the United States of America drew heavily upon the political experience and philosophy of ancient Greece in forming our representative democracy;

Whereas the founders of the modern Greek state modeled their government after that of the United States in an effort to best imitate their ancient democracy;

Whereas Greece is one of the only 3 nations in the world, beyond the former British Empire, that has been allied with the United States in every major international conflict this century;

Whereas the heroism displayed in the historic World War II Battle of Crete epitomized Greece's sacrifice for freedom and democracy as it presented the Axis land war with its first major setback and set off a chain of events which significantly affected the outcome of World War II;

Whereas these and other ideals have forged a close bond between our 2 nations and their peoples;

Whereas March 25, 1999, marks the 178th anniversary of the beginning of the revolution which freed the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire; and

Whereas it is proper and desirable to celebrate with the Greek people and to reaffirm the democratic principles from which our 2 great nations were born: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates March 25, 1999, as "Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy"; and

(2) requests the President to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

DESIGNATING MARCH 21 THROUGH MARCH 27, 1999, AS "NATIONAL INHALANTS AND POISONS AWARENESS WEEK"

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that S. Res. 47 be discharged from the Judiciary Committee, and further, that the Senate now proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows: A resolution (S. Res. 47) designating the week of March 21 through 27, 1999, as "National Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be upon the table, and that any statements relating to S. Res. 47 appear in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 47) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

S. RES. 47

Whereas the National Inhalant Prevention Coalition has declared the week of March 21 through March 27, 1999, "National Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week".

Whereas inhalant abuse is nearing epidemic proportions, with almost 20 percent of all youths admitting to experimenting with inhalants by the time they graduate from high school, and only 4 percent of parents suspecting their children of inhalant use;

Whereas according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, inhalant use ranks third behind the use of alcohol and tobacco for all youths through the eighth grade;

Whereas the over 1,000 products that are being inhaled to get high are legal, inexpensive, and found in nearly every home and every corner market;

Whereas using inhalants only once can lead to kidney failure, brain damage, and even death;

Whereas inhalants are considered a gateway drug, leading to the use of harder, more deadly drugs; and

Whereas because inhalant use is difficult to detect, the products used are accessible and affordable, and abuse is so common, increased education of young people and their parents regarding the dangers of inhalants is an important step in our battle against drug abuse: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of March 21 through March 27, 1999, as “National Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week”;

(2) encourages parents to learn about the dangers of inhalant abuse and to discuss those dangers with their children; and

(3) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States and interested groups to observe such week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES— H.R. 800

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I move that the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate with respect to H.R. 800, the Ed-Flex legislation.

The motion was agreed to, and the Presiding Officer appointed Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. GREGG, Mr. FRIST, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. ENZI, Mr. HUTCHINSON of Arkansas, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DODD, Mr. HARKIN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. REED of Rhode Island conferees on the part of the Senate.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 975

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I understand that H.R. 975 was received from the House and is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 975) to provide for a reduction in the volume of steel imports, and to establish a steel import notification and monitoring program.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I now ask that the bill be read for the second time, and I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 1999

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 9:45 a.m. on Friday, March 19. I further ask consent that on Friday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal of the proceedings be approved to date and the morning hour be deemed to have expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved, and the Senate then resume consideration of this bill, the supplemental appropriations bill.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, tomorrow morning the Senate will resume the supplemental appropriations bill.

At 9:45, I intend to call up an amendment on the list related to ethical standards. All Members should be on notice that a rollcall vote will occur on or in relation to that amendment shortly after the Senate convenes at 9:45. The vote should begin as early as 9:50 or 9:55 Friday morning. Any Member who intends to offer additional amendments should be prepared to remain on Friday in order to offer those amendments.

In addition, it is expected that on Monday the Senate will debate the Kosovo issue beginning at approximately noon and will resume the supplemental appropriations bill sometime late that afternoon. However, no rollcall votes will occur during Monday's session.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:45 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 8:33 p.m., adjourned until Friday, March 19, 1999, at 9:45 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate March 18, 1999:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

BRIAN E. SHERIDAN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE HENRY ALLEN HOLMES.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AND FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT (IDENTIFIED BY AN ASTERISK(*)) UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624, 628, AND 531:

To be major

*HUSAM S. NOLAN, 0000
STEVEN C. SIEFKES, 0000
JAMES H. WALKER, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. DONALD G. COOK, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. LANCE W. LORD, 0000

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT (IDENTIFIED BY AN ASTERISK (*)) UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531, 624, AND 628:

To be major

THOMAS M. JOHNSON, 0000
FRANCIS J. LARVIE, 0000
*ANTHONY P. RISI, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT (IDENTIFIED BY AN ASTERISK (*)) UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531, 624, AND 628:

To be colonel

RANDALL F. COCHRAN, 0000
RUSSELL B. HALL, 0000

To be major

*REGINA K. DRAPER, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be colonel

ALFRED C. FABER, JR., 0000
MARGARET J. SKELTON, 0000
EDWARD L. WRIGHT, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

DALE F. BECKER, 0000
JAMES R. O'ROURKE, 0000
JOHN J. SCANLAN, 0000
JOHN F. STOLEY, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

DENTAL CORPS

COL. KENNETH L. FARMER, JR., 0000

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

HAROLD E. POOLE, SR., 0000

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be captain

DON A. FRASIER, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be commander

LEO J. GRASSILLI, 0000