

by section 625(a)(1) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (110 Stat. 3009-699), is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by redesignating clauses (i) and (ii) as subclauses (I) and (II), respectively;

(2) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively;

(3) by striking “(1)(1)” and inserting “(1)(A)”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(B) The Attorney General shall waive the application of subparagraph (A)(ii) for an alien seeking to pursue a course of study in a public secondary school served by a local educational agency (as defined in section 14101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8801) if the agency determines and certifies to the Attorney General that such waiver will promote the educational interest of the agency and will not impose an undue financial burden on the agency.”.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 25

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. COVERDELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 25, a bill to provide Coastal Impact Assistance to State and local governments, to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act Amendments of 1978, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act, and the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (commonly referred to as the Pittman-Robertson Act) to establish a fund to meet the outdoor conservation and recreation needs of the American people, and for other purposes.

S. 185

At the request of Mr. ASHCROFT, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 185, a bill to establish a Chief Agricultural Negotiator in the Office of the United States Trade Representative.

S. 227

At the request of Mr. COVERDELL, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 227, a bill to prohibit the expenditure of Federal funds to provide or support programs to provide individuals with hypodermic needles or syringes for the use of illegal drugs.

S. 296

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 296, A bill to provide for continuation of the Federal research investment in a fiscally sustainable way, and for other purposes.

S. 333

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) were added as cosponsors of S. 333, a bill to amend the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 to improve the farmland protection program.

S. 376

At the request of Mr. BURNS, the name of the Senator from Missouri

(Mr. ASHCROFT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 376, a bill to amend the Communications Satellite Act of 1962 to promote competition and privatization in satellite communications, and for other purposes.

S. 395

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 395, a bill to ensure that the volume of steel imports does not exceed the average monthly volume of such imports during the 36-month period preceding July 1997.

S. 425

At the request of Mr. ASHCROFT, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 425, a bill to require the approval of Congress for the imposition of any new unilateral agricultural sanction, or any new unilateral sanction with respect to medicine, medical supplies, or medical equipment, against a foreign country.

S. 434

At the request of Mr. BREAUX, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 434, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to simplify the method of payment of taxes on distilled spirits.

S. 459

At the request of Mr. BREAUX, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. KERREY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 459, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the State ceiling on private activity bonds.

S. 528

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 528, a bill to provide for a private right of action in the case of injury from the importation of certain dumped and subsidized merchandise.

S. 531

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAUX), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. COVERDELL), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS) were added as cosponsors of S. 531, a bill to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Rosa Parks in recognition of her contributions to the Nation.

S. 575

At the request of Mr. CLELAND, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) 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.”

S. 655

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAUX) was added as a cosponsor of S. 655, a bill to establish nationally uniform requirements regarding the titling and registration of salvage, non-repairable, and rebuilt vehicles.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 19

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of Senate Concurrent Resolution 19, a concurrent resolution concerning anti-Semitic statements made by members of the Duma of the Russian Federation.

SENATE RESOLUTION 19

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor 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 26

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 26, a resolution relating to Taiwan's Participation in the World Health Organization.

SENATE RESOLUTION 71—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REJECTING A TAX INCREASE ON INVESTMENT INCOME OF CERTAIN ASSOCIATIONS

Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. GRAMM, and Mr. INHOFE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

S. RES. 71

Whereas the President's fiscal year 2000 Federal budget proposal to impose a tax on the interest, dividends, capital gains, rents, and royalties in excess of \$10,000 of trade associations and professional societies exempt under section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 represents an unjust and unnecessary penalty on legitimate association activities;

Whereas at a time when the Government is projecting on-budget surpluses of more than \$800,000,000,000 over the next 10 years, the President proposes to increase the tax burden on trade and professional associations by \$1,440,000,000 over the next 5 years;

Whereas the President's association tax increase proposal will impose a tremendous burden on thousands of small and mid-sized trade associations and professional societies;

Whereas under the President's association tax increase proposal, most associations with annual operating budgets of as low as \$200,000 or more will be taxed on investment income and as many as 70,000 associations nationwide could be affected by this proposal;

Whereas associations rely on this targeted investment income to carry out exempt-status-related activities, such as training individuals to adapt to the changing workplace,

improving industry safety, providing statistical data, and providing community services;

Whereas keeping investment income free from tax encourages associations to maintain modest surplus funds that cushion against economic and fiscal downturns; and

Whereas corporations can increase prices to cover increased costs, while small and medium-sized local, regional, and State-based associations do not have such an option, and thus increased costs imposed by the President's association tax increase would reduce resources available for the important standard-setting, educational training, and professionalism training performed by associations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that Congress should reject the President's proposed tax increase on investment income of associations as defined under section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

• Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I am joined today by Senator CRAPO in introducing a Sense of the Senate Resolution rejecting a new tax proposed by the Clinton administration. As part of the administration's fiscal year 2000 budget proposal, this tax would be levied on the investment income earned by nonprofit trade associations and professional societies. This proposal, which would tax any income earned through interest, dividends, capital gains, rents and royalties in excess of \$10,000, imposes a tremendous burden on thousands of small- and mid-sized trade associations and professional societies currently exempt under 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The administration would like us to believe that this tax is targeted to a few large associations, affecting only those "lobbying organizations" which exist as tax shelters for members and to further the goals of special interests. Mr. President, nothing could be further from the truth.

This new tax would affect an estimated 70,000 registered trade associations and professional societies. The bulk of these associations operate at a state and local level, many of whom perform little, if any, lobbying function. In fact, associations rely on investment income to perform such vital services as education, training, standard setting, industry safety, research and statistical data, and community outreach. Through association-organized volunteer programs, Americans contribute more than 173 million volunteer hours per year, at a value estimated at over \$2 billion annually.

These organizations already contribute millions in taxes for any activities which place them in competition with for-profit businesses. Yet the administration would like to impose a new tax on income earned outside of the competitive business environment, income which is used to fund functions serving the public welfare. Unlike for-profit corporations, investment income does not go to shareholders, individuals, or other companies. Associations do not have the liberty of simply raising prices, as do ordinary corporations, to cover increased costs.

Mr. President, faced with an additional increase in taxes of \$1.44 billion

over the next five years, many associations will be forced to cut back on important services, and some may not survive an economic downturn without the small cushion their investments provide.

Without such services provided by associations, the Government will be forced to step in, increasing expenditures and creating additional Government programs and departments.

During a time when the Government is projecting on-budget tax surpluses of more than \$800 billion over the next 10 years, it is unconscionable that we allow the administration to levy a new tax on these nonprofit organizations.●

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Monday, March 22, 1999, at 1:30 p.m. for a hearing on the topic of "Securities Fraud On The Internet."

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGING THREATS AND CAPABILITIES

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee on Armed Services Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities be authorized to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, March 22, 1999, in closed/open session to receive testimony on Department of Defense Policies and programs to combat terrorism.

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

STRATEGIC SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the strategic subcommittee of Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet on Monday, March 22, 1999, at 9 a.m. in open session, to receive testimony on National Security Space Programs and Policies, in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2000 and the future years defense program.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON YOUTH VIOLENCE AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a joint hearing, before the subcommittees on Youth Violence and Criminal Justice Oversight of the Senate Judiciary Committee, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, March 22, 1999 at 1 p.m. to hold a hearing in room 226 of the Senate Dirksen Office building on: "Review of DOJ Firearm Prosecutions."

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

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be permitted to

meet on March 22, 1999 at 1 p.m. in Hart 216 for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TUNISIA NATIONAL DAY

• Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the Government and the people of Tunisia on the occasion of their annual National Day celebration, March 20, which this year marks the 43rd anniversary of their independence from France. While the Republic of Tunisia is only 43 years old, the Tunisian nation has a long rich history, dating back to ancient Carthage.

Accompanied by the senior U.S.-N.A.T.O. military commander responsible for the region, I was privileged to visit Tunisia last April. At the request of Admiral Lopez, I met with top government and military officials in the company of U.S. Embassy officials in hopes of integrating U.S. and Tunisian actions and efforts in Europe.

The United States and Tunisia go back a long way. In 1797, our two nations signed a treaty of peace and friendship. Among other things, this treaty called for "perpetual and constant peace." Indeed, for the past 200 years, our two nations have enjoyed such a relationship. During World War II, Tunisia's nationalist leaders suspended their struggle against France in order to support the Allied cause: they knew which side in that war was fighting for the values they held dear. During the tense cold war years, Tunisia was one of America's most reliable allies in the Mediterranean, and Tunisia's friendship proved of tremendous benefit to the Sixth Fleet.

Since the end of the cold war, Tunisia has continued to be a friend and ally of the United States. Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali has been very active in supporting the Middle East peace process. He has also sought to open his country's economy to greater US investment, a goal that has gotten a recent boost from our own State Department, which has proposed a new trade partnership with the countries of North Africa, including Tunisia. Our military ties with Tunisia also remain strong. Just last month Defense Secretary William Cohen visited Tunisia and discussed a number of issues of mutual interest, including the Iraqi situation, the Middle East peace process and the Lockerbie bombing.

I think it is safe to say that few of our nation's bilateral relationships have been broadly and consistently positive for so long. I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating Tunisia on its National Day and in honoring this great friend of the United States.●