

The letter is printed as follows:

MICROSOFT CORPORATION,
LAW AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, May 28, 1999.

Hon. SPENCER ABRAHAM,
Dirksen Senate Office Building,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR ABRAHAM: Microsoft supports your effort, through the New Millennium Classrooms Act, to increase charitable contributions of personal computers to schools and other non-profit organizations. Microsoft appreciates the enormous needs in our nation's schools for access to technology. We work closely with businesses, charitable organizations, and educators in an effort to increase the technology available in schools in order to create opportunities for learning by our children.

To help accomplish this goal, Microsoft supports efforts to stimulate the charitable donation of personal computers to schools. The New Millennium Classrooms Act provides a helpful incentive to spur donations of computers to schools. We also appreciate your interest in ensuring that donated computers have valid operating systems, which helps to promote legitimate software use and to fight software piracy. Under this program, Microsoft will approve a transfer without charge from the donor to the school of the valid Microsoft operating system license on the computer at the time of transfer.

We believe the New Millennium Classrooms Classrooms Act is helpful legislation for our nation's schools and we are proud to support it.

Thank you for once again demonstrating your leadership on high technology issues and your commitment to our nation's schools and children.

Sincerely,

JACK KRUMHOLTZ,
Director of Federal Government Affairs,
Senior Corporate Attorney.●

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

GRASSLEY AMENDMENT NO. 540

Mr. STEVENS (for Mr. GRASSLEY) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 1122) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end of the general provisions, add the following:

SEC. . Section 8106(a) of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 1997 (titles I through VIII of the matter under section 101(b) of Public Law 104-208; 110 Stat. 3309-111; 10 U.S.C. 113 note), is amended—

(1) by striking “not later than June 30, 1997.”; and

(2) by striking “\$1,000,000” and inserting “\$500,000”.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR AND PENSIONS

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for information of the Senate and the public that a hearing of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will be held on Thursday, June 10, 1999, 10:00 a.m., in SD-628 of the Senate Dirksen Building. The subject of the hearing is “ESEA: Special Popu-

lations”. For further information, please call the committee, 202/224-5375.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

IN HONOR OF IRA WEINSTEIN

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to make my colleagues aware of the accomplishments of an outstanding Illinois citizen. This Thursday, June 10, Ira P. Weinstein will turn 80. As we celebrated Memorial Day just a week ago, I think it is appropriate to mention Mr. Weinstein's service to our country as it is a constant reminder that without the dedication and bravery of so many like him, the freedom we are privileged to enjoy could not be possible.

Born in Chicago, Illinois on June 10, 1919, Mr. Weinstein entered the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1942, just as America was being drawn into World War II. Trained as a Navigator-Bombardier, Mr. Weinstein rose to the rank of First Lieutenant and proceeded to fly 25 missions during World War II as a member of the 8th Air Force 445 Bomb Group, 702nd Squadron. Although the 24 previous missions he flew had been safe ones, Mr. Weinstein's 25th would be his most harrowing.

On September 27, 1944, Mr. Weinstein's plane was shot down over Germany during the Kassell Mission. As he parachuted to the ground, Mr. Weinstein found safety and eluded capture for six days. Unfortunately, he was found by the enemy and held as a Prisoner of War in Stalag Luft I, in Barth, Germany. On May 11, 1945, the camp where Mr. Weinstein was held was liberated, ending an eight-month ordeal as a POW. For his heroism, Mr. Weinstein was awarded several distinguished service medals. These include the Purple Heart, the Air Medal, the POW Medal, a Presidential Citation, the American Campaign and European Campaign Medals, the WW II Victory Medal, and the distinguished French Croix de Guerre.

After returning from the war, Mr. Weinstein, like so many others of his generation, went on to become accomplished in the world of business, building a successful advertising agency respected throughout the Chicago area. Despite the loss of his wife several years ago, Mr. Weinstein, now retired, enjoys being a grandfather and takes special pride in his expertise as a horticulturist.

I am pleased to take this opportunity today to honor an American hero and one of my constituents. As we did one week ago today, we should not hesitate to honor our defenders of freedom every day as we enjoy the liberty they fought so hard to protect.●

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

• Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business Friday, June 4, 1999, the federal debt stood at

\$5,605,818,000,792.65 (Five trillion, six hundred five billion, eight hundred eighteen million, seven hundred ninety-two dollars and sixty-five cents).

One year ago, June 4, 1998, the federal debt stood at \$5,496,568,000,000 (Five trillion, four hundred ninety-six billion, five hundred sixty-eight million).

Fifteen years ago, June 4, 1984, the federal debt stood at \$1,519,266,000,000 (One trillion, five hundred nineteen billion, two hundred sixty-six million).

Twenty-five years ago, June 4, 1974, the federal debt stood at \$469,771,000,000 (Four hundred sixty-nine billion, seven hundred seventy-one million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,136,047,000,792.65 (Five trillion, one hundred thirty-six billion, forty-seven million, seven hundred ninety-two dollars and sixty-five cents) during the past 25 years.●

CONGRATULATIONS TO DAVID LIEDERMAN

• Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, today, I would like to pay tribute to Mr. David S. Liederman, the outgoing Executive Director of the Child Welfare league of America. Throughout his long, distinguished career, David Liederman has fought hard to make a difference in the lives of families and children, especially some of the most vulnerable children who are at risk of abuse and neglect.

Over many years, I have been privileged to work directly with David Liederman and the extraordinary team of dedicated professionals whom he has assembled at the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA). David has the unique ability to be a leader on a variety of levels—within his own organization, throughout the country with many CWLA affiliates, and in Washington as a policy maker and advocate.

Early in his career, he had the vision and the determination to seek bold policy answers by helping to creating the original Independent Living Program. We worked closely together in 1993 to secure over a billion dollars in new investments in prevention services for abused and neglected children. In 1997, David was an effective ally and advocate in the effort to enact the Adoption and Safe Families Act which ensures that a child's health and safety are paramount, and continues the investments in prevention to deliver on this promise.

Those who know David Liederman's personal history are not surprised by his commitment, or his successful record of accomplishments. David began his career working directly with families and serving disadvantaged youths living in public housing in the Boston area. These years in the trenches instilled in him a sense of compassion and the challenges wrought by the harsh realities many of our Nation's citizens face. After working in direct services, he went on to serve the people of Massachusetts first in the State Legislature and then as Chief of Staff

to Governor Michael Dukakis. After years of service in Massachusetts, David decided to focus on National issues when he accepted the helm of the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) and began to lead national discussions setting the agenda on policy issues facing children and families. For fifteen years, he led CWLA and was a well-known advocate and spokesman for needy children and families.

In honor of his many achievements, David Liederman won the 1996 Award for Excellence in national Executive Leadership and the 1997 National Lifetime Achievement Award from the national Association of Social Workers.

I am proud to have worked with David Liederman over so many years, and am proud to call him a friend. His voice will be truly missed on child welfare issues in Washington. But he has our best wishes as he seeks new challenges and opportunities in public service.●

McDONALD COUNTY SENUCENTENNIAL

• Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, I rise to commend the sesquicentennial celebration of the founding of McDonald County, Missouri. On March 3, 1849, the Missouri State Legislature established McDonald County, which was named in honor of a hero of the Revolutionary War, Alexander McDonald.

McDonald County is rich in hospitality, heritage and history. During the Civil War, McDonald County was the scene of many battles, including battles at Pineville on November 19, 1862, and August 13, 1863. Through the hardships of the war, and through the challenges of peace, the good people of McDonald County stood fast for the values of faith, family, freedom, and hard work. Today, the county celebrates 150 years of history.

An exciting time came in 1938, during the Great Depression, when Hollywood came to McDonald County to make the movie "Jesse James," which starred Tyrone Powers, Henry Fonda, and Randolph Scott.

Each Christmas, the city of Noel in McDonald County receives thousands of cards from all over the country, and affixes the "Christmas City" message on cards that wish the joy of the season to family and friends all over the U.S.

In addition to agriculture and industry, McDonald County is a paradise for outdoor recreation. Its rugged hills and valleys, watered by springs, rivers, and streams, attract thousands of anglers, boaters, hikers, and others.

It is an honor to join with the people of McDonald County in celebrating 150 years of history. Mr. President, I ask that members of the Senate join me in recognizing this historic milestone for McDonald County, Missouri.●

RECOGNITION OF WV JUVENILE JUSTICE COMPLIANCE MONITORING BY DCJS

• Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, it is my honor to commend the West

Virginia Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) for its outstanding compliance monitoring program. The exceptional quality of this program has been recognized by Attorney General Janet Reno and the Department of Justice as an example of how a monitoring program should work. All new Juvenile Justice Compliance Monitors will travel to West Virginia to be trained by DCJS staff.

The West Virginia Division of Criminal Justice Services has an admirable track record of meeting or surpassing the goals set for juvenile justice systems by federal and state regulations. In August 1998, a five-year compliance audit of the DCJS reported a faultless monitoring system for its juvenile justice and delinquency programs (JJDP). West Virginians are right to be proud of the efficient, organized system in use by DCJS, and we can take even more pride in the fact that the DCJS compliance monitoring program will serve as a guide for compliance monitors throughout the country. West Virginia expertise and innovation will be instrumental in streamlining juvenile justice and delinquency prevention programs.

The recent acclaim for West Virginia's compliance monitoring program is a reflection of the many other virtues within the Division's purview. The success of the Juvenile Crime Enforcement Coalition plan has prompted other states' juvenile justice agencies to model their programs after West Virginia's. In her speech, Attorney General Reno noted our state's Underage Drinking Plan as a possible approach for other jurisdictions. To their credit, the staff and management of DCJS do not invest these laurels with more importance than they have. The hard-working people of DCJS understand that one of their agency's greatest strengths is the sharing of responsibility and expertise among DCJS, state juvenile justice facilities, and other state agencies in complying with regulations. Rather than imposing its will on the agencies with which it works, DCJS builds lasting relationships with correctional facilities to help meet statutory and administrative mandates in a cooperative fashion.

Further, DCJS operates with a definite purpose and an open mind. The agency is firmly grounded in law, yet remains flexible with respect to improvements and changes in regulations. Such a balance is particularly important in the juvenile justice and delinquency prevention context, where frequent governmental experiments result in the involvement of new agencies and new personnel, and increased societal vigilance adds even more members to the pool of at-risk youth. Finally, through its carefully organized and straightforward monitoring program, DCJS strives to teach while it continues to serve. In so many respects, the West Virginia DCJS juvenile justice program is a model for the nation.

I wish to express my sincere admiration and heartfelt thanks to the Divi-

sion of Criminal Justice Services for making juvenile justice services in West Virginia, and now the rest of America, more efficient and effective.●

COMMEMORATION OF THE 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ALLIED INVASION AT NORMANDY

• Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the 55th anniversary of the Allied invasion at Normandy. On June 6, 1944, courageous members of our Armed Forces defended the world from assaults against humanity. During that misty and chilly day, 156,000 Allied soldiers crossed the English channel in one of history's greatest military operations. Every soldier, every sailor, and every airman united to challenge the injustices that terrorized and enslaved Europe. With soldiers from other Allied nations, American soldiers stormed the beaches, bombed enemy encampments, fought in the front lines, and ensured Europe's liberation.

When the paratroopers descended from the dark skies and the soldiers charged forward from the churning seas, the tide of the war changed. While we salute those who returned from this battle and World War II to enjoy the world they liberated, we also remember those who never came home. On D-Day alone, 2,500 of our GIs gave their lives for the hope of a better tomorrow. When the Allied forces defeated Nazi Germany 11 months later, it was reaffirmed that they did not die in vain.

These dedicated Americans secured the future and freedoms that we now enjoy. All Americans are forever in debt to the members of our Armed Services, past and present, who put their lives on the line to guarantee our freedom.●

CHARACTER COUNTS!

• Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I am proud to be an original cosponsor of the Character Counts! initiative introduced by Senator DOMENICI and others on May 6, 1999. I avidly support education in West Virginia and the United States, and I believe this should include an emphasis on basic character and good citizenship. In the words of Theodore Roosevelt: "To educate a person in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society."

Character Counts! recognizes and addresses that there is a connection between one's personal life and one's business or political abilities. Character Counts! understands that morals and character development go hand in hand, and that it is never too late to teach the tools to help develop personal character. The promotion of healthy character development is a necessary precursor to reaching the ultimate goal of teaching people to take personal responsibility.

The Character First! training series is based in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The Character Bulletin Series provides