

anhydrous ammonia useless in meth production.

The intent of this legislation is to address a problem that is growing and spreading across the country, one that disproportionately affects small and mid-sized cities and rural areas.

I urge my colleagues in this body to join in supporting the Methamphetamine Use Response Act of 1999 and respond now to this challenge before it grows worse and before it spreads any further if, in fact, it can spread much further.

I yield the floor.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE SAFE DEPOSIT BOX ACT OF 1999

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now turn to Calendar No. 152, H.R. 1259, regarding the Social Security lockbox issue.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1259) to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to protect Social Security surpluses through strengthened budgetary enforcement mechanisms.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk to the pending bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on H.R. 1259, the Social Security and Medicare Safe Deposit Box Act of 1999.

Trent Lott, Spencer Abraham, Rick Santorum, Gordon Smith of Oregon, Mike Crapo, John H. Chafee, Judd Gregg, Larry E. Craig, Rod Grams, Connie Mack, Frank Murkowski, John Warner, Slade Gorton, Fred Thompson, Michael B. Enzi, and Paul Coverdell.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, if no previous cloture motions are invoked, this cloture vote will occur on Wednesday of this week, 1 hour after the Senate convenes, unless changed by consent.

All Senators will be notified as to the exact time of the cloture vote.

CALL OF THE ROLL

In the meantime, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

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

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, did the Senator have a reservation or a comment?

Mr. DASCHLE. Before we moved off this legislation, it was my intention to lay down an amendment. I don't need any time to talk about the amendment tonight but certainly prior to the time

we have the cloture vote. Obviously, our desire is to offer some amendments to the bill. Because the bill is now the subject of the consideration of the Senate, it would be my desire at this point to lay down an amendment.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I understand the Senator's desire, and I want to talk with the Senator about how he wished to proceed on this issue this week. However, I do not yield for the purpose of laying down an amendment at this time.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask consent there be a period for the transition of routine morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

Mr. DASCHLE. Reserving the right to object, let me say the whole idea, obviously, behind this amendment or any other amendments would be simply to address what I think we all recognize is an important issue—the Social Security lockbox. The only reason Democrats have been voting against cloture is simply because we have been “locked out” of our opportunity to offer amendments, such as an amendment which would provide for the Medicare lockbox as well as Social Security.

I am disappointed in our inability to lay an amendment down tonight. I think we can accommodate our colleagues on both sides of the aisle. We would agree to a limited number of amendments. I think we could dispose of this legislation with that kind of an agreement. I hope to talk with the majority leader at some point before the cloture vote to see if we can't find a way to have an agreement procedurally that would preclude the need for a cloture vote.

I will not object to this request.

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

Mr. LOTT. I thank Senator DASCHLE for his explanation and I appreciate his courtesy. I am very much committed to the concept of making it difficult for Social Security funds to be used for any purpose other than Social Security.

I want to get to a direct vote. I know there are other amendments Senator DASCHLE or others would like to offer, and I will discuss it with him and see if we can't find a way to do that before this week is out.

With that, I yield the floor.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 331

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, on behalf of the leader, I ask unanimous consent that on Tuesday, June 15, the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 80, S. 331, at a time to be determined by the majority leader, after consultation with the Democratic leader. I further ask unanimous consent that immediately upon reporting

of the bill, a substitute amendment offered by Senator ROTH, which will be at the desk, be agreed to; that the bill then be read a third time, with no intervening action or debate; and that the Senate proceed to a vote on passage at a time to be determined by the majority leader and the Democratic leader. I finally ask unanimous consent that it not be in order for the Senate to consider any conference report or House amendments to S. 331, or its House companion, if it contains a net increase in direct spending in fiscal year 2000, the period fiscal year 2000 through 2004, or the period fiscal year 2005 through 2009, as estimated by the Congressional Budget Office.

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

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 96, S. 322.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 322) to amend title 4, United States Code, to add the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday to the list of days on which the flag should especially be displayed.

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

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to urge my colleagues to support passage of S. 322, the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Recognition Act of 1999. It is a fitting and appropriate tribute to have this legislation honoring Dr. King pass the full Senate on Flag Day which is being commemorated today.

This legislation will amend the Flag Code to add the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday to the list of days on which the American flag should be displayed nationwide.

It is a testament to the greatness of Martin Luther King, Jr., that nearly every major city in the U.S. has a street or school named after him. Dr. King, a minister, prolific writer and Nobel Prize winner originated the non-violence strategy within the activist civil rights movement. He was one of the most important black leaders of his era and in American history.

When Dr. King was tragically assassinated on April 4, 1968, he had already transformed himself as a national hero and a pioneer in trying to unite a divided nation. He strove to build communities of hope and opportunity for all and recognized that all Americans must be free to truly have a great country.

Dr. King was a person who wanted all people to get along regardless of their race, color or creed. His holiday came about due to the work of many determined people who wanted all of us to

pause to remember his legacy. Senate passage of S. 322 will further recognize his legacy.

I thank the Chair and yield the floor.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed; that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; and that any statements relating to the bill be printed at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 322) was considered read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 322

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ADDITION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY TO LIST OF DAYS.

Section 6(d) of title 4, United States Code, is amended by inserting "Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, third Monday in January," after "January 20;".

REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT TO RAISE A CERTAIN ISSUE AT THE G-8 SUMMIT MEETING

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 120, submitted by Senator ASHCROFT.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 120) requesting that the President raise the issue of agricultural biotechnology at the June G-8 Summit meeting.

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

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to; that the preamble be agreed to; and that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 120) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

Whereas biotechnology is an increasingly important tool in helping to meet multiple agricultural challenges of the 21st century;

Whereas genetically modified crops are helping to control weeds, insects, and plant diseases to increase crop yields and farm productivity, and to enhance the quality, value, and suitability of crops for food, fiber, and other uses;

Whereas agricultural biotechnology promises environmental benefits by reducing, or perhaps eliminating, the need for chemical pesticides, by improving the efficient utilization of fertilizer, thereby protecting water quality, and by conserving topsoil by reducing the need for tillage;

Whereas in recent years farmers have rapidly adopted agricultural biotechnology, with worldwide acreage of genetically modified crops growing from 4,300,000 acres in 1996, to 69,500,000 acres in 1998, which is more than a 16-fold increase;

Whereas American farmers planted biotech crops on about 38 percent of the soybean

acreage, 25 percent of the corn acreage, and 45 percent of the cotton acreage, and within a few years over half of the agricultural crops grown in this country may be genetically modified;

Whereas increased agricultural productivity attained through greater use of biotechnology, in both developed and developing countries, holds a great deal of potential for meeting the nutritional needs of the world's population, of which at least 800,000,000 currently suffer from hunger or malnutrition;

Whereas despite the widespread adoption and extensive global benefits of biotechnology, marked differences among countries in their regulatory approaches are limiting substantially the use of, and trade in, agricultural biotechnology products;

Whereas an open international trading system for products derived from plant and animal agricultural biotechnology would make a broad array of improved products more affordable, including agricultural and food products, pharmaceuticals, and consumer products such as apparel, paper, cosmetics, soaps, and detergents;

Whereas because of the importance of international trade to the strength of the farm economy and the entire food and agriculture sector, any unwarranted restrictions on trade in biotechnology products could seriously disrupt the farm economy and unjustifiably force farmers to choose between using agricultural biotechnology and exporting their production; and

Whereas the threat to agricultural production and trade from restrictions on products derived from modern biotechnology has become serious enough to warrant the attention of world leaders: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) as the world trading system moves toward a reduction of tariff and nontariff barriers, all countries should work to ensure that scientifically unfounded new barriers are not erected;

(2) the President should raise at the June 1999, G-8 Summit the important issues surrounding the use of, and trade in, agricultural biotechnology; and

(3) as world leaders prepare for a new round of negotiations on agriculture in the World Trade Organization, the G-8 Summit is an appropriate forum to seek a consensus with the major trading partners of the United States regarding—

(A) recognition of the global benefits of agricultural biotechnology, especially in meeting the nutritional needs of millions of people in developing countries;

(B) increasing consumer knowledge and understanding of agricultural biotechnology and its benefits; and

(C) the adoption of rational, scientifically-based systems for the regulation of biotechnology products and for eliminating unjustified barriers to the use of biotechnology products in international trade.

AUTHORIZATION OF TESTIMONY AND LEGAL REPRESENTATION

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 121, submitted earlier by Senators LOTT and DASCHLE.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 121) to authorize testimony and legal representation in C. William Kaiser v. Department of Veterans Affairs

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

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, this resolution concerns a request for testimony in an administrative proceeding before the Merit Systems Protection Board. The appellant alleges that he was terminated from his employment with the Department of Veterans Affairs unlawfully in retaliation for communications that entitle him to protected status as a whistle blower.

This resolution would permit Richard Lougee, a caseworker on Senator JUDD GREGG's staff, to testify, with representation by the Senate Legal Counsel, by providing an affidavit, and if necessary appearing at a deposition, about his communications with the parties to this matter.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to; that the preamble be agreed to; and that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 121) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 121

Whereas, in the case of C. William Kaiser v. Department of Veterans Affairs, Docket No. BN-0351-99-0110-I-1, pending before the Merit Systems Protection Board, testimony has been requested from Richard Lougee, an employee of Senator Judd Gregg;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(2) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§ 288b(a) and 288c(a)(2), the Senate may direct its counsel to represent employees of the Senate with respect to any subpoena, order, or request for testimony relating to their official responsibilities;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may, by the judicial process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate;

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may promote the administration of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistently with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Richard Lougee is authorized to testify in the case of C. William Kaiser v. Department of Veterans Affairs, except concerning matters for which a privilege should be asserted.

Sec. 2. The Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Richard Lougee in connection with the testimony authorized in second one of this resolution.

REPORTING OF COMMITTEE FUNDING RESOLUTIONS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 122, submitted earlier today by Senators MCCONNELL and DODD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.