

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL CHARLES W. ALSUP, USA

• Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to a great patriot, soldier, and father, Colonel Charles W. Alsup. After nearly 28 years of dedicated service around the world, Colonel Alsup will retire from the United States Army on September 30, 1999. Colonel Alsup was born in Birmingham, Alabama. He enlisted in the Army in 1971 as a private and was later commissioned as a Military Intelligence Second Lieutenant upon completion of the Infantry Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia.

Throughout his military career, Colonel Alsup distinguished himself as a true professional and an exceptional leader. His initial assignments included: a tour with 8th Special Forces Group, Fort Gulick, Panama; duties as a counterintelligence special agent and staff officer with the 902th Military Intelligence Group, Fort Meade, MD; and intelligence officer, 4th Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment, 8th Infantry Division in Mainz, Germany during the height of the Cold War. He successfully commanded at the company, battalion, and brigade levels, culminating with the prestigious 501st Military Intelligence Brigade, Yongsan, Korea.

Colonel Alsup also excelled at a variety of teaching and staff officer positions, including Reserve Officer Training Corps duty at the University of Alabama; Staff Group Leader, Combined Arms and services Staff School, Fort Leavenworth; Director of Intelligence, 24th Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, GA; Director of Intelligence, Eight U.S. Army, Yongsan, Korea; and duty on the Army Staff in Legislative Liaison and the Directorate for Operations and Plans.

Colonel Alsup's final assignment as Assistant Director of Intelligence for the Joint Staff, Washington, DC, showcased his superior grasp of national intelligence issues, his impressive management skills, and his ability to perform under pressure. Colonel Alsup provided unparalleled intelligence support to the senior leadership of the Executive and Legislative Branches, contributing significantly to their understanding of national level crisis and contingencies. His positive impact on the Joint Staff, the Defense Intelligence Agency, and the intelligence community will be felt for years to come.

Colonel Alsup is a distinguished graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth and the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island. His awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Meritorious Service Medal with Four Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the

Special Forces Tab, the Senior Parachutist Badge, and the Ranger Tab.

Through his distinctive accomplishments, Colonel Charles W. Alsup culminates a distinguished career in the service of his country and reflects great credit upon himself, the United States Army, the Defense Intelligence Agency, and the Department of Defense.

I wish every success to Colonel Alsup as he finishes his truly remarkable military career and thank him for a job exceedingly well done.●

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD TORTORELLI

• Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Richard Tortorelli of Milford, New Hampshire, who has retired from the Milford Fire Department after 41 years of service.

Richard began his career with the Milford Fire Department while in high school. At the age of 21, he joined the fire department as an on-call fire fighter. In 1986, he became the first full-time Fire Chief in Milford's history. Under his leadership, the fire department has seen many changes: a move from Town Hall in 1974 into the current station, a change from a one-town dispatch center to the regional Milford Area Communication Center, and equipment updates along with specialized training.

Even though Richard works in one of the most dangerous professions in the country, he has never lost a member of his department. One of the most rewarding aspects of his career is that the number of fire calls in Milford has decreased over the years. He acknowledges that teaching fire prevention is not as thrilling as fighting a fire, however it is very important.

I would like to thank Chief Tortorelli for his service to the Town of Milford, and his dedication and leadership to the Milford Fire Department. I commend Richard for his exemplary career and tireless efforts. I wish him luck in his future endeavors. It is an honor to represent him in the United States Senate.●

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 100-458, appoints the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) to the Board of Trustees of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development, for a term ending October 11, 2004.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 335

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 1 p.m. on Monday, August 2, the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 191, S. 335, and that it be considered

under the following limitations: 2 hours of total debate on the legislation equally divided between Senator COLLINS and Senator LEVIN or their designees; the only amendment in order be a managers' amendment offered by Senators COLLINS and LEVIN. I further ask unanimous consent that following the expiration or yielding back of debate time and the disposition of the managers' amendment, the bill be read a third time and then temporarily set aside. I finally ask unanimous consent that at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, the Senate proceed to a vote on passage of the bill with no intervening action or debate.

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

ORDER FOR PRINTING OF S. 1344

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that S. 1344, the Patients' Bill of Rights Plus Act, as amended and passed by the Senate on July 15, 1999, be printed as a document of the Senate.

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

EXTENSION OF FUNDING LEVELS FOR AVIATION PROGRAMS

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 1467 introduced earlier today by Senator McCain.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows: A bill (S. 1467) to extend the funding levels for aviation programs for 60 days.

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

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I rise in support of S. 1467. This bill will extend the Federal Aviation Administration's, FAA, Airport Improvement Program, AIP, for sixty days. It is critical that Congress complete the authorization for this program for this fiscal year. Otherwise, the FAA will be prohibited from issuing much-needed grants to airports in every state, regardless of whether or not funds have been appropriated. In fact, there are still nearly \$300 million in appropriated funds for the current fiscal year that cannot be spent because AIP authority expires on August 6.

If we do not act to reauthorize this program for at least the remainder of this fiscal year, we will cause harm to the transportation infrastructure of our country. AIP grants play a critical part in airport development. Without these grants, important safety, security, and capacity projects will be hampered throughout the country. Therefore, we must act swiftly.

The safety of the traveling public depends upon the continued flow of AIP monies. For example, airports use these funds to install instrument landing systems, which help guide airplanes to safe landings when visibility is impaired. AIP funds are also used for airport safety projects related to runway

approach lighting; aircraft deicing equipment; snow removal equipment; repair of damaged runways; rescue and firefighting equipment; and runway safety areas for aircraft that have trouble stopping after a landing. It is my understanding that AIP funds were used to construct an innovative "arrestor bed" at the end of a runway at New York's JFK Airport. A few months ago, that arrestor bed prevented a commuter plane from plunging into a bay. It was credited with saving lives on that flight.

This bill will also extend the Aviation Insurance Program, which is commonly known as the War Risk Insurance Program. It provides insurance for commercial aircraft that are operating in high-risk areas, such as countries at war or on the verge of war. Commercial insurers will not usually provide coverage for such operations, which are often required to further U.S. foreign policy or national security objectives. For example, commercial airlines were needed to ferry troops and equipment to the Middle East for Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. If War Risk Insurance had not been available, our troops may not have been adequately supported.

This extension will also give us more time to work on a more comprehensive aviation bill that is still desperately needed. We have been working hard to accommodate the concerns that many Senators have with respect to provisions in S. 82, the Air Transportation Improvement Act. I believe we can bring a bill to the floor that will require very little of the Senate's time.

Mr. President, I urge all of my colleagues to support swift passage of this short-term extension of the AIP. If we fail to act, the FAA will not be able to address vital security and safety needs in every State in the Nation. We must reaffirm our commitment to providing the public with a safe and efficient air transportation system. This bill will help us meet that goal.

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to this bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 1467) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 1467

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

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, ETC.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 48103 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking "\$2,050,000,000 for the period beginning October 1, 1998 and ending August 6, 1999," and inserting "\$2,410,000,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and \$34,000,000 for the period beginning October 1, 1999, and ending October 5, 1999."

(b) OBLIGATIONAL AUTHORITY.—Section 47104(c) of such title is amended by striking "August 6, 1999," and inserting "October 5, 1999,".

(c) EXTENSION OF AVIATION INSURANCE PROGRAM.—Section 44310 of such title is amended by striking "August 6, 1999," and inserting "October 5, 1999."

(d) AIRWAY FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.—Section 48101(a) of such title is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

"(4) \$30,000,000 for the period beginning October 1, 1999, and ending October 5, 1999."

(e) FAA OPERATIONS.—Section 106(k) of such title is amended by striking "1999," and inserting "1999," and "\$80,000,000 for the period beginning October 1, 1999, and ending October 5, 1999."

(f) LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION.—The provision of the Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999, with the caption "GRANTS-IN-AID FOR AIRPORT (LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION) (AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)" is amended by striking "Code: Provided further, That no more than \$975,000,000 of funds limited under this heading may be obligated prior to the enactment of a bill extending contract authorization for the Grants-in-Aid for Airports program to the third and fourth quarters of fiscal year 1999," and inserting "Code.".

UNITED STATES CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT OF 1999

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 1468 introduced earlier today by Senators LOTT, DASCHLE, and others.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1468) to authorize the minting and issuance of Capitol Visitor Center Commemorative coins, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to this bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 1468) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 1468

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "United States Capitol Visitor Center Commemorative Coin Act of 1999".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) Congress moved to Washington, District of Columbia, and first convened in the Capitol building in the year 1800;

(2) the Capitol building is now the greatest visible symbol of representative democracy in the world;

(3) the Capitol building has approximately 5,000,000 visitors annually and suffers from a lack of facilities necessary to properly serve them;

(4) the Capitol building and persons within the Capitol have been provided with excellent security through the dedication and sacrifice of the United States Capitol Police;

(5) Congress has appropriated \$100,000,000, to be supplemented with private funds, to

construct a Capitol Visitor Center to provide continued high security for the Capitol and enhance the educational experience of visitors to the Capitol;

(6) Congress would like to offer the opportunity for all persons to voluntarily participate in raising funds for the Capitol Visitor Center; and

(7) it is appropriate to authorize coins commemorating the first convening of the Congress in the Capitol building with proceeds from the sale of the coins, less expenses, being deposited for the United States Capitol Preservation Commission with the specific purpose of aiding in the construction, maintenance, and preservation of a Capitol Visitor Center.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) DENOMINATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall mint and issue the following coins:

(1) BIMETALLIC COINS.—Not more than 200,000 \$10 bimetallic coins of gold and platinum, in accordance with such specifications as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 500,000 \$1 coins, which shall—

(A) weigh 26.73 grams;

(B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(C) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(3) HALF DOLLAR.—Not more than 750,000 half dollar clad coins, each of which—

(A) shall weigh 11.34 grams;

(B) have a diameter of 1.205 inches; and

(C) be minted to the specifications for half dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title 31, United States Code.

(b) \$5 GOLD COINS.—If the Secretary determines that the minting and issuance of bimetallic coins under subsection (a)(1) is not feasible, the Secretary may mint and issue instead not more than 100,000 \$5 coins, which shall—

(1) weigh 8.359 grams;

(2) have a diameter of 0.850 inches; and

(3) contain 90 percent gold and 10 percent alloy.

(c) WAIVER.—Each of the mintage levels specified in subsection (a) may be waived in accordance with section 5112(m)(2)(B) of title 31, United States Code.

(d) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

SEC. 4. SOURCES OF BULLION.

(a) PLATINUM AND GOLD.—The Secretary shall obtain platinum and gold for minting coins under this Act from available sources.

(b) SILVER.—The Secretary may obtain silver for minting coins under this Act from stockpiles established under the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act, and from other available sources.

SEC. 5. DESIGN OF COINS.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the first meeting of the United States Congress in the United States Capitol Building.

(2) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act, there shall be—

(A) a designation of the value of the coin;

(B) an inscription of the year "2000"; and

(C) inscriptions of the words "Liberty", "In God We Trust", "United States of America", and "E Pluribus Unum".

(b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted under this Act shall be—

(1) selected by the Secretary, after consultation with the United States Capitol