

S. 1472. A bill to amend chapters 83 and 84 of title 5, United States Code, to modify employee contributions to the Civil Service Retirement System and the Federal Employees Retirement System to the percentages in effect before the statutory temporary increase in calendar year 1999, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. ROBB (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. TORRICELLI, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. HOLLINGS):

S. 1473. A bill to amend section 2007 of the Social Security Act to provide grant funding for additional Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities, and Strategic Planning Communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON:

S. 1474. A bill providing conveyance of the Palmetto Bend project to the State of Texas; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. DODD, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. ROBB, Mr. AKAKA, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. INOUYE):

S.J. Res. 30. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to equal rights for women and men; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. THOMPSON:

S. Res. 170. A resolution recognizing Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, as the birthplace of southern gospel music; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TORRICELLI:

S. Res. 171. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the President should renegotiate the Extradition Treaty Between the United States of America and the United Mexican States; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. VOINOVICH (for himself and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. Con. Res. 49. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the importance of "family friendly" programming on television; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. SARBANES (for himself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. WARNER, Mr. ROBB, and Mr. AKAKA):

S. 1472. A bill to amend chapters 83 and 84 of title 5, United States Code, to modify employee contributions to the Civil Service Retirement System and the Federal Employees Retirement System to the percentages in effect before the statutory temporary increase in calendar year 1999, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

#### FEDERAL EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTIONS ACT OF 1999

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I am again pleased to join with my colleagues, Senators MIKULSKI, WARNER, ROBB and AKAKA, in introducing the Federal Employee Retirement Con-

tributions Act of 1999. This bill makes a technical correction to legislation introduced last week that would return Federal employee retirement contribution rates to their 1998 levels, effective January 1st, 2000. It is my belief that the temporarily increased retirement contributions enacted as part of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 represent an unfair penalty against Federal workers at a time when budget surpluses are predicted into the next ten years.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1472

*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 "Federal Employee Retirement Contributions Act of 1999".

#### SEC. 2. DEDUCTIONS, CONTRIBUTIONS, AND DEPOSITS.

(a) CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT SYSTEM.—The table under section 8334(c) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the matter relating to an employee by striking:

"7.4 January 1, 2000, to December 31, 2000.  
7.5 January 1, 2001, to December 31, 2002.  
7 After December 31, 2002.";

and inserting the following:

"7 After December 31, 1999.";

(2) in the matter relating to a Member or employee for Congressional employee service by striking:

"7.9 January 1, 2000, to December 31, 2000.  
8 January 1, 2001, to December 31, 2002.  
7.5 After December 31, 2002.";

and inserting the following:

"7.5 After December 31, 1999.";

(3) in the matter relating to a Member for Member service by striking:

"8.4 January 1, 2000, to December 31, 2000.  
8.5 January 1, 2001, to December 31, 2002.  
8 After December 31, 2002.";

and inserting the following:

"8 After December 31, 1999.";

(4) in the matter relating to a law enforcement officer for law enforcement service and firefighter for firefighter service by striking:

"7.9 January 1, 2000, to December 31, 2000.  
8 January 1, 2001, to December 31, 2002.  
7.5 After December 31, 2002.";

and inserting the following:

"7.5 After December 31, 1999.";

(5) in the matter relating to a bankruptcy judge by striking:

"8.4 January 1, 2000, to December 31, 2000.  
8.5 January 1, 2001, to December 31, 2002.  
8 After December 31, 2002.";

and inserting the following:

"8 After December 31, 1999.";

(6) in the matter relating to a judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces for service as a judge of that court by striking:

"8.4 January 1, 2000, to December 31, 2000.  
8.5 January 1, 2001, to December 31, 2002.  
8 After December 31, 2002.";

and inserting the following:

"8 After December 31, 1999.";

(7) in the matter relating to a United States magistrate by striking:

"8.4 January 1, 2000, to December 31, 2000.  
8.5 January 1, 2001, to December 31, 2002.  
8 After December 31, 2002.";

and inserting the following:

"8 After December 31, 1999.";

(8) in the matter relating to a Court of Federal Claims judge by striking:

"8.4 January 1, 2000, to December 31, 2000.  
8.5 January 1, 2001, to December 31, 2002.  
8 After December 31, 2002.";

and inserting the following:

"8 After December 31, 1999.";

(9) in the matter relating to the Capitol Police by striking:

"7.9 January 1, 2000, to December 31, 2000.  
8 January 1, 2001, to December 31, 2002.  
7.5 After December 31, 2002.";

and inserting the following:

"7.5 After December 31, 1999.";

and

(10) in the matter relating to a nuclear material courier by striking:

"7.9 January 1, 2000, to December 31, 2000.  
8 January 1, 2001, to December 31, 2002.  
7.5 After December 31, 2002.";

and inserting the following:

"7.5 After December 31, 1999.";

(b) FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM.—Section 8422(a) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

"(3) The applicable percentage under this paragraph for civilian service shall be as follows:

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Employee ..... | 7 January 1, 1987, to December 31, 1998. |
| 7.25           | January 1, 1989, to December 31, 1999.   |
| 7              | After December 31, 1999.                 |

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Congressional employee. | 7.5 January 1, 1987, to December 31, 1998. |
| 7.75                    | January 1, 1989, to December 31, 1999.     |
| 7.5                     | After December 31, 1999.                   |

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Member ..... | 7.5 January 1, 1987, to December 31, 1998. |
| 7.75         | January 1, 1989, to December 31, 1999.     |
| 7.5          | After December 31, 1999.                   |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Law enforcement officer, firefighter, member of the Capitol Police, or air traffic controller. | 7.5 January 1, 1987, to December 31, 1998. |
|--|--|

|                            |      |   |      |
|----------------------------|------|---|------|
| Nuclear materials courier. | 7.75 | January 1, 1999, to December 31, 1999.  | 7.75 |
|                            | 7.5  | After December 31, 1999.  |      |
|                            | 7    | January 1, 1987, to the day before the date of enactment of the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999. |      |
|                            | 7.75 | The date of enactment of the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999 to December 31, 1998.               |      |
|                            | 7.75 | January 1, 1999, to December 31, 1999.  |      |
|                            | 7.5  | After December 31, 1999.".  |      |

**SEC. 3. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO MILITARY AND VOLUNTEER SERVICE UNDER FERS.**

(a) **MILITARY SERVICE.**—Section 8422(e)(6) of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(6) The percentage of basic pay under section 204 of title 37 payable under paragraph (1), with respect to any period of military service performed during January 1, 1999, through December 31, 1999, shall be 3.25 percent.”.

(b) **VOLUNTEER SERVICE.**—Section 8422(f)(4) of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(4) The percentage of the readjustment allowance or stipend (as the case may be) payable under paragraph (1), with respect to any period of volunteer service performed during January 1, 1999, through December 31, 1999, shall be 3.25 percent.”.

**SEC. 4. OTHER FEDERAL RETIREMENT SYSTEMS.**

(a) **CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM.**—

(1) **DEDUCTIONS, WITHHOLDINGS, AND DEPOSITS.**—Section 7001(c)(2) of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (Public Law 105-33; 111 Stat. 659) is amended to read as follows:

“(2) **INDIVIDUAL DEDUCTIONS, WITHHOLDINGS, AND DEPOSITS.**—Notwithstanding section 211(a)(1) of the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement Act (50 U.S.C. 2021(a)(1)) beginning on January 1, 1999, through December 31, 1999, the percentage deducted and withheld from the basic pay of an employee participating in the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System shall be 7.25 percent.”.

(2) **MILITARY SERVICE.**—Section 252(h)(1)(A) of the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement Act (50 U.S.C. 2082(h)(1)(A)), is amended to read as follows:

“(h)(1)(A) Each participant who has performed military service before the date of separation on which entitlement to an annuity under this title is based may pay to the Agency an amount equal to 7 percent of the amount of basic pay paid under section 204 of title 37, United States Code, to the participant for each period of military service after December 1956; except, the amount to be paid for military service performed beginning on January 1, 1999, through December 31, 1999, shall be 7.25 percent of basic pay.”.

(b) **FOREIGN SERVICE RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 7001(d)(2) of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (Public Law 105-33; 111 Stat. 660) is amended by striking subparagraphs (A) and (B) and inserting the following:

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding section 805(a)(1) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4045(a)(1)), beginning on January 1, 1999, through December 31, 1999, the amount withheld and deducted from the basic pay of a participant in the Foreign Service Retire-

ment and Disability System shall be 7.25 percent.

“(B) **FOREIGN SERVICE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS/INSPECTORS OF THE OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL, AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.**—Notwithstanding section 805(a)(2) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4045(a)(2)), beginning on January 1, 1999, through December 31, 1999, the amount withheld and deducted from the basic pay of an eligible Foreign Service criminal investigator/inspector of the Office of the Inspector General, Agency for International Development participating in the Foreign Service Retirement and Disability System shall be 7.75 percent.”.

(2) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—Section 805(d)(1) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4045(d)(1)) is amended in the table in the matter following subparagraph (B) by striking:

|  |      |
|--|------|
| “January 1, 1970, through December 31, 1998, inclusive | 7    |
| January 1, 1999, through December 31, 1999, inclusive  | 7.25 |
| January 1, 2000, through December 31, 2000, inclusive  | 7.4  |
| January 1, 2001, through December 31, 2002, inclusive  | 7.5  |
| After December 31, 2002                                | 7”.  |

and inserting the following:

|  |      |
|--|------|
| “January 1, 1970, through December 31, 1998, inclusive | 7    |
| January 1, 1999, through December 31, 1999, inclusive  | 7.25 |
| After December 31, 1999                                | 7.”. |

(c) **FOREIGN SERVICE PENSION SYSTEM.**—(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 856(a)(2) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4071e(a)(2)) is amended to read as follows:

(2) The applicable percentage under this subsection shall be as follows:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| “7.5 Before January 1, 1999.                |  |
| 7.75 January 1, 1999, to December 31, 1999. |  |
| 7.5 After December 31, 1999.”.              |  |

(2) **VOLUNTEER SERVICE.**—Section 854(c)(1) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4071c(c)(1)) is amended by striking all after “volunteer service;” and inserting “except, the amount to be paid for volunteer service beginning on January 1, 1999, through December 31, 1999, shall be 3.25 percent.”.

**SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall take effect on December 31, 1999.

By Mr. ROBB (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. TORRICELLI, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. HOLLINGS):

S. 1473. A bill to amend section 2007 of the Social Security Act to provide grant funding for additional Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities, and Strategic Planning Communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

**EMPOWERMENT ZONES AND ENTERPRISE COMMUNITIES ACT**

• Mr. ROBB. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce today important legislation that will help low-income rural and urban areas nationwide reinvigorate their communities.

The Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities Act will fully fund the Round II Enterprise Zones authorized by Congress in 1997. The Enter-

prise Zones/Enterprise Community (EZ/ECs) concept combines tax credits and social service grants to promote long-term economic revitalization. The most important aspect of Enterprise Zones are their inclusive approach—by design—so local government, the private sector and non-profit and civic groups together create a vision and a plan to implement that vision, with the federal government playing a supportive role rather than the lead role.

I'm sure many Senators can point with pride to the successes within their own states, but I'd like to take a moment to talk about the Norfolk-Portsmouth Enterprise Zone (EZ) in my state of Virginia. The Norfolk-Portsmouth EZ won its new designation in 1997. One of the many services Norfolk-Portsmouth provides through Norfolk Works, Inc. the entity implementing the many activities of the EZ, are GED classes and job training and apprenticeship programs. There's even a Multi-media Training Course, which includes an 15-week internship at a media company. Norfolk Works also recruits and screen applicants for jobs. And they don't do this alone: Norfolk Works coordinates with many agencies, organizations and businesses to help the residents within the Norfolk-Portsmouth Zone. Already, the Norfolk Works has produced impressive results—from May 1995 to June 1999, 60 percent of those completing training are employed with another 16% involved in additional training.

The success of the Norfolk-Portsmouth Enterprise Zone is just one example of the promise and results of Enterprise Zones. But unlike Round I EZ/ECs, Round II EZ/ECs did not receive the Social Service Block Grant (SSBG) that provides resources for social services such as job training and child care which complements the tax incentives and bonding authority already approved.

Communities competed for these designations with the understanding that Congress would give them the full funding to implement their vision. We have a responsibility to fulfill our obligations to these communities, that worked very hard to win the resources to make their vision a reality.

I look forward to working with our colleagues to fulfill this promise.●

**ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS**

S. 307

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 37, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the restriction on payment for certain hospital discharges to post-acute care imposed by section 4407 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

S. 307

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. GRAMS) was added as a cosponsor