

(2) The transport process can last for days if not weeks, as violent prisoners are dropped off and picked up at a network of hubs across the country.

(3) Escapes by violent prisoners during transport by private prisoner transport companies have occurred.

(4) Oversight by the Attorney General is required to address these problems.

(5) While most governmental entities may prefer to use, and will continue to use, fully trained and sworn law enforcement officers when transporting violent prisoners, fiscal or logistical concerns may make the use of highly specialized private prisoner transport companies an option. Nothing in this Act should be construed to mean that governmental entities should contract with private prisoner transport companies to move violent prisoners; however when a government entity opts to use a private prisoner transport company to move violent prisoners, then the company should be subject to regulation in order to enhance public safety.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **CRIME OF VIOLENCE.**—The term “crime of violence” has the same meaning as in section 924(c)(3) of title 18, United States Code.

(2) **PRIVATE PRISONER TRANSPORT COMPANY.**—The term “private prisoner transport company” means any entity, other than the United States, a State, or an inferior political subdivision of a State, which engages in the business of the transporting for compensation, individuals committed to the custody of any State or of an inferior political subdivision of a State, or any attempt thereof.

(3) **VIOLENT PRISONER.**—The term “violent prisoner” means any individual in the custody of a State or an inferior political subdivision of a State who has previously been convicted of or is currently charged with a crime of violence or any similar statute of a State or the inferior political subdivisions of a State, or any attempt thereof.

SEC. 4. FEDERAL REGULATION OF PRISONER TRANSPORT COMPANIES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, in consultation with the American Correctional Association and the private prisoner transport industry, shall promulgate regulations relating to the transportation of violent prisoners in or affecting interstate commerce.

(b) **STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS.**—The regulations shall include the following:

(1) Minimum standards for background checks and preemployment drug testing for potential employees, including requiring criminal background checks, to disqualify persons with a felony conviction or domestic violence conviction as defined by section 921 of title 18, United States Code, for eligibility for employment. Preemployment drug testing will be in accordance with applicable State laws.

(2) Minimum standards for the length and type of training that employees must undergo before they can transport prisoners not to exceed 100 hours of preservice training focusing on the transportation of prisoners. Training shall be in the areas of use of restraints, searches, use of force, including use of appropriate weapons and firearms, CPR, map reading, and defensive driving.

(3) Restrictions on the number of hours that employees can be on duty during a given time period. Such restriction shall not be more stringent than current applicable rules and regulations concerning hours of service promulgated under the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

(4) Minimum standards for the number of personnel that must supervise violent prisoners. Such standards shall provide the transport entity with appropriate discretion, and, absent more restrictive requirements contracted for by the procuring government entity, shall not exceed a

requirement of 1 agent for every 6 violent prisoners.

(5) Minimum standards for employee uniforms and identification that require wearing of a uniform with a badge or insignia identifying the employee as a transportation officer.

(6) Standards establishing categories of violent prisoners required to wear brightly colored clothing clearly identifying them as prisoners, when appropriate.

(7) Minimum requirements for the restraints that must be used when transporting violent prisoners, to include leg shackles and double-locked handcuffs, when appropriate.

(8) A requirement that when transporting violent prisoners, private prisoner transport companies notify local law enforcement officials 24 hours in advance of any scheduled stops in their jurisdiction.

(9) A requirement that in the event of an escape by a violent prisoner, private prisoner transport company officials shall immediately notify appropriate law enforcement officials in the jurisdiction where the escape occurs, and the governmental entity that contracted with the private prisoner transport company for the transport of the escaped violent prisoner.

(10) Minimum standards for the safety of violent prisoners in accordance with applicable Federal and State law.

(c) **FEDERAL STANDARDS.**—Except for the requirements of subsection (b)(6), the regulations promulgated under this Act shall not provide stricter standards with respect to private prisoner transport companies than are applicable, without exception, to the United States Marshals Service, Federal Bureau of Prisons, and the Immigration and Naturalization Service when transporting violent prisoners under comparable circumstances.

SEC. 5. ENFORCEMENT.

(a) **PENALTY.**—Any person who is found in violation of the regulations established by this Act shall—

(1) be liable to the United States for a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 for each violation and, in addition, to the United States for the costs of prosecution; and

(2) make restitution to any entity of the United States, of a State, or of an inferior political subdivision of a State, which expends funds for the purpose of apprehending any violent prisoner who escapes from a prisoner transport company as the result, in whole or in part, of a violation of regulations promulgated pursuant to section 4(a).

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I rise today to express my strong support for S. 1898, the Interstate Transportation of Dangerous Criminals Act, also known as “Jeanna’s bill.” I worked with Senator DORGAN in developing this legislation, which passed the Judiciary Committee in September with unanimous bipartisan support. I praise Senator DORGAN’s leadership, and am proud to be an original cosponsor.

Kyle Bell was sentenced to life in prison for the brutal murder of 11-year old Jeanna North. On October 13, 1999, Bell escaped, while being transferred interstate by a private prisoner transport company. He picked the locks on his handcuffs and leg irons, and slipped off the bus while it was stopped for gas in New Mexico. He was wearing his own street clothes and shoes. The guards did not notice that Bell was missing until nine hours later, and then delayed in notifying New Mexico authorities.

Kyle Bell’s escape is not an isolated case. In recent years, there have been several escapes by violent criminals

when vans operated by private prisoner transport companies broke down or guards fell asleep on duty. There have also been an alarming number of traffic accidents in which prisoners were seriously injured or killed because drivers were tired, inattentive or poorly trained.

Privatization of prisons and prisoner transportation services may be cost efficient, but public safety must come first. Jeanna’s bill, S. 1898, requires the Attorney General to establish some basic, common-sense guidelines for private companies that transport violent criminals across State lines, including:

minimum standards for pre-employment background checks;

minimum standards for training employees;

minimum standards for the identification, restraint, and safety of violent prisoners; and

a requirement that private prisoner transport companies notify local law enforcement in advance of any stops in their jurisdiction.

A violation is punishable by a \$10,000 fine, plus restitution for the cost of recapturing any violent prisoner who escapes as the result of such violation. This should create a healthy incentive for companies to abide by the regulations and operate responsibly.

As Senator DORGAN has pointed out, a company hauling hazardous waste, cattle, or even circus animals has to meet certain minimum standards. Yet there are no requirements for hauling violent criminals around the country.

Jeanna’s bill has been endorsed by a wide range of law enforcement and victims’ rights groups, including the National Sheriff’s Association, the National Association of Police Organizations, the Fraternal Order of Police, the California Correctional Peace Officers Association, the New York Correctional Officers and Police Benevolent Association, the National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children, the KlassKids Foundation, and many others. It will go a long way toward preventing more violent criminals from escaping. I am pleased that the Senate is finally passing this important legislation, and urge the House of Representatives to do the same.

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

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

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill (S. 1898), as amended, was read the third time and passed.

AMENDING THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 3239, introduced earlier

today by Senators HELMS and KENNEDY.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3239) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide special immigrant status for certain United States international broadcasting employees.

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

Mrs. HUTCHISON. 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 that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 3239) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 3239

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

SECTION 1. SPECIAL IMMIGRANT STATUS FOR CERTAIN UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING EMPLOYEES.

(a) SPECIAL IMMIGRANT CATEGORY.—Section 101(a)(27) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(27)) is amended—

(1) by striking “or” at the end of subparagraph (K);

(2) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (L); and

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

“(M) subject to the numerical limitations of section 203(b)(4), an immigrant who seeks to enter the United States to work as a broadcaster in the United States for the International Broadcasting Bureau of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, or for a grantee of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, and the immigrant’s accompanying spouse and children.”.

(b) NUMERICAL LIMITATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 203(b)(4) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1153(b)(4)) is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, and not more than 100 may be made available in any fiscal year to special immigrants, excluding spouses and children, who are described in section 101(a)(27)(M)”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply to visas made available in any fiscal year beginning on or after October 1, 2000.

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER CONFIDENTIALITY ACT OF 2000

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of H.R. 3218, which is at the desk.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3218) to amend title 31, United States Code, to prohibit the appearance of Social Security account numbers on or through unopened mailings of checks or other drafts issued on public money in the Treasury.

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

Mrs. HUTCHISON. 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 that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 3218) was read the third time and passed.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN BELARUS

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 153 and the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 153) expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the parliamentary elections held in Belarus on October 15, 2000, and for other purposes.

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

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Con. Res. 153) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 153

Whereas on October 15, 2000, Aleksandr Lukashenko and his authoritarian regime conducted an illegitimate and undemocratic parliamentary election in an effort to further strengthen the power and control his authoritarian regime exercises over the people of the Republic of Belarus;

Whereas during the time preceding this election the regime of Aleksandr Lukashenko attempted to intimidate the democratic opposition by beating, harassing, arresting, and sentencing its members for supporting a boycott of the October 15 election even though Belarus does not contain a legal ban on efforts to boycott elections;

Whereas the democratic opposition in Belarus was denied fair and equal access to state-controlled television and radio and was instead slandered by the state-controlled media;

Whereas on September 13, 2000, Belarusian police seized 100,000 copies of a special edition of the Belarusian Free Trade Union newspaper, *Rabochy*, dedicated to the democratic opposition’s efforts to promote a boycott of the October 15 election;

Whereas Aleksandr Lukashenko and his regime denied the democratic opposition in Belarus seats on the Central Election Commission, thereby violating his own pledge to provide the democratic opposition a role in this Commission;

Whereas Aleksandr Lukashenko and his regime denied the vast majority of inde-

pendent candidates opposed to his regime the right to register as candidates in this election;

Whereas Aleksandr Lukashenko and his regime dismissed recommendations presented by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) for making the election law in Belarus consistent with OSCE standards;

Whereas in Grodno, police loyal to Aleksandr Lukashenko summoned voters to participate in this illegitimate election for parliament;

Whereas the last genuinely free and fair parliamentary election in Belarus took place in 1995 and from it emerged the 13th Supreme Soviet whose democratically and constitutionally derived authorities and powers have been undercut by the authoritarian regime of Aleksandr Lukashenko; and

Whereas on October 11, the Lukashenko regime froze the bank accounts and seized the equipment of the independent publishing company, *Magic*, where most of the independent newspapers in Minsk are published: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON BELARUS PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS.

Congress hereby—

(1) declares that—

(A) the period preceding the elections held in Belarus held on October 15, 2000, was plagued by continued human rights abuses and a climate of fear for which the regime of Aleksandr Lukashenko is responsible;

(B) these elections were conducted in the absence of a democratic electoral law;

(C) the Lukashenko regime purposely denied the democratic opposition access to state-controlled media; and

(D) these elections were for seats in a parliament that lacks real constitutional power and democratic legitimacy;

(2) declares its support for the Belarus’ democratic opposition, commends the efforts of the opposition to boycott these illegitimate parliamentary elections, and expresses the hopes of Congress that the citizens of Belarus will soon benefit from true freedom and democracy;

(3) reaffirms its recognition of the 13th Supreme Soviet as the sole and democratically and constitutionally legitimate legislative body of Belarus; and

(4) notes that, as the legitimate parliament of Belarus, the 13th Supreme Soviet should continue to represent Belarus in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON DISAPPEARANCES OF INDIVIDUALS AND POLITICAL DETENTIONS IN BELARUS.

It is the sense of Congress that the President should call upon Aleksandr Lukashenko and his regime to—

(1) provide a full accounting of the disappearances of individuals in that country, including the disappearance of Viktor Gonchar, Anatoly Krasovsky, Yuri Zakharenka, and Dmitry Zavadsky; and

(2) release Vladimir Kudinov, Andrei Klimov, and all others imprisoned in Belarus for their political views.

SEC. 3. TRANSMITTAL OF RESOLUTION.

The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the President.

JAMES GUELFF BODY ARMOR ACT OF 2000

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 733, S. 783, by Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN.