

U.S.C. 426(b)(2)) or section 226A(a) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 426-1(a))."; and

(2) in paragraph (4), by striking "paragraph (1) who satisfy only the criteria specified in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (2), but not subparagraph (C) of such paragraph," and inserting "subparagraph (B) of paragraph (2) who do not satisfy the condition specified in subparagraph (A) of such paragraph".

(b) EXTENSION OF TRICARE SENIOR PRIME DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—Paragraph (4) of section 1896(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ggg(b)) is amended by striking "3-year period beginning on January 1, 1998" and inserting "period beginning on January 1, 1998, and ending on December 31, 2001".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATES.—(1) The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect on October 1, 2001 and terminates September 30, 2004.

(2) The amendment made by subsection (b) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I believe my distinguished colleague from Michigan has a request, and then I will present a UC request to the Senate.

Mr. LEVIN. I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from Washington be recognized for 8 minutes as in morning business.

Mr. WARNER. Could I put in a UC request before that?

Would the Senator forbear and allow me to put in a UC request?

Mr. President, in consultation with the majority leader, the Democratic leader, and my colleague, Senator LEVIN—while I had hoped we could continue with votes tonight—we have now reached the following recommendation in the form of a UC request.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from Virginia be recognized to modify his amendment, and following the modification of the amendment, the amendment be laid aside and Senator ROBERT KERREY be recognized to offer an amendment relative to strategic forces, and immediately following the reporting by the clerk, the Senator from Virginia be recognized to offer a second-degree amendment.

I further ask consent that following the debate tonight, there be 90 minutes additional beginning at 9:30 a.m. on the strategic forces issue, to be equally divided in the usual form, and following that debate, the amendments be laid aside.

I also ask consent that following that debate, the Senate resume the amendment of the Senator from Virginia, amendment No. 3173, and it be laid aside in order for Senator JOHNSON to offer a similar amendment, and there be 2 hours, equally divided, total, for debate on both amendments, and following that debate, the Senate proceed to vote in relation to the amendments.

I also ask consent that there be no amendments in order to either of the four amendments described above, or the language proposed to be stricken, and there be 2 minutes for explanation prior to each vote. The voting order for tomorrow would be as follows: Warner amendment No. 3173; Johnson amendment; Warner second degree to Kerrey;

Kerrey first degree, as amended, if amended.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. LEVIN. Reserving the right to object, and I will not, I just want to be clear that the Senator from Washington would be recognized prior to Senator KERREY, and that that time would not come out of any time indicated.

Mr. WARNER. I have no objection to that.

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

Mr. WARNER. I thank the Chair and thank my colleagues for working out this UC.

If I could just make an announcement, in light of this agreement, there will be no further votes tonight. However, Members should be aware that at least two, and up to four, back-to-back votes will occur sometime tomorrow commencing at around 12:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. I thank the Chair and thank my colleagues for yielding me this time.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE BELLINGHAM PIPELINE ACCIDENT

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I rise today to mark a solemn occasion in the lives of the people of my home State of Washington.

Many of my colleagues have heard me talk on the Senate floor about pipeline safety.

Today I want to remind everyone of the reason I have become such a strong advocate for improving pipeline safety.

June 10—one year ago, coming up this Saturday—will be the first anniversary of a horrible pipeline accident in Bellingham, WA.

In that accident, a gasoline pipeline ruptured and released more than 275,000 gallons of gasoline into Whatcom Creek. That gasoline caught fire and sent a fireball racing 1½ miles down the creek side. It created a plume of black smoke that rose more than 20,000 feet into the air.

Two 10-year-old boys and a young man were enjoying the outdoors on that quiet summer afternoon. Tragically, they died as a result of that pipeline rupture.

Three families in Bellingham, WA, will never be the same because of the events that took place on June 10, 1999.

As we mark this anniversary, we can never forget the lives that were lost.

For just a moment I want to ask my colleagues and the American people to pay tribute to those young lives; Wade King, Stephen Tsiorvas, and Liam Wood. I also want to honor their parents—who have endured a loss that no family should have to experience.

They have shown such strength and courage. They have led the charge for safer pipelines, and their advocacy has made a difference.

Their courage was clear to everyone who attended the Senate Commerce

Committee field hearing in Bellingham on March 13 and to everyone who heard them testify just last month here in Washington, DC, before the Commerce Committee.

They came to Washington, DC, to ask for one thing. They want this Congress to improve pipeline standards this year. This Congress—this year.

I believe we have a moral obligation to do everything we can to meet the parents' wishes and to protect everyone else from pipeline hazards. That is why I have been working to raise the safety standards for oil and gas pipelines.

There are 2.2 million miles of pipelines running across the country. They run near our schools, our homes, and our communities.

They perform a vital service. They bring us the energy we need to fuel our cars and heat our homes.

But at the same time, they are not as safe as they could be. We have a responsibility to pass a bill this year that will protect families from the dangers of unsafe pipelines.

To be honest, I—like many Americans—was not aware of those dangers until the accident in my State.

But as I spent months learning about pipelines, I found that the accident in my State was not a rare event.

Since 1986, there have been more than 5,700 pipeline accidents in this country, 325 deaths, 1,500 injuries, and almost \$1 billion in environmental damage.

On average there is one pipeline accident every day in this country, and 6 million hazardous gallons are spilled into our environment every year.

That is why back in January I introduced my own pipeline safety bill—the Pipeline Safety Act of 2000. I want to thank the Members who have signed on as cosponsors—Senators INOUE, GORTON, WYDEN, LAUTENBERG, and BAYH.

I want my colleagues to know, in the 4 months since I introduced my pipeline safety bill, at least 20 States have experienced pipeline accidents. In addition to my bill, pipeline safety measures have been offered by Senate Commerce Committee Chairman JOHN MCCAIN and by the administration.

I am pleased that all of the current proposals touch on five key areas of pipeline safety. First, all of these bills recognize the need to improve pipeline inspection and accident prevention practices, second, they recognize the need to develop and invest in new safety and inspection technology, third—and importantly—they expand the Public's right to know about problems with pipelines in their neighborhoods, fourth, they recognize that States can be better partners in improving pipeline safety. Finally, these bills increase funding for new State and Federal pipeline safety programs.

I thank Senator MCCAIN for the strong personal interest he has taken in this issue. I thank him for the very effective way he has worked to move this legislation forward. The Senate

Commerce Committee has tentatively scheduled a markup session for June 15.

Senator GORTON and I are working with both the majority and minority members of the Senate Commerce Committee to come up with a manager's package that will meet the standards we have outlined and will be acceptable to as many members as possible.

As we work here in the Senate on this important legislation, I want to encourage my colleagues in the House of Representatives to move forward quickly on their legislation so this Congress can pass a bill this year.

One of the things that has been so important over the past year is that so many people have come together to improve pipeline safety. And while I don't have time to thank them all, I do want to mention a few.

First among them is Bellingham's Mayor Mark Asmundson, who has done more to educate the public and legislators about pipeline safety than anyone I know.

I also want to recognize Transportation Secretary Rodney Slater who stationed a pipeline inspector in my State after the accident, and DOT Inspector General Kenneth Mead, who issued a report at my request on the Office of Pipeline Safety.

I also thank the President and the Vice President for their leadership.

In particular, the Vice President took the time to learn about this issue when he was in my State. He recognizes its importance, and he sent the administration's pipeline safety bill to the Senate.

I also thank the rest of the Washington State delegation—which has come together across party lines to address this issue—particularly my colleague Senator GORTON, along with Representatives from our delegation.

And of course, I want to recognize Washington State Governor, Gary Locke, for the work he has done to raise pipeline standards in our State.

Mr. President, one year has passed since the accident in Bellingham, WA, that you can see on the chart behind me.

We have made some progress, but we need to finish the job.

We need to pass a strong pipeline safety bill this year. We owe it to the people of Bellingham, the victim's families, and to the American people. As we mark the 1-year anniversary of the Bellingham explosion, we must answer the call of the families with a strong bill. Nothing can ease the pain of this anniversary for so many people in my State, but we can and we must use this occasion to enact stronger pipeline safety standards.

I yield the floor.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska is recognized.

AMENDMENT NO. 3183

(Purpose: To repeal a limitation on retirement and dismantlement of strategic nuclear delivery systems)

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nebraska [Mr. KERREY], for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. DURBIN, proposes an amendment numbered 3183.

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

Strike section 1017 and insert the following:

SEC. 1017. REPEAL OF LIMITATION ON RETIREMENT OR DISMANTLEMENT OF STRATEGIC NUCLEAR DELIVERY SYSTEMS IN EXCESS OF MILITARY REQUIREMENTS.

Section 1302 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998 (Public Law 105-85; 111 Stat. 1948) is repealed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

AMENDMENT NO. 3184 TO AMENDMENT NO. 3183

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I send a second-degree amendment to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Virginia [Mr. WARNER] proposes an amendment numbered 3184 to amendment No. 3183.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

In lieu of the language proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

“SEC. 1017. CORRECTION OF SCOPE OF WAIVER AUTHORITY FOR LIMITATION ON RETIREMENT OR DISMANTLEMENT OF STRATEGIC NUCLEAR DELIVERY SYSTEMS; AUTHORITY TO WAIVE LIMITATION

“(a) Section 1302(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998 (Public Law 105-85; 111 Stat. 1948), as amended by section 1501(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000 (Public Law 106-65; 113 Stat. 806), is further amended by striking “the application of the limitation in effect under paragraph (1)(B) or (3) of subsection (a), as the case may be,” and inserting “the application of the limitation in effect under subsection (a) to a strategic nuclear delivery system”.

“(b) AUTHORITY TO WAIVE LIMITATION ON RETIREMENT OR DISMANTLEMENT OF STRATEGIC NUCLEAR DELIVERY SYSTEMS.—After the submission of the report on the results of the nuclear posture review to Congress under section 1015(c)—

“(1) the Secretary of Defense shall, taking into consideration the results of the review, submit to the President a recommendation regarding whether the President should waive the limitation on the retirement or dismantlement of strategic nuclear delivery systems in section 1302 of the National De-

fense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998 (Public Law 105-85; 111 Stat. 1948); and

“(2) the President, taking into consideration the results of the review and the recommendation made by the Secretary of Defense under paragraph (1), may waive the limitation referred to in that paragraph if the President determines that it is in the national security interests of the United States to do so.”.

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays on this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska is recognized.

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, in 1998, the Congress, for the first time in the history of strategic nuclear weapons policy, imposed upon a President a limitation on what that President could do in terms of reducing nuclear weapons. It imposed a floor at the START I levels, which is roughly 6,000 strategic nuclear weapons. It said the President could not go below 6,000, unless and until the Duma ratified START II.

Last year, when I attempted to eliminate this restriction—which I believe is putting a position upon an Executive that would be very difficult to sustain if we were discussing this in the clear light of day, if it was understood by the American people that this was what we were doing—many people on that side of the aisle said: We believe this language will put pressure upon the Duma to ratify START II. The argument carried the day in a close vote of 54-46; the current policy was sustained. The language in the current law is section 1302 of the National Defense Authorization Act. It references that section 1017 of this particular legislation we are considering right now was held in law.

Well, since that time, the Duma has ratified START II. I expected to bring this language to the floor this year with open arms. It worked. We put in a floor and said the United States could not go any lower, declared victory, and the Duma ratified START II. Instead, we have an alternative proposal the Senator from Virginia has offered that has a certain amount of appeal because it requires a strategic review of our nuclear force structure. After that review, it gives the President authority, subject to what the review says, to waive the provisions of 1302 if the President says it is in the national security interest to do so.

It still puts us in a position—whether it is President Clinton or, if Vice President GORE wins the election, President GORE or, if Governor Bush wins, President Bush—the President will be prevented by Congress from reducing nuclear weapons below the START I levels, below 6,000, unless the President of the United States can accelerate a strategic review. I guess that is possible. I would like to find out from the authors of this second degree if that is their understanding. In other words,