

of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Indiana" (FRL # 6538-5), received February 15, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7752. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Volatile Organic Compound Emission Standards for Architectural Coatings" (FRL # 6539-2), received February 15, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7753. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Technical Amendment: Requirements for Preparation, Adoption, and Submittal of State Implementation Plans" (FRL # 6540-1), received February 15, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-416. A resolution adopted by the Council of the Borough of Ship Bottom, NJ relative to the disposal of dredge materials at the Mud Dump site; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-417. A petition from a citizen of the District of Columbia relative to the District of Columbia Housing Authority Act of 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

POM-418. A resolution adopted by the National Conference of Insurance Legislators Executive Committee relative to the Federalism Act; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

POM-419. A resolution adopted by the Municipal Assembly of San Juan, PR relative to Vieques, PR; to the Committee on Armed Services.

RESOLUTION 35

Whereas, The Municipal Assembly of San Juan approved a resolution the 29 of April of 1999 requiring the United States Navy to cease immediately and permanently all military practices, bombardments and exercises in Vieques, as well as their total withdrawal from that island, returning to the people of Puerto Rico the lands that the Navy now occupies.

Whereas, The Assembly recognizes that the military practices, exercises, and bombardments in Vieques and its surroundings have been continuous during the last 50 years, affecting the 9,300 residents of that Municipality negatively;

Whereas, In addition to the continuous threat to the safety, health and human life that these military exercises mean in Vieques, they have had a harmful effect on the environment as a whole and in particular, on marine life and the natural beauty of this island.

Whereas, In an historical effort of solidarity regarding the suffering of the people of Vieques, the political, religious, and civic leadership of Puerto Rico, came together with the purpose of calling for the immediate cease of all military exercises by the Navy on soil and beaches of Vieques and for the unconditional and immediate exit of the Navy from this island-municipality, and hereby petition President, Hon. William Jefferson Clinton to that effect.

Whereas, The Mayor of San Juan, Hon. Sila M. Calderon, has made a particular ef-

fort to this effect as have other Puerto Rican leaders in Puerto Rico and in the United States.

Whereas, President Clinton has received pressures from the Pentagon and certain congressional leaders favoring the permanency of the Navy on Vieques, and has disappointed the people of Puerto Rico who had placed their hope in him. President Clinton emitted a decision, which permits the Navy to continue with their war exercises in Vieques for approximately five years. This decision does not establish a specific date for the absolute and total exit of the Navy from Vieques.

Whereas, The action taken by President Clinton is unacceptable to this City Council, as it is for all the Puerto Rican people who are allied in brotherhood with the people of Vieques: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the San Juan City Council:

Section 1, To express strong rejection of the President of the United States, Hon. William Jefferson Clinton's decision on the case of Vieques; to support the actions accomplished by the Puerto Rican leadership and in particular by the people of Vieques, for the Navy to leave that territory as soon as possible without imposing conditions; to support the negotiations of the Mayor of San Juan, Hon. Sila M. Calderon, in connection with this matter; and to urge the members of congress and elected officials of New York and other states to join the people of Puerto Rico in this effort.

Section 2, To send a copy of this resolution, duly translated to the English Language, to the President of the United States, Hon. William Jefferson Clinton; to the Congress, and to the press.

Section 3, This resolution will come into effect immediately after its approval.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first time and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. GRAMM (for himself, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. MACK):

S. 2107. A bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to reduce securities fees in excess of those required to fund the operations of the Securities and Exchange Commission, to adjust compensation provisions for employees of the Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. TORRICELLI:

S. 2108. A bill to provide for disclosure of fire safety standards and measures with respect to campus buildings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. TORRICELLI:

S. 2109. A bill to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to require local educational agencies and schools to implement integrated pest management systems to minimize the use of pesticides in schools and to provide parents, guardians, and employees with notice of the use of pesticides in schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. KYL:

S. 2110. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for payment of claims by health care providers against insolvent Medicare+Choice Organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 2111. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey for fair market value

1.06 acres of land in the San Bernardino National Forest, California, to KATY 101.3 FM, a California corporation; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. TORRICELLI (for himself, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KERRY, and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. 2112. A bill to provide housing assistance to domestic violence victims; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. ASHCROFT (for himself, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. HUTCHINSON, and Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire):

S. Res. 263. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the President should communicate to the members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries ("OPEC") cartel and non-OPEC countries that participate in the cartel of crude oil producing countries, before the meeting of the OPEC nations in March 2000, the position of the United States in favor of increasing world crude oil supplies so as to achieve stable crude oil prices; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. KYL:

S. 2110. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for payment of claims by health care providers against insolvent Medicare+Choice Organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

BANKRUPTCY OF PREMIER HMO

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I rise to bring to the attention of the Senate a serious problem facing many thousands of Medicare beneficiaries in Arizona. On November 16, 1999, Premier Health Care of Arizona went into receivership. The health care of more than 20,000 Medicare beneficiaries who were enrolled in Premier has been affected by this solvency.

Since Premier Medicare HMO was placed in receivership, I have been advised that some non-contract providers—providers outside of the HMO network—have asserted that Medicare beneficiaries are personally liable for unpaid claims and have referred the outstanding claims to collection agencies.

These unpaid claims—some of which may date back more than six months and amount to significant sums of money—have made it difficult for many contract and non-contract providers to continue to provide care to Medicare beneficiaries. Because Premier operated in a largely rural area where few alternative providers were accessible, this has created a dire health-care delivery situation for Medicare beneficiaries.

Mr. President, today I introduce legislation that addresses the Arizona situation, as well as future

Medicare+Choice insolvencies, whenever they may occur. This legislation mandates that, after a Medicare+Choice goes into receivership, the receiver—in this case, the state insurance commissioner—may apply to the Secretary of HHS for payment of all valid, unpaid provider claims for items or services furnished to Medicare enrollees before the date the receiver was appointed.

Contract providers will be paid at their contract rate, while non-contract providers will be paid for the "reasonable cost" of the covered item or service. Amounts needed to make these payments will be paid out of the Part A or Part B trust fund, as is appropriate based on which fund would have paid the claim on a fee-for-services basis.

To recover these amounts paid to providers, the bill establishes that HCFA will become a creditor of the receivership estate and assumes the priority position of the respective providers it has paid.

The bill also mandates that Medicare+Choice enrollees may not be held liable to contract or non-contract providers for any claims that are unpaid by the Medicare+Choice organization.

While the regulation of state-licensed Medicare+Choice organizations is primarily a state responsibility, the Medicare law makes clear that the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the administrator of HCFA have an ongoing "responsibility to ensure that it (HCFA) contracts only with fiscally-sound Medicare+Choice organizations."

To this end, Section 1857(d) gives the Secretary the right to audit and inspect any books and records that pertain either to the ability of the Medicare HMO to bear the risk of potential financial loss, or to the quality and timeliness of services provided for Medicare beneficiaries. See 42 CFR 422.502, 516 and 552.

My bill strengthens current law and regulation by requiring that, once HCFA determines that a Medicare+Choice organization may not be able to bear the risk of financial losses, the Secretary must promptly notify the appropriate state officials and provide those officials with the information on which that determination is based.

The bill also strengthens current law by requiring that, when Medicare+Choice organizations fail to provide prompt payments to providers, the Secretary must pay providers directly. Under my bill, if the Medicare+Choice plan fails to provide prompt payment of 10 percent of claims submitted for services and supplies furnished to enrollees within 60 days of the date on which the claim was submitted, the Secretary must pay contract and non-contract providers directly—there is no discretion as there is in current law.

To avoid a repeat of this problem with other carriers in the future, the bill requires that Medicare+Choice or-

ganizations post a surety bond of no less than \$500,000, as well as meet any additional requirements related to bonding or escrow accounts that the Secretary deems necessary. The bond requirement may be waived if a comparable surety bond is required under state law.

Mr. President, this legislation will enable the government to fulfill its promise to those seniors who have chosen to receive their Medicare coverage through a Medicare+Choice organization. It will prevent seniors from being billed for covered services and providers from losing large sums in unpaid bills.

If providers aren't paid, many may be unwilling—or unable—to continue providing care. If quality care is not available through experienced providers, or if seniors are the subject of legal action for the bills of insolvent Medicare+Choice organizations, beneficiaries will lose confidence in the Medicare+Choice programs, and ultimately, in Medicare fee-for-service as well. We simply can't let that happen.

The Congress must ensure that providers are paid and Medicare beneficiaries are protected. This is a commitment we have made to seniors—it is a commitment we must fulfill.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 2111. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey for fair market value 1.06 acres of land in the San Bernardino National Forest, California to KATY 101.3 FM, a California corporation; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

LAND CONVEYANCE TO KATY

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President. I am pleased to introduce this bill today to assist Katy Gill, the owner of KATY radio, a station broadcasting out of a one acre parcel of the San Bernardino Forest and acting as an important public service announcement source for the residents of Idylwood, California.

KATY radio has been caught up in some unfortunate circumstances involving an antennae site that the station had at one time, been leasing from GTE. When GTE decided to move out of the area, KATY was no longer able to legally operate. This bill will allow KATY to purchase at fair market value the title to 1.06 acres of land in San Bernardino National Forest so that the station could continue broadcasting.

This legislation is supported by the Forest Service and KATY radio station listeners throughout Idylwood, California. I know of no opposition to such legislation. Representatives MARY BONO, JERRY LEWIS and DON YOUNG have introduced similar legislation in the House. I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House and the relevant Senate committee members to ensure that we address this issue before the end of the 106th Congress.

By Mr. TORRICELLI (for himself, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KERRY, and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. 2112. A bill to provide housing assistance to domestic violence victims; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIM'S HOUSING ACT

• Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise with my colleagues Senator JEFFORDS, Senator LANDRIEU, Senator MURRAY, and Senator KERRY to introduce "The Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Victim's Housing Act of 2000." This legislation provides funding for shelter assistance to women and children fleeing domestic violence, stalking, and sexual assault. Due to the fact that domestic violence victims often have no safe place to go and financial obstacles make it difficult to rebuild lives, this funding is needed to help support a continuum between emergency shelter and independent living.

In my home state of New Jersey, one act of domestic violence occurs approximately every six minutes and thirty-seven seconds. Nationally, it is estimated that a woman is beaten every fifteen seconds. Yet, many individuals and families fleeing domestic violence are forced to return to their abusers because of inadequate shelter or lack of money. Half of all homeless women and children are fleeing domestic violence. Even if they leave their abusers to go to a shelter, they often return home because the isolation from familiar surroundings, friends, and neighborhood resources makes them feel even more vulnerable. Shelters and transitional facilities are often located far from a victim's neighborhood. And, if emergency shelter is available, a supply of affordable housing and services are needed to keep women from having to return to a violent home.

The issue of homelessness for battered women goes beyond the ability to find a space in a domestic violence shelter. Because women escaping abusers often leave suddenly, they often have no money saved for a security deposit and first month's rent. This is especially problematic in New Jersey as rents are so expensive. New Jersey is the second most expensive state in the nation to rent a two-bedroom apartment and 45 percent of all New Jersey renters cannot afford the State's average rent for a two-bedroom apartment. And, many battered women may have to leave their jobs because of workplace stalking by their abusers. Women who leave violent situations often incur additional expenses as they must purchase clothing, cookware, and furniture. The lack of financial security hinders their ability to secure safe, decent, and affordable housing for themselves and their families.

This is why Senator's JEFFORDS, LANDRIEU, MURRAY, KERRY and I are introducing "The Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Victim's Housing Act of 2000." Under current law, domestic violence shelters must apply for federal homeless assistance along with

other organizations assisting the general homeless population. This legislation creates a specific grant targeted towards shelters providing assistance to individuals and families fleeing domestic violence, stalking, and sexual assault only. Funding is authorized through the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act for five years beginning at \$50 million for fiscal year 2001. Non-profit, community-based housing organizations receive the funds through a competitive grant process administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Groups would use the grant to provide emergency and transitional housing or direct financial assistance for rent, security deposit, and first month's rent. In addition, the legislation also requires organizations to provide a 25% match in funds for services such as child care, employment assistance, and healthcare. This assistance helps provide a stable home base so that those fleeing domestic violence learn new job skills, work full-time jobs, or search for adequate child care.

The Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Victim's Housing Act of 2000 is supported by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund. Senators JEFFORDS, LANDRIEU, MURRAY, KERRY and I look forward to working with them and all others interested in helping us address the continuing national epidemic of domestic violence. I urge my colleagues to join us in our efforts to prevent victims of domestic violence from having to choose between violence and homelessness.

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. 2112

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 "Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Victims' Housing Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds as follows:

(1) Housing can prevent domestic violence and mitigate its effects. The connection between domestic violence and housing is overwhelming. Of all homeless women and children, 50 percent are fleeing domestic violence.

(2) Among cities surveyed, 44 percent identified domestic violence as a primary cause of homelessness.

(3) Women's poverty levels aggravate the problems of homelessness and domestic violence. Two out of three poor adults are women. Female-headed households are six times poorer than male-headed households. In 1996, of the 7,700,000 poor families in the country, 4,100,000 of them were single female-headed households. In addition, 5,100,000 poor women who are not in families are poor.

(4) Almost 50 percent of the women who receive Temporary Assistance to Needy Families funds cite domestic violence as a factor in the need for assistance.

(5) Many women who flee violence are forced to return to their abusers because of inadequate shelter or lack of money. Even if they leave their abusers to go to a shelter, they often return home because the isolation from familiar surroundings, friends, and neighborhood resources makes them feel even more vulnerable. Shelters and transitional housing facilities are often located far from a domestic violence victim's neighborhood. While this placement may be deliberate to protect domestic violence victims from their abusers, it can also be intimidating and alienating for a woman to leave her home, community, cultural support system, and all that she knows for shelter way across town. Thus, women of color and immigrant women are less likely to become shelter residents.

(6) Women who do leave their abusers lack adequate emergency shelter options. The overall number of emergency shelter beds for homeless people is estimated to have decreased by an average of 3 percent in 1997 while requests for shelter increased on the average by 3 percent. Emergency shelters struggle to meet the increased need for services with about 32 percent of the requests for shelter by homeless families going unmet. In fact 88 percent of cities reported having to turn away homeless families from emergency shelters due to inadequate resources for services.

(7) Battered women and their children comprise an increasing proportion of the emergency shelter population. Many emergency shelters have strict time limits that require women to find alternative housing immediately forcing them to separate from their children.

(8) A stable, sustainable home base is crucial for women who have left situations of domestic violence and are learning new job skills, participating in educational programs, working full-time jobs, or searching for adequate child care in order to gain self-sufficiency. Transitional housing resources and services provide a continuum between emergency shelter provision and independent living.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

For purposes of section 4, the authorization of appropriations under section 429(a) of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11389(a)) shall be increased by \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2001 and by such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2002 through 2005.

SEC. 4. USE OF AMOUNTS FOR HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, STALKING, OR ADULT OR CHILD SEXUAL ASSAULT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The additional amounts to be made available by section 3 under section 429 of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11389) shall be made available by the Secretary only to qualified, nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations (as such term is defined in section 5) only for the purpose of providing supportive housing (as such term is referred to in subchapter IV of part C of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11384)) and tenant-based rental assistance, financial assistance for security deposit, first month's rent, or ongoing rental assistance on behalf of individuals or families victimized by domestic violence, stalking, or adult or child sexual assault (as such terms are defined in section 5) who have left or are leaving a residence as a result of the domestic violence, stalking, or adult or child sexual assault. Each organization shall be required to supplement the assistance provided under this subsection with a 25 percent match of funds for supportive services (as such term is referred to in subchapter IV of part C of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless

Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11385)) from sources other than this subsection. Each organization shall certify to the Secretary its compliance with this subsection and shall include with the certification a description of the sources and amounts of such supplemental funds.

(b) DETERMINATION.—For purposes of subsection (a), an individual or a family victimized by domestic violence, stalking, or adult or child sexual assault shall be considered to have left or to be leaving a residence as a result of domestic violence, stalking, or adult or child sexual assault if the qualified, nonprofit, nongovernmental organization providing support, including tenant-based rental assistance, financial assistance for security deposit, first month's rent, or ongoing rental assistance under subsection (a) determines that the individual or member of the family who was a victim of the domestic violence, stalking, or adult or child sexual assault reasonably believes that relocation from such residence will assist in avoiding future domestic violence, stalking, or adult or child sexual assault against such individual or another member of the family.

(c) ALLOCATION.—Amounts made available pursuant to subsection (a) shall be allocated by the Secretary on the basis of a national competition among the qualified, nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations that submit applications to the Secretary that best demonstrate a need for such assistance, including the extent of service provided to underserved populations as defined in section 2003(7) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg-2(7)) and the ability to undertake and carry out a program under subsection (a), as the Secretary shall determine. Of the total funds appropriated under section 3 in any of the enumerated fiscal years, at least 5 percent shall be used for grants to Indian tribes or Indian tribal organizations that provide emergency shelter, transitional housing, or permanent housing or supportive services to individuals or families victimized by domestic violence, stalking, or adult or child sexual assault and Indian tribes or Indian tribal organizations which receive such grants may apply for and receive other grants from the total funds appropriated under this Act. All other grants awarded shall go to qualified, nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations. If, at the end of the 6th month of any fiscal year for which sums are appropriated under section 3, the amount appropriated has not been made available to a qualified, nonprofit, nongovernmental organization under subsection (a) for purposes outlined therein, the Secretary shall reallocate such amount to qualified, nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations that are eligible for funding under subchapter IV of part C of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11381-11389). Funds made available by the Secretary through reallocation under the preceding sentence shall remain available for expenditure until the end of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which such funds become available for reallocation.

SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act:

(1) DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.—The term "domestic violence" includes acts or threats of violence or extreme cruelty (as such term is referred to in section 216 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1186a)), not including acts of self-defense, committed by a current or former spouse of the victim, by a person with whom the victim has a child in common, by a person who is cohabiting with or has cohabited with the victim, by a person who is or has been in a continuing social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature

with the victim, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction, or by any other person against a victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction.

(2) FAMILY VICTIMIZED BY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, STALKING, OR ADULT OR CHILD SEXUAL ASSAULT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term "family victimized by domestic violence, stalking, or adult or child sexual assault" means a family or household that includes an individual who has been determined under subparagraph (B) to have been a victim of domestic violence, stalking, or adult or child sexual assault, but does not include any individual described in paragraph (1), (2), or (3) who committed the domestic violence, sexual assault, or adult or child sexual assault. The term includes any such family or household in which only a minor or minors are the individual or individuals who was or were a victim of domestic violence, stalking, or sexual assault only if such family or household also includes a parent, stepparent, legal guardian, or other responsible caretaker for the child.

(B) DETERMINATION THAT FAMILY OR INDIVIDUAL WAS A VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, STALKING, OR ADULT OR CHILD SEXUAL ASSAULT.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), a determination under this subparagraph is a determination that domestic violence, stalking, or adult or child sexual assault has been committed, which is made by any agency or official of a State, Indian tribe, tribal organization, or unit of general local government based upon—

(i) information provided by any medical, legal, counseling, or other clinic, shelter, sexual assault program or other program or entity licensed, recognized, or authorized by the State, Indian tribe, tribal organization, or unit of general local government to provide services to victims of domestic violence, stalking, or adult or child sexual assault;

(ii) information provided by any agency of the State, Indian tribe, tribal organization, unit of general local government, or qualified, nonprofit, nongovernmental organization that provides or administers the provision of social, medical, legal, or health services;

(iii) information provided by any clergy;

(iv) information provided by any hospital, clinic, medical facility, or doctor licensed or authorized by the State, Indian tribe, tribal organization, or unit of general local government to provide medical services;

(v) a petition, application, or complaint filed in any State, Federal, or tribal court or administrative agency, documents or records of action or decision of any court, law enforcement agency, or administrative agency, including any record of any protective order, injunction, or temporary or final order issued by civil or criminal courts, any self-petition or any police report; or

(vi) any other reliable evidence that domestic violence, stalking, or adult or child sexual assault has occurred.

A victim's statement that domestic violence, stalking, or adult or child sexual assault has occurred shall be sufficient unless the agency has an independent, reasonable basis to find the individual not credible.

(3) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term "Indian tribe" shall have the same meaning given the term in section 2002(3) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg-2(3)).

(4) QUALIFIED, NONPROFIT, NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION.—The term "qualified, nonprofit, nongovernmental organization" means a private organization that—

(A) is organized, or has as one of its primary purposes, to provide emergency shel-

ter, transitional housing, or permanent housing for victims of domestic violence, stalking, or adult or child sexual assault or is a medical, legal, counseling, social, psychological, health, job training, educational, life skills development, or other clinical services program for victims of domestic violence, stalking, or adult or child sexual assault that undertakes a collaborative project with a qualified, nonprofit, nongovernmental organization that primarily provides emergency shelter, transitional housing, or permanent housing for low-income people;

(B) is organized under State, tribal, or local laws;

(C) has no part of its net earnings inuring to the benefit of any member, shareholder, founder, contributor, or individual;

(D) is approved by the Secretary as to financial responsibility; and

(E) demonstrates experience in providing services to victims of domestic violence, stalking, or adult or child sexual assault.

(5) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(6) SEXUAL ASSAULT.—The term "sexual assault" means any conduct proscribed by chapter 109A of title 18, United States Code, whether or not the conduct occurs in the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States, on an Indian reservation, or in a Federal prison and includes both assaults committed by offenders who are strangers to the victims and assaults committed by offenders who are known to the victims or related by blood or marriage to the victim.

(7) STALKING.—The term "stalking" means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear death, sexual assault, or bodily injury to himself or herself or a member of his or her immediate family, when the person engaging in such conduct has knowledge or should have knowledge that the specific person will be placed in reasonable fear of death, sexual assault, or bodily injury to himself or herself or a member of his or her immediate family and when the conduct induces fear in the specific person of death, sexual assault, or bodily injury to himself or herself or a member of his or her immediate family.

(8) STATE.—The term "State" means the States of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and any other territory or possession of the United States.

(9) TRANSITIONAL HOUSING.—The term "transitional housing" includes short-term housing and is given the meaning of subchapter IV, part C of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11384(b)).

(10) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term "tribal organization" means a private, nonprofit, nongovernmental, or tribally chartered organization—

(A) whose primary purpose is to provide emergency shelter, transitional housing, or permanent housing or supportive services to individuals or families victimized by domestic violence, stalking, or adult or child sexual assault;

(B) that operates within the exterior boundaries of an Indian reservation; and

(C) whose board of directors reflects the population served.

(11) UNIT OF GENERAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The term "unit of general local government" has the meaning given the term in section 102(a) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5302(a)).●

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 60

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 60, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide equitable treatment for contributions by employees to pension plans.

S. 132

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 132, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide comprehensive pension protection for women.

S. 309

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 309, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that a member of the uniformed services shall be treated as using a principal residence while away from home on qualified official extended duty in determining the exclusion of gain from the sale of such residence.

S. 345

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 345, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to remove the limitation that permits interstate movement of live birds, for the purpose of fighting, to States in which animal fighting is lawful.

S. 542

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 542, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the deduction for computer donations to schools and allow a tax credit for donated computers.

S. 577

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. THURMOND), the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND), and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 577, a bill to provide for injunctive relief in Federal district court to enforce State laws relating to the interstate transportation of intoxicating liquor.

S. 660

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 660, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under part B of the medicare program of medical nutrition therapy services furnished by registered dietitians and nutrition professionals.

S. 792

At the request of Mr. MOYNIHAN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 792, a bill to amend title IV of