

paragraph (11), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (12) and inserting “, and”, and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(13) any deduction allowable for the qualified professional development expenses paid or incurred by an eligible teacher.”.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 67 (relating to 2-percent floor on miscellaneous itemized deductions) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(g) QUALIFIED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXPENSES OF ELIGIBLE TEACHERS.—For purposes of subsection (b)(13)—

“(1) QUALIFIED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXPENSES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified professional development expenses’ means expenses—

“(i) for tuition, fees, books, supplies, equipment, and transportation required for the enrollment or attendance of an individual in a qualified course of instruction, and

“(ii) with respect to which a deduction is allowable under section 162 (determined without regard to this section).

“(B) QUALIFIED COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.—The term ‘qualified course of instruction’ means a course of instruction which—

“(i) is—

“(I) directly related to the curriculum and academic subjects in which an eligible teacher provides instruction, or

“(II) designed to enhance the ability of an eligible teacher to understand and use State standards for the academic subjects in which such teacher provides instruction,

“(ii) may—

“(I) provide instruction in how to teach children with different learning styles, particularly children with disabilities and children with special learning needs (including children who are gifted and talented), or

“(II) provide instruction in how best to discipline children in the classroom and identify early and appropriate interventions to help children described in subclause (I) to learn,

“(iii) is tied to challenging State or local content standards and student performance standards,

“(iv) is tied to strategies and programs that demonstrate effectiveness in increasing student academic achievement and student performance, or substantially increasing the knowledge and teaching skills of an eligible teacher,

“(v) is of sufficient intensity and duration to have a positive and lasting impact on the performance of an eligible teacher in the classroom (which shall not include 1-day or short-term workshops and conferences), except that this clause shall not apply to an activity if such activity is 1 component described in a long-term comprehensive professional development plan established by an eligible teacher and the teacher’s supervisor based upon an assessment of the needs of the teacher, the students of the teacher, and the local educational agency involved, and

“(vi) is part of a program of professional development which is approved and certified by the appropriate local educational agency as furthering the goals of the preceding clauses.

“(C) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The term ‘local educational agency’ has the meaning given such term by section 14101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as in effect on the date of the enactment of this subsection.

“(2) ELIGIBLE TEACHER.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘eligible teacher’ means an individual who is a kindergarten through grade 12 classroom teacher in an elementary or secondary school.

“(B) ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL.—The terms ‘elementary school’ and ‘sec-

ondary school’ have the meanings given such terms by section 14101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8801), as so in effect.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2000.

## NOTICES OF HEARINGS

### COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry will meet on March 1, 2000, in SD-192 at 9 a.m. The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss the agriculture trade agreement with China.

### COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry will meet on March 2, 2000, in SR-328A at 10 a.m. The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss risk management/crop insurance and possibly other issues before the agriculture committee.

### SUBCOMMITTEE ON FORESTS AND PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place on Friday March 10, 2000, at 9 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 892, a bill to authorize the acquisition of the Valles Caldera, to provide for an effective land and wildlife management program for this resource within the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes. In addition, testimony will be taken from the Government Accounting Office and the Forest Service on the Government Accounting Office review of the Forest Service’s appraisal for the acquisition of the Valles Caldera.

Those who wish to submit written statements should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510. For further information, please call Mike Menge or Bill Eby at (202) 224-6170.

## AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

### COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Strategic Forces of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, February 28, at 2 p.m., to receive testimony on ballistic missile defense programs and issues in review of the defense author-

ization request for fiscal year 2001 and the future years defense program.

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

### COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, February 28, 2000, at 4 p.m., in open session to receive testimony on the national security implications of export controls and to examine S. 1712, the Export Administration Act of 1999.

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

### COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, February 28, 2000, to conduct a hearing on the Competitive Market Supervision Act.

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

## ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

### AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, every February nationwide we celebrate African American History Month. We do so because in 1926, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, son of former slaves, proposed such a recognition as a way of preserving the history of the Negro and recognizing the enormous contributions of a people of great strength, dignity, faith and conviction—a people who rendered their achievements for the betterment and advancement of a Nation once lacking in humanity towards them. Throughout the Nation, we celebrate the many important contributions African Americans have made in all facets of American life.

Lerone Bennett, editor, writer and lecturer recently reflected on the life and times of Dr. Woodson. In an article he wrote earlier this month for Johnson’s Publications, Bennett tells us that one of the most inspiring and instructive stories in African American history is the story of Woodson’s struggle and rise from the coal mines of West Virginia to the summit of academic achievement:

At 17, the young man who was called by history to reveal Black history was an untutored coal miner. At 19, after teaching himself the fundamentals of English and arithmetic, he entered high school and mastered the four-year curriculum in less than two years. At 22, after two-thirds of a year at Berea College [in Kentucky], he returned to the coal mines and studied Latin and Greek between trips to the mine shafts. He then went on to the University of Chicago, where he received bachelor’s and master’s degrees, and Harvard University, where he became the second Black to receive a doctorate in history. The rest is history—Black history.

Mr. President, in keeping with the spirit and the vision of Dr. Carter G. Woodson, I would like to pay tribute to two courageous women, claimed by my home state of Michigan, who played significant roles in addressing American injustice and inequality. These are two women of different times who would change the course of history.

Mr. President, Sojourner Truth, who helped lead our country out of the dark days of slavery, and Rosa Parks, whose dignified leadership sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott and the start of the Civil Rights movement are indelibly echoed in the chronicle of not only the history of this Nation, but are viewed with distinction and admiration throughout the world.

Sojourner Truth, though unable to read or write, was considered one of the most eloquent and noted spokespersons of her day on the inhumanity and immorality of slavery. She was a leader in the abolitionist movement, and a ground breaking speaker on behalf of equality for women. Michigan recently honored her with the dedication of the Sojourner Truth Memorial Monument, which was unveiled in Battle Creek, Michigan on September 25, 1999. I commend Dr. Velma Laws-Clay who headed the Monument Steering Committee and Sculptor Tina Allen for making their dream, a true monument to Sojourner Truth, a reality.

Mr. President, Sojourner Truth had an extraordinary life. She was born Isabella Baumfree in 1797, served as a slave under several different masters, and was eventually freed in 1828 when New York state outlawed slavery. She continued to live in New York and became strongly involved in religion. In 1843, Baumfree, in response to a command from God, changed her name to Sojourner Truth and dedicated her life to traveling and lecturing. She began her migration West in 1850, where she shared the stage with other abolitionist leaders such as Frederick Douglass.

In 1851, Sojourner Truth delivered her famous "Ain't I a Woman?" speech at the Women's Convention in Akron, Ohio. In the speech, Truth attacked both racism and sexism. Truth made her case for equality in plain-spoken English when she said,

Then that little man in black there, he says women can't have as much rights as men, cause Christ wasn't a woman? Where did your Christ come from? Where did your Christ come from? From God and a woman! Man had nothing to do with Him.

By the mid-1850s, Truth had settled in Battle Creek, Michigan. She continued to travel and speak out for equality. During the Civil War, Truth traveled throughout Michigan, gathering food and clothing for Negro volunteer regiments. Truth's travels during the war eventually led her to a meeting with President Abraham Lincoln in 1864, at which she presented her ideas on assisting freed slaves. Truth remained in Washington, D.C. for several years, helping slaves who had fled from

the South and appearing at women's suffrage gatherings. Due to bad health, Sojourner Truth returned to Battle Creek in 1875, and remained there until her death in 1883. Sojourner Truth spoke from her heart about the most troubling issues of her time. A testament to Truth's convictions is that her words continue to speak to us today.

Mr. President, on May 4, 1999 legislation was enacted which authorized the President of the United States to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Rosa Parks. The Congressional Gold Medal was presented to Rosa Parks on June 15, 1999 during an elaborate ceremony in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda. I was pleased to cosponsor this fitting tribute to Rosa Parks—the gentle warrior who decided that she would no longer tolerate the humiliation and demoralization of racial segregation on a bus. Her personal bravery and self-sacrifice are remembered with reverence and respect by us all.

Forty four years ago in Montgomery, Alabama the modern civil rights movement began when Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat and move to the back of the bus. The strength and spirit of this courageous woman captured the consciousness of not only the American people but the entire world.

My home state of Michigan proudly claims Rosa Parks as one of our own. Rosa Parks and her husband made the journey to Michigan in 1957. Unceasing threats on their lives and persistent harassment by phone prompted the move to Detroit where Rosa Parks's brother resided.

Rosa Parks' arrest for violating the city's segregation laws was the catalyst for the Montgomery bus boycott. Her stand on that December day in 1955 was not an isolated incident but part of a lifetime of struggle for equality and justice. For instance, twelve years earlier, in 1943, Rosa Parks had been arrested for violating another one of the city's bus related segregation laws, which required African Americans to pay their fares at the front of the bus then get off of the bus and re-board from the rear of the bus. The driver of that bus was the same driver with whom Rosa Parks would have her confrontation 12 years later.

The rest is history—the boycott which Rosa Parks began was the beginning of an American revolution that elevated the status of African Americans nationwide and introduced to the world a young leader who would one day have a national holiday declared in his honor, the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr.

Mr. President, we have come a long way toward achieving justice and equality for all. But we still have work to do. In the names of Rosa Parks, Sojourner Truth, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and many others, let us rededicate ourselves to continuing the struggle on Civil Rights and to human rights.●

#### TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT MAJOR CHARLES J. JOHNSON

● Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Command Sergeant Major Charles J. Johnson of the U.S. Army Communication-Electronics Command who is retiring from the United States Army after 30 years of active duty. Sergeant Major Johnson is an exceptional leader, a "soldier's" soldier and has served this great country with honor and dignity. He understands soldiering, leadership and selfless service. He is known for his dedication and integrity. He has tackled the tough issues that our Army has faced the passed few years while consistently focused on the proper care and concern for our soldiers and families. Through his hard work and efforts and the most significant contributions he has made our United States Army enters this new millennium as a strong, well-trained, proud fighting force. This wonderful American deserves a tremendous praise and thanks from a nation for which he has given so much and loves.

Sergeant Major Johnson was born on August 8, 1949. He was raised in Canton, Georgia, and entered the Army in April 1970 at Fort Knox, Kentucky, where he was trained in Basic Soldiering and Basic Combat Skills. Upon the completion of Basic Training he received advanced individual training as a Communications Center Specialist at Fort Gordon, Georgia. Throughout his career, Sergeant Major Johnson continued his military education completing numerous military schools but most notable: Defense Race Relations Institute, Advance Noncommissioned Course, Organizational Effectiveness Staff Officers Course, First Sergeant Course and the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy. Sergeant Major Johnson was also awarded a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Maryland.

Sergeant Major Johnson's initial assignment was with the Defense Communications Agency Southwest Asia Mainland Region (Vietnam). He was assigned to the Defense Communication Agency in Washington, DC, following duty in Vietnam. Sergeant Major Johnson has served over 24 years overseas to include six tours in Germany, one tour in Korea, and another combat tour in Southwest Asia.

Sergeant Major Johnson has served with distinction in every leadership position from Team Chief to Command Sergeant Major. He served as a First Sergeant of B Company, 440th Signal Battalion (Darmstadt, Germany) and as Command Sergeant Major of the 44th Signal Battalion (Mannheim, Germany), 22d Signal Brigade (Corps) (Darmstadt, Germany), U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, and the Command Sergeant Major of the 1st Signal Brigade "Voice of the ROK" in Yongsan, Korea. Sergeant Major Johnson also served as an instructor at the Infantry Center and School at Fort Benning, Georgia and on both the Equal Opportunity and Organizational Effectiveness Staffs at