

We have ideas. We have an obligation to take what we see across this country and try to move States forward to do something that would improve the quality of education.

There is another area that is important. That area is parental involvement. The national PTA did a survey of public school parents and found that 91 percent believe it is "extremely important" for parents to be involved in their children's school, but more than half of the parents stated that schools need direction about how to make parents true partners in their children's education.

The overwhelming view of parents is they need to be more involved in the school. But a significant number say the schools are deaf to their concerns. They do not have the programs or the attitudes or the policies that will get parents into the schools.

This is particularly the case when you get to areas where there are low-income students because the reality is many times their parents have an unsuccessful educational experience. It is not as if school was a good place for them. There are also practical problems in many urban areas, and some rural areas, about language difficulties, about reaching out to parents in their own language to get them involved in the lives of their children. We have not, as a nation, been able to develop the kinds of policies and programs that assist States and localities in making parents real partners in their children's education. I hope we could do that. I hope we could do that by using ESEA to start thinking about ways we can jump-start parental involvement at the local level.

Again, you can always fall back to the point: Why is this not happening if the States have the vision, the resources, and the commitment to do it? Why should we tolerate it continuing in such a deplorable way if there is a lack of resources, vision, or commitment at the local level when we know it should and must be done?

As I mentioned, I would love very much to be able to take out some of those antiquated books on the library shelves of America and replace them with modern books that talk about the fact that we have landed on the Moon, that include all the amendments of the U.S. Constitution. Again, we will not be able to do that if we are simply block granting our educational dollars.

There is also a program that is based upon one State's experience helping another State. The States have long been described as laboratories of innovation and experiment. But I think we have a job, and that is to disseminate all that good work, making it available throughout the Nation, giving other States the incentive or the ideas or the resources to put in place what some States have succeeded so well in doing.

One program in Rhode Island is called the Child Opportunity Zones, COZs. These are places within schools that bring together all sorts of social

services, mental health services, child care services, and social work services. It is designed to assist the family, recognizing that the success of a child is dependent not only on his or her innate talent, and the teachers and the facilities, but also in the support and the participation of the whole family. If the family has problems, that child will likely have problems. Indeed, one of the things that has changed since my education is that family life in so many parts of this country has been terribly complicated by social problems, health care problems, issues that are not educational but decisively impact on the ability of a young child to learn.

I am encouraged that the President has sent up his budget proposing increases in Head Start. I have colleagues such as CHRIS DODD who are working valiantly to improve early childhood education. All of these things coming together recognize the fact that today, in so many places, it is not the educational problems holding children back; it is the health problem; it is the mental health problem; it is a host of problems that are outside the strict purview of what we used to think of as educational policy.

This COZ program is very successful in Rhode Island. It brings these disciplines to one place in the school. It gives families easy access to all of these disciplines.

Once again, this is an example of how the experience of one State—highlighted, illustrated, and disseminated by national legislation—can benefit the entire country. I would like very much to be able to work on that.

Finally, we come back to a major issue which will preoccupy all of us. That is this issue of accountability. Block grants, without accountability, are an abdication of our responsibility not only to have good educational policy but to the taxpayers. We cannot hand over millions of dollars with the assumption that States and localities are doing it right, when we know in some cases they do not invest enough in low-income education, that in some cases States and localities will not provide the kind of innovative change that is necessary for this new century.

We have to work hard to ensure we have accountability standards that work. I know Senator BINGAMAN has been a champion of this issue in the Senate. I worked with him as a Member of the other body in our reauthorization of the prior Elementary and Secondary Education Act. I anticipate, if we have a chance—and I hope we do—that both in committee and on the floor we will push hard for accountability. So we have a lot of work to do. It is national work. We simply cannot walk away from it.

Unfortunately, the approach that I see the Republican majority taking is effectively walking away from it, to hand it off to the States, to step back and say it is not our job, not our role, when, in fact, we can and should be a

partner, the junior partner but a partner, in this effort to improve education throughout the United States.

We have made progress. Statistics are encouraging in relation to student performance, but we will give up this progress, I fear, if we do not innovate, if we do not continue to support local initiatives, and if we do not continue to try to overcome the local inertia that leads to 8,000 failing schools, that leads to a malapportionment of dollars between poor students and more affluent students.

It is a national role that we have long had. It is increasingly a national priority, as we face a world of international competition, as we face a world where the future of our families literally depends upon the quality of the education that our children receive.

I hope that in this great debate we will, in fact, be able to talk about libraries, talk about child opportunity zones, talk about improving the accountability, and talk about how we can put technology into classrooms, not simply to walk away from this issue with the assumption that the States can and will do it.

CONGRATULATING AND THANKING CHAIRMAN ROBERT F. BENNETT AND VICE CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER J. DODD AND THE MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE YEAR 2000 TECHNOLOGY PROBLEM

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 264, submitted earlier by Senators LOTT, DASCHLE, MOYNIHAN, STEVENS, and BYRD.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 264) congratulating and thanking Chairman Robert F. Bennett and Vice Chairman Christopher J. Dodd for their tremendous leadership, poise, and dedication in leading the Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem and commending the members of the Committee for their fine work.

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

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, as the Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem prepares to release its final report and disband today, I think it is only appropriate to thank our Chairman ROBERT F. BENNETT and Vice Chairman CHRISTOPHER J. DODD for the tremendous job that they did. They assembled the committee, held hearings to measure the problem, and in the end led the nation and world in ameliorating it. Well done.

We are told that nothing is more permanent than "temporary," especially with regard to congressional committees. But our special committee did its job, in the time allotted—under Senate Resolution 208, the committee was to

last from April 2, 1998 to February 29, 2000—and now it will be no more.

I am pleased to join the Democrat leader, Senator DASCHLE, and others in introducing a resolution that congratulates and thanks the chairman and vice chairman for their fine leadership and work.

Mr. REED. 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, finally, any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 264) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 264

Whereas Senator Robert F. Bennett and Senator Christopher J. Dodd had the foresight to urge Majority Leader Lott and Senator Daschle to establish the Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem under Senate Resolution on April 2, 1998;

Whereas under Chairman Bennett's and Vice Chairman Dodd's leadership, the Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem always acted in a bipartisan manner;

Whereas Chairman Bennett and Vice Chairman Dodd presided over 35 hearings on various aspects of technology infrastructure including utilities, health care, telecommunications, transportation, financial services, Government involvement, and litigation;

Whereas the Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem became the central repository for Y2K computer problem information both nationally and internationally;

Whereas Chairman Bennett and Vice Chairman Dodd guided the Senate in working with the White House, the House of Representatives, the United Nations, and other international organizations, and the private sector in addressing the Y2K computer problem;

Whereas under Chairman Bennett's and Vice Chairman Dodd's leadership, the Committee issued 3 excellent reports that quickly became the authoritative source on the progress of the Federal Government, the private sector, and foreign countries on the Y2K computer problem;

Whereas Chairman Bennett, Vice Chairman Dodd and the Committee helped the Federal Government, industry, nations, and global enterprises learn that by working together we can solve the kinds of technology problems we will likely face in the 21st century;

Whereas Chairman Bennett and Vice Chairman Dodd always conducted hearings in a thoughtful and judicious manner, with the intent of addressing key issues so that the Senate could better evaluate and solve the problem;

Whereas because of Chairman Bennett's and Vice Chairman Dodd's initiative, the Nation and the world began to take the Y2K computer problem seriously and worked to resolve the problem; and

Whereas due to Chairman Bennett's and Vice Chairman Dodd's tremendous leadership, dedication, and the work of the Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem, the first potential catastrophe of the new century was avoided: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate congratulates and thanks Chairman Robert F. Bennett and Vice Chairman Christopher J. Dodd—

(1) for their tremendous leadership in addressing a massive and pervasive problem; a problem that was largely unknown, but thanks to Chairman Bennett and Vice Chairman Dodd was studied, evaluated, and resolved;

(2) for presiding over the Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem which did its work in a bipartisan and fair manner; and

(3) for helping the Government and the Nation minimize the Y2K computer problem.

Mr. REED. I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M.
TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:39 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, March 1, 2000, at 9:30 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate February 29, 2000:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

SYLVIA V. BACA, OF NEW MEXICO, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

THE ABOVE NOMINATION WAS APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE NOMINEE'S COMMITMENT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY BEFORE ANY DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. WILLIAM N. SEARCY, 0000

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general, Medical Corps

BRIG. GEN. KEVIN C. KILEY, 0000
BRIG. GEN. DARREL R. PORR, 0000

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. GORDON S. HOLDER, 0000

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. RALPH S. CLEM, 0000
BRIG. GEN. JOHN M. DANAHY, 0000
BRIG. GEN. JOSEPH G. LYNCH, 0000
BRIG. GEN. JEFFREY M. MUSFELDT, 0000
BRIG. GEN. ROBERT B. SIEGFRIED, 0000

To be brigadier general

COL. GERALD A. BLACK, 0000
COL. RICHARD B. FORD, 0000
COL. JACK C. IHLE, 0000
COL. KEITH W. MEURLIN, 0000
COL. BETTY L. MULLIS, 0000
COL. SCOTT R. NICHOLS, 0000
COL. DAVID A. ROBINSON, 0000
COL. RICHARD D. ROTH, 0000
COL. RANDOLPH C. RYDER, JR., 0000
COL. JOSEPH L. SHAEFER, 0000
COL. CHARLES E. STENNER, JR., 0000
COL. THOMAS D. TAVERNEY, 0000
COL. JAMES T. TURLINGTON, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. CURTIS M. BEDKE, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. DAVID E. CLARY, 0000
COL. MICHAEL A. COLLINGS, 0000
COL. SCOTT S. CUSTER, 0000
COL. DANIEL J. DARNELL, 0000
COL. DUANE W. DEAL, 0000
COL. VERN M. FINDLEY, II, 0000
COL. DOUGLAS M. FRASER, 0000
COL. DAN R. GOODRICH, 0000
COL. GILBERT R. HAWK, 0000
COL. RAYMOND E. JOHNS, JR., 0000
COL. TIMOTHY C. JONES, 0000
COL. PERRY L. LAMY, 0000
COL. EDWARD L. MAHAN, JR., 0000
COL. ROOSEVELT MERCER, JR., 0000
COL. GARY L. NORTH, 0000
COL. JOHN G. PAVLOVICH, 0000
COL. ALLEN G. PECK, 0000
COL. MICHAEL W. PETERSON, 0000
COL. TERESA M. PETERSON, 0000
COL. GREGORY H. POWER, 0000
COL. ANTHONY F. PRZYBYSLAWSKI, 0000
COL. RONALD T. RAND, 0000
COL. STEVEN J. REDMANN, 0000
COL. LOREN M. RENO, 0000
COL. JEFFREY R. RIEMER, 0000
COL. JACK L. RIVES, 0000
COL. MARC E. ROGERS, 0000
COL. ARTHUR J. ROONEY, JR., 0000
COL. STEPHEN T. SARGEANT, 0000
COL. DARRYL A. SCOTT, 0000
COL. JAMES M. SHAMESS, 0000
COL. WILLIAM L. SHELTON, 0000
COL. JOHN T. SHERIDAN, 0000
COL. TOREASER A. STEELE, 0000
COL. JAMES W. SWANSON, 0000
COL. GEORGE P. TAYLOR, JR., 0000
COL. GREGORY L. TREBON, 0000
COL. LOYD S. UTTERBACK, 0000
COL. FREDERICK D. VANVALKENBURG, JR., 0000
COL. DALE C. WATERS, 0000
COL. SIMON P. WORDEN, 0000

IN THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING JOSEPH G. BAILLARGON, JR., AND ENDING DAVID L. PHILLIPS, JR. WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 16, 1999.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS A PERMANENT PROFESSOR, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY, UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 9333(B):

To be colonel

MARK K. WELLS, 0000

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WILLIAM P. ABRAHAM, AND ENDING KENNETH C.Y. YU WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON FEBRUARY 1, 2000.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING LARAIN L. ACOSTA, AND ENDING ROGER A. WUJEK WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON FEBRUARY 2, 2000.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING SYNYA K. BALANON, AND ENDING EDWARD K. YI WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON FEBRUARY 2, 2000.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING CHARLES G. BELENY, AND ENDING KRISTEN A. FULTSGANEY WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON FEBRUARY 7, 2000.

IN THE ARMY

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING RICHARD T. BRITTINGHAM, AND ENDING WILLIAM D. STEWART, JR. WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 16, 1999.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING STEPHEN C. ALSOBROOK, AND ENDING HENRY E. ZERANSKI, JR. WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 16, 1999.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS A PERMANENT PROFESSOR OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY IN THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 4333 (B):

To be colonel

ANDRE H. SAYLES, 0000

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING THOMAS E. AYRES, AND ENDING JOEL E. WILSON WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON FEBRUARY 2, 2000.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WAYNE E. CAUGHMAN, AND ENDING CALVIN B. WIMBISH WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON FEBRUARY 7, 2000.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

JEFFREY S. MACINTIRE, 0000

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING JOHN J. FITCH, AND ENDING *TIMOTHY L. WATKINS WHICH NOMINATIONS