1486, a bill to ensure that the United States is prepared for an attack using biological or chemical weapons.

S. 1492

At the request of Mr. GRAMM, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1492, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the tax relief sunset and to reduce the maximum capital gains rates for individual taxpayers, and for other purposes.

S. 1493

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1493, a bill to forgive interest payments for a 2-year period on certain disaster loans to small business concerns in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks perpetrated against the United States on September 11, 2001, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief for small business concerns, and for other purposes.

S. 1499

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1499, a bill to provide assistance to small business concerns adversely impacted by the terrorist attacks perpetrated against the United States on September 11, 2001, and for other purposes.

S. 1503

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1503, a bill to extend and amend the Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program under subpart 2 of part B of title IV of the Social Security Act, to provide the Secretary of Health and Human Services with new authority to support programs mentoring children of incarcerated parents, to amend the Foster Care Independent Living Program under part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to provide for educational and training vouchers for youths aging out of foster care, and for other purposes.

S. 1504

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1504, a bill to extend the moratorium enacted by the Internet Tax Freedom Act through June 30, 2002.

S. CON. RES. 66

At the request of Mr. STEVENS, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. NICKLES) and the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 66, a concurrent resolution to express the sense of the Congress that the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor should be awarded to public safety officers killed in the line of duty in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

S. CON. RES. 73

At the request of Mr. NICKLES, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 73, a concurrent resolution expressing the profound sorrow of Congress for the deaths and injuries suffered by first responders as they endeavored to save innocent people in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001.

S. CON. RES. 74

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 74, a concurrent resolution condemning bigotry and violence against Sikh-Americans in the wake of terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington, D.C. on September 11, 2001.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. MILLER, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. FITZGERALD, and Mr. ALLEN):

S. 1513. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make marriage penalty relief effective immediately in the 15–percent bracket and the standard deduction; to the Committee on Finance.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Madam President, I rise today to introduce legislation that will build upon the historic Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 by accelerating the marriage penalty tax relief in that bill and make it effective beginning next year. I am joined in my effort by Senators BROWNBACK, MILLER, SMITH of New Hampshire, HUTCHINSON, FITZGERALD, and ALLEN.

Earlier this year we delivered to the American people long overdue tax relief. Unfortunately, we did not have the ability to give married couples the relief from the marriage penalty as soon as we would have liked. My bill will complete this unfinished business by treating married couples fairly in the tax code beginning next year. Particularly now, as the President and Congress consider additional tax relief to bolster the economy in these difficult times, this legislation would be a smart option. At times like this, what better way to help our Nation than by strengthening the building blocks of society, our families, by adding to their budgets through marriage penalty relief.

Every year for the past four years I introduced a bill to eliminate the marriage penalty tax as I simply could not understand why two single people should be thrown into a higher tax bracket and pay more in taxes simply because they got married. Not because of a promotion, not because of a raise, but because they got married! This year, we finally told all Americans that they do not have to choose between love and money, that they should not be penalized for exchanging wedding vows. I am proud to say that in this year's tax relief plan we corrected this quirk in the tax code. We returned to the commonsense principles that made this country great, and away from the concept that ''no good deed goes unpunished.''

The marriage penalty relief that was passed earlier this year will offer critical relief to our married couples, but unfortunately it will not take place immediately. I want to improve this timing because when the situation is as ridiculous as the marriage penalty, that is wrong. There are more than 20 million married couples in America today that pay a penalty just because they got married, a penalty that averages around $1,400. That is a lot of money! Especially when you are just starting out, $1,400 to a young couple could be part of the down payment on the new house or the new car for the expenses associated with having children. However, they choose to spend that money, or for whatever expenses they need it for, we want them to be able to make their own choices with the money they earn.

And we want them to have the ability to do so now, not several years from now. What the bill does that I am introducing today is that it takes the relief we finally offered in the tax plan and makes it effective immediately for the 15 percent bracket and the standard deduction.

Today, if you take the standard deduction when you do your taxes as an individual, you do not get the same amount of deduction if you get married. That is, the standard deduction does not simply double for couples. Whereas today the standard deduction for a single person is $4,550, and for a married couple is $7,600, our tax relief bill insisted that married couples receive a standard deduction that is exactly double that of the single person, or $9,100. Under my bill today, this doubling of the standard deduction will occur immediately.

In addition, we addressed the fact that when most couples marry, the second income bumps them up to a higher tax bracket. Therefore, we decided to widen every tax bracket so that a married couple will not have to pay more in income taxes simply because they go into a higher bracket when they combined incomes.

In this way, a combined income will be taxed at the same rate as if it was a single person making two incomes. For example, if each individual in a relationship is in the 15–percent income tax bracket but they get married and their combined incomes now bump them into the 30–percent bracket, our tax relief means that they will effectively remain in the 15 percent bracket.

This is critically important, especially to those who are at the lower income rates and for whom jumping from the 15 percent bracket to the next one could make all the difference in their budget. Our earlier legislation widens

the 15–percent bracket by $9,000 for married couples. My bill today will accelerate this relief by making this change now, thereby eliminating the marriage penalty for those couples who are in the 15 percent bracket.

Earlier this year a bipartisan majority agreed that it is very important that we relieve the pressure on the more than 20 million American couples who pay the marriage penalty tax. We all agreed then that this is wrong, and must be changed. Today, we have the chance to put our money where our mouth is and offer help to struggling couples now. I call upon my colleagues to join in this effort to provide this immediate assistance to the working families of America.

By Mr. KOHL:

S. 1515. A bill to provide for enhanced security with respect to aircraft; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. KOHL. Madam President, I rise this afternoon to introduce the ''Safe Ground through Safe Skies Act of 2001.'' This legislation strengthens security measures for those aircraft that are currently not required to comply with an FAA approved security program. The events of September 11 have shown us a new reality, that our aircraft can be used as lethal weapons against innocent civilians on the ground.

I applaud the FAA, the Administration, and Congress for quickly moving to address this threat as it applies to commercial aircraft. With the new security measures put in place by S. 1447, I am certain we will not again see a commercial common carrier be hijacked and turned into a bomb. However, the proposals under consideration today do nothing to stop other aircraft, such as chartered planes, leased planes, and cargo planes, from being hijacked and crashed into buildings or landmarks.

I believe many of my colleagues would be surprised to learn that, for purposes of security, these aircraft are virtually unregulated. The protection of these aircraft, some as big or bigger than those used in the September 11 attack, is left to the private sector owners and operators, an approach we now reject for commercial common carriers.

As the Senate continues to work on legislation to enhance security measures for commercial common carriers, it is vital that we address the gaping hole in our security as it relates to currently unregulated aircraft. It would be criminally negligent to pass an Aviation Security Act that leaves thousands of aircraft still unprotected from those terrorists who would turn our own planes into weapons of mass destruction.

The Safe Ground through Safe Skies Act is an attempt to address this difficult problem. It is based on three goals:

First, the legislation seeks to maintain the FAA's flexibility to design different screening systems for all sorts of aircraft, used for all sorts of purposes and boarding and deplaning at airports with a wide variety of experience in security.

Second, the legislation recognizes the time consuming and difficult task of putting together a security program for smaller aircraft, many of which operate out of very small airports without any security in place currently.

And third, and perhaps most importantly, the legislation addresses the immediate threat of a near term repeat terrorist attack.

To achieve these goals, this legislation requires the FAA Administrator to issue a security screening program for all aircraft operations with an aircraft that weighs more than 12,500 pounds. That means every operator of an aircraft that takes-off in this country with more than approximately 15 seats will be subject to new security measures. To address the varying types of aircraft and aircraft operations, the Administrator will have the authority to waive this new requirement in cases reviewed and approved by the Administrator and Congress.

For those aircraft weighing less than 12,500 pounds, this legislation requires the Secretary of Transportation to report to Congress, within 6 months of enactment, recommendations on how to improve security for general aviation. Within one year of enactment, the Administrator must turn that report into an actual program.

Finally, effective immediately upon enactment, this legislation requires aliens and persons identified by the Secretary of Transportation to undergo a background check before buying, leasing, or chartering any aircraft. This provision would expire as the Administrator issues security rules for each class of aircraft.

Though this final step may seem extreme, it is a quick and simple way to immediately protect our entire aircraft fleet from capture and use as a weapon. The section is designed to mirror the requirements for background checks for aliens and others seeking flight school training already agreed to in S. 1447. If we need to protect ourselves from terrorists seeking flight school training in the future, we have an equal, if not greater need to protect our aircraft from terrorists who may have already received their flight training.

Current policy falls short of the level of protection that the American people require and deserve. Any comprehensive airline safety legislation must include all types of aircraft conducting operations in our sky. While not placing a heavy burden on the FAA or the general aviation industry, the Safe Ground through Safe Skies Act protects our airline passengers and those of us on the ground by reducing the likelihood of another attack from the skies.

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. 1515

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

SECTION 1. ENHANCED SECURITY FOR AIRCRAFT.

(a) SECURITY FOR LARGER AIRCRAFT.—

(1) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall commence implementation of a program to provide security screening for all aircraft operations conducted with respect to any aircraft having a maximum certified takeoff weight of more than 12,500 pounds that is not operating as of the date of the implementation of the program under security procedures prescribed by the Administrator.

(2) WAIVER.—

(A) AUTHORITY TO WAIVE.—The Administrator may waive the applicability of the program under paragraph (1) with respect to any aircraft or class of aircraft otherwise described by that paragraph if the Administrator determines that aircraft described in that paragraph can be operated safely without the applicability of the program to such aircraft or class of aircraft, as the case may be.

(B) LIMITATIONS.—A waiver under subparagraph (A) may not go into effect—

(i) unless approved by the Secretary of Transportation; and

(ii) until 10 days after the date on which notice of the waiver has been submitted to the appropriate committees of Congress.

(3) PROGRAM ELEMENTS.—The program under paragraph (1) shall require the following:

(A) The search of any aircraft covered by the program before takeoff.

(B) The screening of all crew members, passengers, and other persons boarding any aircraft covered by the program, and their property to be brought on board such aircraft, before boarding.

(4) PROCEDURES FOR SEARCHES AND SCREENING.—The Administrator shall develop procedures for searches and screenings under the program under paragraph (1). Such procedures may not be implemented until approved by the Secretary.

(b) SECURITY FOR SMALLER AIRCRAFT.—

(1) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall commence implementation of a program to provide security for all aircraft operations conducted with respect to any aircraft having a maximum certified takeoff weight of 12,500 pounds or less that is not operating as of the date of the implementation of the program under security procedures prescribed by the Administrator. The program shall address security with respect to crew members, passengers, baggage handlers, maintenance workers, and other individuals with access to aircraft covered by the program, and to baggage.

(2) REPORT ON PROGRAM.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report containing a proposal for the program to be implemented under paragraph (1).

(c) BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR ALIENS ENGAGED IN CERTAIN TRANSACTIONS REGARDING AIRCRAFT.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law and subject to paragraph (3), no person or entity may sell, lease, or charter any aircraft to an alien, or any other individual specified by the Secretary

for purposes of this subsection, within the United States unless the Attorney General issues a certification of the completion of a background investigation of the alien, or other individual, as the case may be, that meets the requirements of paragraph (2).

(2) BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION.—A background investigation or an alien or individual under this subsection shall consist of the following:

(A) A determination whether or not there is a record of a criminal history for the alien or individual, as the case may be, and, if so, a review of the record.

(B) In the case of an alien, a determination of the status of the alien under the immigration laws of the United States.

(C) A determination whether the alien or individual, as the case may be, presents a risk to the national security of the United States.

(3) EXPIRATION.—The prohibition in paragraph (1) shall expire as follows:

(A) In the case of an aircraft having a maximum certified takeoff weight of more than 12,500 pounds, upon implementation of the program required by subsection (a).

(B) In the case of an aircraft having a maximum certified takeoff weight of 12,500 pounds or less, upon implementation of the program required by subsection (b).

(4) ALIEN DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ''alien'' has the meaning given that term in section 101(a)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(3)).

(d) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(1) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Commerce of the House of Representatives.

By Mr. SANTORUM:

S. 1516. A bill to remove civil liability barriers that discourage the donation of fire equipment to volunteer fire companies; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. SANTORUM. Madam President, I rise today to introduce the Good Samaritan Volunteer Firefighter Assistance Act of 2001. On September 11, the Nation witnessed the tragic loss of hundreds of heroic firefighters. Amazingly, every year quality firefighting equipment worth millions of dollars is wasted. In order to avoid civil liability lawsuits, heavy industry and wealthier fire departments destroy surplus equipment, including hoses, fire trucks, protective gear and breathing apparatus, instead of donating it to volunteer fire departments. The basic purpose of the bill is to induce donations of surplus firefighting equipment by reducing the threat of civil liability for organizations, most commonly heavy industry, and individuals who wish to make these donations. The bill eliminates civil liability barriers to donations of surplus firefighting equipment by raising the liability standard for donors from ''negligence'' to ''gross negligence.''

The legislation is modeled after legislation passed into law in Texas in 1997 which has resulted in an additional $6 million of equipment donations from companies and other fire departments for volunteer departments which may not be as well equipped. Representative CASTLE has introduced the Good Samaritan Volunteer Firefighter Assistance Act, H.R. 1919, which has 63 bipartisan cosponsors in the House of Representatives. It is also supported by the National Volunteer Fire Council, the Firemen's Association of the State of New York, and a former director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, James Lee Witt.

The Good Samaritan Volunteer Firefighter Assistance Act of 2001 is modeled after a bill passed by the Texas state legislature in 1997 and signed into law by then-Governor George W. Bush. Now companies in Texas can donate surplus equipment to the Texas Forest Service, which then certifies the equipment and passes it on to volunteer fire departments that are in need. The donated equipment must meet all original specifications before it can be sent to volunteer departments. The Texas program has already received more then $6 million worth of equipment for volunteer fire departments. Arizona, Missouri, Indiana, and South Carolina have passed similar legislation at the State level. The legislation saves taxpayer dollars by encouraging donations thereby reducing the taxpayers' burden of purchasing expensive equipment for volunteer fire departments.

This bill does not cost taxpayer dollars nor does it create additional bureaucracies to inspect equipment. The bill gets rid of unnecessary inspection bureaucracies, whether they are State run or a manufacturer's technician. This is for three reasons. First, bureaucracies are not necessary for inspections because the fire chiefs make the inspections themselves. Second, some of the State bureaucracies control who gets the equipment. These donations are private property transactions, not a good that is donated to the State, allowing the State to pick who will get the equipment. Third, there is no desire to create the temptation for waste, fraud, and abuse in a State bureaucracy in charge of picking the winners and losers.

The bill reflects the purpose of the Texas state law. Federally, precedent for similar measures includes the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Act, Public Law 104–210, named for the last Representative Bill Emerson, which encourages restaurants, hotels and businesses to donate millions of dollars worth of food. The Volunteer Protection Act of 1997, Public Law 105–101, also immunizes individuals who do volunteer work for non-profit organizations or governmental entities from liability for ordinary negligence in the course of their volunteer work. I have also previously introduced three Good Samaritan measures in the 106th Congress, S. 843, S. 844 and S. 845. These provisions were also included in a broader charitable package in S. 997, the Charity Empowerment Act, to provide additional incentives for corporate in-kind charitable contributions for motor vehicle, aircraft, and facility use. The same provision passed the House of Representatives as part of H.R. 7, the Community Solutions Act, in July of 2001.

Volunteers comprise 74 percent of firefighters in the United States. Of the total estimated 1,082,500 volunteer and paid firefighters across the country, 804,200 are volunteer. Of the total 31,114 fire departments in the country, 22,636 are all volunteer; 4,848 are mostly volunteer; 1,602 are mostly career; and 2,028 are all career. In 1998, 54 of the 91 firefighters who died in the line of duty were volunteers.

This legislation provides a commonsense incentive for additional contributions to volunteer fire departments around the country and would make it more attractive for corporations to give equipment to fire departments in the other States. At this time when all of America has witnessed the heroic acts of selflessness and sacrifice of firefighters in New York City and in the Washington, D.C. area, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this incentive for the provision of additional safety equipment for volunteer firefighters who put their lives on the line every day throughout this great Nation.

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 1517. A bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to enhance the Montgomery GI bill, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mr. SPECTER. Madam President, I have sought recognition to comment on legislation I am introducing today to put into effect several recommendations made by the United States Commission on National Security/21st century relative to Montgomery GI bill, MGIB, educational assistance benefits administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs, VA. The Commission, co-chaired by former Senators Gary Hart and Warren Rudman, was tasked with reexamining U.S. national security policies and processes, and making recommendations on how the United States could best ensure the safety of its citizenry against emerging national security threats. Sadly, one of the emerging threats anticipated by the Commission, the threat of state or group-sponsored terrorism, was realized on September 11, 2001.

Our Armed Forces, the best in the world, have now engaged the enemy, and we rely on these dedicated men and women in service to sacrifice their lives, if necessary, to defend liberty and secure justice. The Nation must reciprocate by assuring that the benefits provided to service members during, and after, their service measure up to the grave responsibilities entrusted to them. The Hart-Rudman Commission understood that, and, consistent with that understanding, the Commission recommended specific improvements in veterans' educational assistance benefits to assure that the armed forces are able to attract, and retain, highly qualified, dedicated service members.

The Commission made, in total, seven recommendations on how MGIB

benefits could be enhanced. It recommended that the MGIB monthly benefit be increased and indexed to the average education costs at four-year public colleges. It recommended, further, that the payment of benefits be accelerated to the beginning of a student's school term. The Commission recommended, in addition, that MGIB benefits be made available to students taking technical training courses. Further, it recommended the repeal of the requirement that service members make contributions totaling $1200 in order to ''buy'' eligibility for MGIB benefits. It recommended, in addition, that potential beneficiaries be given 20 years after discharge from the service, not just 10 years, as is currently specified by law, to make use of their MGIB benefits. It also recommended that service members with 15 years of service or more be entitled to transfer their entitlement to MGIB benefits to their spouse or dependent children. Finally, the Commission recommended that MGIB benefits made available to Reserves called to serve in overseas contingency operations be increased on a sliding scale basis.

The Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, a Committee on which I serve as ranking minority member, has considered, and moved favorably on, the first three Commission recommendations listed above; legislation which would, in whole or in part, accomplish these recommendations will soon be before the Senate. The committee has not, however, acted on the final four recommendations of the Commission, mainly because those proposals were not before the committee. It is my hope that by introducing this legislation, I will assure that the committee continues its consideration of MGIB improvements in the months ahead.

To summarize the bill briefly, section 2 of my bill would eliminate the $1,200 pay reduction currently required of service members during their first 12 months of active duty as a precondition to eligibility for MGIB benefits. The Hart-Rudman Commission is not alone in recommending the repeal of this requirement. In 1999, the Commission on Service Members and Veterans Transition Assistance, a commission headed by the current Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Honorable Anthony J. Principi, made the same recommendation. It surely can be argued with considerable force that service members, who are asked to risk life and limb in service to the Nation, should not be asked, in addition, to contribute a portion of their pay, while in service, to ''earn'' eligibility for veterans' educational assistance benefits.

Section 3 of this legislation would allow service members with at least 15 years of active duty to transfer their entitlement to MGIB benefits to their spouses or dependent children. This past January, I met with some of our troops stationed in Bosnia who expressed considerable interest in this idea. Many of them mentioned that they have families back home and that, rather than paying for their own education, they needed funds to pay for their children's education. At the very least, the idea needs to be further considered. I am aware that Senator CLELAND has been working on a concept which is similar, but not identical to, this provision. I would like to work with Senator CLELAND on this important issue.

Section 4 of my bill would allow former service members 20 years after discharge, rather than 10 years, as is specified in current law, to utilize their MGIB benefits. I understand that, historically, MGIB benefits are intended to assist in the transition to civilian status, so that economic opportunities lost due to temporary military service can be ameliorated upon transition back to civilian life. This concept may have been useful when most departing service members were single persons with no family or financial obligations preventing the use of education benefits very quickly after discharge. Many former service members, however, are married and have children and, with these obligations, often find it difficult to return to school immediately after separation from service. In addition, today's rapidly-changing economy demonstrates that the skills which employers demand today may change tomorrow. Extending the MGIB ''delimiting date'' would encourage ''lifetime learning'' and enable veterans to keep their skills current.

Finally, section 5 of my bill would enable members of the Selected Reserve who are called to active duty as part of a ''contingency operation,'' such as the operations to which Reserves are now being called, to be eligible for increased MGIB benefits if they serve in such an operation for more than one year. Currently, those who enlist for a six year reserve commitment are eligible for $251 per month in education benefits, whether or not they are called to active duty. It would seem to me that Reserves who are activated, especially during times of conflict or war, bear close resemblance to individuals who are serving an active duty enlistment, and so too should the educational benefits made available to such persons. Therefore, my legislation would provide that, in cases where a member of the Selected Reserves serves one year in a contingency operation, his or her education benefit would be adjusted to the half-way point between the benefit afforded to a Reserve Member under current law, now, $251 per month, and that provided to service members who have served two years active duty, currently, $528 per month. In cases involving members of the Selected Reserves who serve two years of active service in a contingency operation, the amount of educational assistance afforded to them would be the same as that which is provided to veterans who had served two years of active duty, currently, $528 per month. And for those who have served three years active duty in a contingency operation, their benefit amount would be the same, currently, $650 per month, as that afforded to service members who have served a three year enlistment. In this national emergency, it is time to recognize the sacrifices made by reservists called to active duty by increasing their benefits commensurate with time served on active duty.

One of the Hart-Rudman Commission's recommendations, that an Office of Homeland Security be created to coordinate the Federal government's counterterrorism efforts, has already been embraced the President. Governor Tom Ridge of Pennsylvania, who was just sworn in yesterday, will, I am sure, serve with great distinction as head of that office. We need to address more of the Commission's recommendations, including those that would enhance national security by making the military a more competitive employer so it can attract and retain quality people. Beyond that, we need to let our fighting men and women know that we value their service by providing them with the tools to succeed upon completion of their military careers. This legislation would accomplish those purposes. I urge my colleagues to support this effort.

By Mr. BOND (for himself, Mr. CONRAD, and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 1518. A bill to improve procedures with respect to the admission to, and departure from, the United States of aliens; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. BOND. Madam President, among the many things that makes our country great is the freedom we possess to move about the country and exit and return to our country as we desire. Being a great Nation that believes strongly in that freedom and that has paid a tremendous price in defending that freedom, we like it to be on display to the rest of the world and we continually and generously open our doors to others. We as a Nation benefit from foreign visitors coming to the United States and other countries benefit when their citizens visit this country, whether it be to study at our schools and universities, learn at our institutions, use our medical facilities, do business with our dynamic private sector or visit our great cities and parks.

However, on September 11, this great Nation endured a terrible tragedy, perpetrated by individuals who entered this country legally, as guests, on a visa. Nineteen people who were in this country on travel, work and student visas carried out the most deadly attack ever on our soil. Three of those people had stayed beyond the expiration of their visa. As the investigation of the Attorney General proceeds, many others have been detained. Initial reports indicated that a large number of these people were in this country on expired visas and I suspect we will find that a large number of those involved in the planning of the attack

were in the United States on expired visas.

At this time, the only system in place to track the entry and exit of visa holders is antiquated and completely inadequate. The government has little ability to track those who have entered the United States and to be notified if they violate the terms of their visa. As there are approximately 300 million immigrants and visitors that enter this country every year, getting a handle on this problem will not be simple. However, we must know if those who enter the United States to study arrive and attend school, if those who come her to work are at their jobs, if those who come here to do business do their business and return home and if those who we admit into the United States to vacation return home at the end of their time in the United States. We should strive to keep our borders open, to keep commerce flowing freely and not let the terrorist attack disrupt our relations with our good neighbors and other friends. But at the same time, we must have a better idea of who is entering this country, catch and screen out those who may pose a threat and know who has violated the terms of their visa and remained in the United States beyond the expiration date.

I would like to acknowledge and thank my colleagues KENT CONRAD and OLYMPIA SNOWE for their assistance and valuable input on this legislation.

Specifically, this bill calls for the improvement of the information received by the Department of State for checking the backgrounds of visa applicants. It calls on law enforcement and intelligence agencies to share regularly information that will be useful to the State Department in identifying those who pose any type of threat to the security or people of this country.

This bill calls for the improvement and implementation of the system to track foreign students. Including a requirement that universities notify the INS when foreign students do not show up for school, as Hani Hanjour failed to do before participating in the attack on the World Trade Center.

It is time to begin the roll of the Integrated Entry and Exit Tracking system called for in legislation passed five years ago to record the entry of visa holders, record their exit and notify the INS and law enforcement agencies of the identity of anyone overstaying their visa. This system should also utilize the latest technology, including biometrics, to ensure that visas cannot be tampered with or stolen. Finally, it is time for the members of the task force to be appointed, including the Director of Homeland Security, so that the issues surrounding this system can be settled.

The bill also calls for the tightening of the Visa Waiver Pilot program to ensure that passports for participating countries are not stolen or defaced by those trying to sneak into the country. It also calls for those employing work visa holders to report to the INS if that person leaves or is terminated from their job.

These are all reasonable proposals that will not impact commerce, travel and relationships with friendly countries. It will also begin the process of having an accurate picture of who has entered the country and who has departed. It is one of many steps that needs to be taken to avoid further terrorist attacks. I look forward to working with my colleagues to implement this legislation.

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. 1518

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 ''Visa Integrity and Security Act of 2001''.

SEC. 2. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS REGARDING THE NEED TO EXPEDITE IMPLEMENTATION OF INTEGRATED ENTRY AND EXIT DATA SYSTEM.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—In light of the terrorist attacks perpetrated against the United States on September 11, 2001, it is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) the Attorney General should fully implement the integrated entry and exit data system for airports, seaports, and land border ports of entry, as specified in section 110 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, as amended by the Immigration and Naturalization Service Data Management Improvement Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–215), with all deliberate speed and as expeditiously as practicable; and

(2) the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Secretary of the Treasury, should immediately begin establishing the Integrated Entry and Exit Data System Task Force, as described in section 3 of the Immigration and Naturalization Service Data Management Improvement Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–215).

SEC. 3. ENTRY-EXIT TRACKING SYSTEM.

(a) DEVELOPMENT OF THE SYSTEM.—In the development of the entry-exit tracking system, as described in the preceeding section, the Attorney General shall particularly focus—

(1) on the utilization of biometric technology, including, but not limited to, electronic fingerprinting, face recognition, and retinal scan technology; and

(2) on developing a tamper-proof identification, readable at ports of entry as a part of any nonimmigrant visa issued by the Secretary of State.

(b) INTEGRATION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT DATABASES.—The entry and exit data system described in this section shall be able to be integrated with law enforcement databases for use by State and Federal law enforcement to identify and detain individuals in the United States after the expiration of their visa.

SEC. 4. ACCESS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO CERTAIN IDENTIFYING INFORMATION IN THE CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS OF VISA APPLICANTS AND APPLICANTS FOR ADMISSION TO THE UNITED STATES.

(a) AMENDMENT OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT.—Section 105 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1105) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by inserting ''; DATA EXCHANGE'' after ''SECURITY OFFICERS'';

(2) by inserting ''(a)'' after ''SEC. 105.'';

(3) in subsection (a), by inserting ''and border'' after ''internal'' the second place it appears; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) The Attorney General and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation shall provide the Department of State access to the criminal history record information contained in the National Crime Information Center's Interstate Identification Index (NCIC-III), Wanted Persons File, and to any other files maintained by the National Crime Information Center that may be mutually agreed upon by the Attorney General and the Department of State, for the purpose of determining whether or not a visa applicant or applicant for admission has a criminal history record indexed in any such file. The Department of State shall merge the information obtained under this subsection with the information in the system currently accessed by consular officers to determine the criminal history records of aliens applying for visas.''.

(c) REGULAR REPORTING.—The Director of Central Intelligence, the Secretary of Defense, the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation shall provide information to the Secretary of State on a regular basis as agreed by the Secretary and the head of each of these agencies that will assist the Secretary in determining if an applicant for a visa has a criminal background or poses a threat to the national security of the United States or is affiliated with a group that poses such a threat.

(d) REPORT ON SCREENING INFORMATION.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to Congress on the information that is needed from any United States agency to best screen visa applicants to identify those affiliated with terrorist organizations or those that pose any threat to the safety or security of the United States, including the type of information currently received by United States agencies and the regularity with which such information is transmitted to the Secretary.

SEC. 5. STUDENT TRACKING SYSTEM.

(a) INTEGRATION WITH PORT OF ENTRY INFORMATION.—For each alien with respect to whom information is collected under this section, the Attorney General shall include information on the date of entry, port of entry, and nonimmigrant classification.

(b) EXPANSION OF SYSTEM TO INCLUDE OTHER APPROVED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.—Section 641 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C.1372) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), subsection (c)(4)(A), and subsection (d)(1) (in the text above subparagraph (A)), by inserting '', other approved educational institutions,'' after ''higher education'' each place it appears;

(2) in subsections (c)(1)(C), (c)(1)(D), and (d)(1)(A), by inserting '', or other approved educational institution,'' after ''higher education'' each place it appears;

(3) in subsections (d)(2), (e)(1), and (e)(2), by inserting '', other approved educational institution,'' after ''higher education'' each place it appears; and

(4) in subsection (h), by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) OTHER APPROVED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.—The term 'other approved educational institution' includes any air flight school, language training school, vocational school, or other school, approved by the Attorney

General, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, under subparagraph (F), (J), or (M) of section 101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act.''.

(c) EXPANSION OF SYSTEM TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.—Section 641(b) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C.1372(b)), as amended by subsection (a), is further amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D) of paragraph (1) as subparagraphs (C), (D), and (E), respectively;

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following:

''(B) the name of any dependent spouse, child, or other family member accompanying the alien student to the United States;''; and

(3) in paragraph (1)(D) (as so redesignated), by inserting after ''maintaining status as a full-time student'' the following: ''and, if the alien is not maintaining such status, the date on which the alien has concluded the alien's course of study and the reason therefor''; and

(4) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(5) INFORMATION ON FAILURE TO COMMENCE STUDIES.—Each approved institution of higher education, other approved educational institution, or designated exchange visitor program shall inform the Attorney General within 30 days if an alien described in subsection (a)(1) who is scheduled to attend the institution or program fails to do so. The Attorney General shall ensure that information received under this paragraph is included in the National Crime Information Center's Interstate Identification Index.''.

SEC. 6. STRENGTHENING VISA WAIVER PILOT PROGRAM.

Section 217(c)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1187(c)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(D) TAMPER PROOF PASSPORT.—The country employs a tamper-proof passport, has established a program to reduce the theft of passports, and has experienced during the preceding two-year period a low rate of theft of passports, as determined by the Secretary of State.''.

SEC. 7. REPORTING REQUIREMENT REGARDING H–1B NONIMMIGRANT ALIENS.

(a) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 14 days after the employment of a nonimmigrant alien described in section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act is terminated by an employer, the employer shall so report to the Attorney General, together with the reasons for the termination.

(b) PENALTY.—Any employer who fails to make a report required under subsection (a) shall be ineligible to employ any nonimmigrant alien described in that subsection for a period of one year.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. KERRY, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. HELMS, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. MILLER, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. CONRAD, and Mr. NELSON of Nebraska):

S. 1519. A bill to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to provide farm credit assistance for activated reservists; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, I am proud to be joined by Senators LUGAR, KERRY, CRAPO, MCCONNELL, HELMS, DAYTON, LEAHY, HUTCHINSON, MILLER, LINCOLN, BAUCUS, ROBERTS, CONRAD, and NELSON today as we introduce legislation in support of those men and women who voluntarily leave their communities, leave their jobs, and leave their families to serve our country. In the past few weeks, thousands of men and women have been called to duty as reservists and members of the National Guard. Many of these people have volunteered to leave their farms to respond to the call. Some of these people borrow money from the USDA to sustain their farms. Because these reservists and members of the National Guard have been called up, they may find it difficult to continue to meet the terms of these loans. The bill offered today would alleviate some of the financial stress caused by the activation.

The bill directs the USDA to use its lending authority to minimize the financial impact of a reservist being activated. The Secretary of Agriculture is directed to take actions to help keep the farm of an activated reservist in operation, including deferring scheduled payments, reducing interest rates, reamortizing or consolidating loans, or taking other restructuring actions. The bill also provides the USDA new authority to provide emergency loan assistance to farms financially injured because of the activation of a reservist.

I thank Senator KERRY for this idea. He introduced legislation in 1999, of which I was a cosponsor, that provided similar relief to borrowers from the Small Business Administration who are called up. Just as small businesses can be greatly affected by the absence of one person, farms many times rely entirely on the labor and ingenuity of just one or two key people.

At this time, when these men and women are sacrificing so much, the least we can do is alleviate the financial strain at home caused by their willingness to serve. By enacting this modest measure, we can help lift worries about the farm at home from the minds of the individuals and families directly affected by activation.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1519

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

SECTION 1. FARM CREDIT ASSISTANCE FOR ACTIVATED RESERVISTS.

Subtitle D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1981 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 376. FARM CREDIT ASSISTANCE FOR ACTIVATED RESERVISTS.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) ACTIVATED RESERVIST.—The term 'activated reservist' means—

''(A) a member of a reserve component of any of the Armed Forces of the United States who is serving on active duty in support of a contingency operation (as defined in section 101(a)(13) of title 10, United States Code) pursuant to a call or order issued on or after September 11, 2001, under a provision of law referred to in subparagraph (B) of that section; and

''(B) a member of the National Guard of a State not in Federal service who is ordered to duty under the laws of the State in support of any operation to protect persons or property from an act of terrorism or a threat of attack by a hostile force during the period of a national emergency declared by the President or Congress on or after September 11, 2001.

''(2) ELIGIBLE PERSON.—The term 'eligible person' means—

''(A) an activated reservist who owns or operates a farm or ranch;

''(B) an owner or operator of the farm or ranch who is a member of the family of the activated reservist; and

''(C) an owner or operator of a farm or ranch on which an activated reservist is employed.

''(b) PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall establish a program to provide assistance to any borrower of a farmer program loan who is an eligible person.

''(c) MODIFICATION OF LOAN TERMS.—The Secretary shall modify the terms and conditions of a farmer program loan (including a loan in which any participant in the loan is an eligible person) made to an eligible person for a farm or ranch under this title, or purchased under section 309B, to the extent necessary, as determined by the Secretary, to alleviate conditions of distress related to the activation of the activated reservist and to assist in maintaining the farm or ranch for such period of time as the Secretary determines is fair and equitable.

''(d) DEBT RESTRUCTURING.—The Secretary may modify farmer program loans, including delinquent loans, by deferring principal or interest scheduled payments, reducing interest rates or accumulated interest charges, reamortizing or consolidating loans, reducing the amount of scheduled principal or interest payments, releasing additional income, reducing collateral requirements, or taking any other restructuring actions determined appropriate by the Secretary, to alleviate conditions of distress related to the activation of the activated reservist and to assist in maintaining the farm or ranch for such period of time as the Secretary determines is fair and equitable.

''(e) EMERGENCY LOANS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make an emergency loan under subtitle C to an eligible person for a farm or ranch that has suffered, or that is likely to suffer, substantial economic injury as the result of the activation of an activated reservist, as determined by the Secretary.

''(2) ADMINISTRATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), an emergency loan made under this subsection shall be made under the terms and conditions of subtitle C.

''(B) EXCEPTIONS.—An emergency loan made under this subsection shall not be subject to—

''(i) the requirements of section 321(a) for a finding by the Secretary that the applicants' farming, ranching, or aquaculture operations have been substantially affected by a natural disaster in the United States or by a major disaster or emergency designated by the President;

''(ii) section 321(b); or

''(iii) any other requirement of subtitle C that the Secretary waives to carry out this subsection.

''(3) PERIOD OF ELIGIBILITY.—To obtain an emergency loan under this subsection, an eligible person shall apply for the emergency loan during the period—

''(A) beginning on the date on which the activated reservist is activated; and

''(B) ending 180 days after the date on which the activated reservist is discharged or released from active duty.

''(f) NOTICE.—The Secretary shall develop a program to notify eligible persons of assistance that is available under this section.

''(g) SPOUSES OR RELATIVES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may provide for procedures under which the spouse or other close relative (as determined by the Secretary) of an activated reservist may participate in, or make decisions related to, a program administered by the Secretary under this title.

''(2) REPRESENTATION.—The Secretary may rely on the representation of the spouse or close relative (even in the absence of a power of attorney) made under the procedures described in paragraph (1) if the Secretary—

''(A) determines that the reliance is appropriate in order to prevent undue hardship and to provide equitable treatment for the activated reservist; and

''(B) has no reason to believe that the representation of the spouse or close relative is not in accordance with the intent and interests of the activated reservist.''.

SEC. 2. REGULATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall promulgate such regulations as are necessary to implement the amendment made by section 1.

(b) PROCEDURE.—The promulgation of the regulations and administration of the amendment made by section 1 shall be made without regard to—

(1) the notice and comment provisions of section 553 of title 5, United States Code;

(2) the Statement of Policy of the Secretary of Agriculture effective July 24, 1971 (36 Fed. Reg. 13804), relating to notices of proposed rulemaking and public participation in rulemaking; and

(3) chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Paperwork Reduction Act'').

(c) CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW OF AGENCY RULEMAKING.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall use the authority provided under section 808 of title 5, United States Code.

By Mr. BROWNBACK:

S. 1521. A bill to amend the FREEDOM Support Act to authorize the President to waive the restriction of assistance for Azerbaijan if the President determines that it is in the national security interest of the United States to do so; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Madam President, in the coming weeks, we are going to be debating several very contentious bills. However, more than at any other point in my career we are considering these issues in an extremely congenial, collegial, thoughtful and deliberative way. Certainly, many of us disagree about the details of one issue or another, however, we have consistently put the interest of the nation ahead of the our own interests as political actors.

This is very encouraging to me. This should be very encouraging to the American people. This should be very encouraging to freedom loving people of the world. The tenor of the debates on this floor should signify to everyone that the United States Government is operating not simply as well as it did before September 11th, but better that it did on September 11th. In the face of this attack, the American Government is operating just as it was always intended to operate.

Today, Madam President I rise to offer a bill that will ensure that our government continues to operate just as intended.

The administration is going about the business of fighting a war. That process relies greatly on our government's ability to strengthen ties with countries that agree to help us wage this war on terrorism. These countries, in many cases, will be taking on factions within their own borders in order to do what is right. For these efforts to prevail, we must use all our assets. One of the most important and appealing being trade and foreign assistance—particularly with regard to the nations of Central and South Asia.

In this spirit, I am introducing a bill which will grant the President the authority to waive the restriction on assistance to the country of Azerbaijan, if the President determines that our national security and interests will benefit from greater assistance and trade with this country—he should have the right to pursue that policy.

Section 907 of the Freedom Support Act places sanctions on Azerbaijan that prevent any support from the United States government for the young nation. This language ties the administration's hands as they attempt to work with this strategically important ally in the war against terrorism.

Unlike past efforts to repeal or waive section 907 sanctions on Azebaijan, today our debate is about more than regional stability in Central Asia—our debate now centers on United States national security interests.

Section 907 stands in the way of training and assistance for Azerbaijani military hospitals that may have to deal with casualties in this campaign.

Section 907 stands in the way of airport and air traffic control upgrades that may need to happen to assist our airforce.

There are over 71 million people in the Central Asian region which includes Azerbaijan. Many of these emerging democracies are battling fundamentalist factions. If we do not assist those who want to move westward, we empower the factions coming in from countries which support terrorist activities.

With the horrific attack on our country, we have been painfully awakened to the global and complex network that terrorists have created and aimed at our country and its interests. Our foreign policy must help fight against the creation of new terrorist breeding grounds as we fight the existing terrorist plague.

Azerbaijan itself is a bulwark against Islamic fundamentalism in the region. Since its independence, Azebaijan has endured Iranian pressure to adopt its style of government. Iran secretly funds hundreds of religious schools and colleges in Azerbaijan. Iranian diplomats and secret service representatives have been expelled from Azerbaijan on grounds that they are fomenting disturbances.

Iran criticizes Azerbaijan for its pro-U.S. stance and is concerned about the Azeris increasing ties to the West—particularly with U.S. companies. Iran seeks to ensure that Azerbaijan fails with its free market and democratic reforms, because secular independence and democratic Azerbaijan is perceived as a threat for the fundamentalist regime in Iran.

Right now, we need the help and cooperation of the entire Central Asian region—we can not afford to tie the President's hands over a conflict between two countries. This is particularly important now since these restrictions are used as anti-American fodder by fundamentalist factions hoping to shape the development of the region.

To reiterate, this provides national waiver authority to the President to lift sanctions on Azerbaijan. Briefly, the United States has had for a series of years, now, sanctions against Azerbaijan. For people not familiar, Azerbaijan sits in the Caspian Sea region right above Iran.

It is part of the former Soviet Union. It is an oil- and gas-rich area. It is a small country. But it is a small Islamic country that is strongly supportive of the United States.

Their President, President Aliyev, has issued statements about the strong support for the United States in the face of our attack on terrorism and dealing with terrorism. They have provided the United States fly-over rights, landing rights, refueling rights, and intelligence information as well. This is in that key strategic part of the world, the south Caucasus, just leading into central Asia. It has the gateway city, Baku, going into Asia. Baku is an old, really European-style city—a gorgeous place. But more important, they are supportive of the United States, and yet as they support us, we are sanctioning them.

We are likely to use military bases in Azerbaijan as a staging area or as a refueling area or, potentially if we have casualties in the region, as a hospital area as well. Yet we are sanctioning them.

If we continue with these sanctions, the Azeris are not going to be able to effectively help us and use their territories. Because of the sanctions we have against Azerbaijan, we cannot train their personnel to help us in guarding the perimeter of military bases where our aircraft may be. Because of the sanctions we have against Azerbaijan, we cannot train their hospital personnel to be able to help treat any potential difficulties that we may have in that region. Because of the sanctions we have against Azerbaijan, we cannot train their personnel in counterintelligence to help us in the gathering of information as to what is

taking place, what is moving in the region, so we can be more effective in our fight against terrorism. This is against a country that has been strongly supportive of the United States.

There has been a long, ongoing battle between the Azeris and the Armenians in this region of the world, and this has gone on for a long period of time. The sanctions are somewhat associated with that. But the point being, we have a fight now against terrorism. The President needs to have national security waiver authority so, in those specific areas that would be beneficial to us, he can lift those sanctions against Azerbaijan. This will be a tough issue, but that authority is something we should provide the President if we are going to prosecute this effort successfully. I think it is very important that we put this forward, that we pass it.

This is not taking the sanctions off completely. It is providing the President with waiver authority, national security waiver authority. There has to be a national security interest. If it is not needed, if the reason to have it is not there, the President doesn't have the authority to exercise it. So we should provide him that authority.

I am introducing this bill tonight. I urge my colleagues to look very closely at this issue, and I hope they will sign onto the bill so we can move this forward and allow the President the tools he needs to prosecute this war on terrorism effectively.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be received and appropriately referred.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 169—RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE MIKE MANSFIELD, FORMERLY A SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF MONTANA

Mr. DASCHLE (for himself, Mr. LOTT, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BURNS, Mr. BYRD, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. INOUYE, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. REID, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BOND, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. CAMPBELL, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CARNAHAN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. CLELAND, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. DODD, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. FRIST, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HELMS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KOHL, Mr. KYL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. MCCONNELL, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MILLER, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. REED, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SPECTER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WELLSTONE, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 169

Whereas Mike Mansfield, the son of Irish immigrants, was born in 1903 in New York City and raised in Great Falls, Montana;

Whereas Mike Mansfield was the youngest Montanan to serve in World War One, having enlisted in the United States Navy at the age of fourteen;

Whereas Mike Mansfield spent eight years working in the copper mines of Montana;

Whereas Mike Mansfield, at the urging of his wife Maureen, concentrated his efforts on education, obtaining both his high school diploma and B.A. degree in 1933, an M.A. in 1934, and became a professor of history at the University of Montana at Missoula, where he taught until 1952;

Whereas Mike Mansfield was elected to the House of Representatives in 1943 and served the State of Montana with distinction until his election to the United States Senate in 1952;

Whereas Mike Mansfield further served the State of Montana and his country in the Senate from 1952 to 1976, where he held the position of Majority Leader from 1961 to 1976, longer than any Leader before or since;

Whereas Mike Mansfield continued to serve his country under both Democratic and Republican administrations in the post of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Japan from 1977 to 1989; and

Whereas Mike Mansfield was a man of integrity, decency and honor who was loved and admired by this Nation: Now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable Mike Mansfield, formerly a Senator from the State of Montana.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased;

Resolved, That when the Senate adjourns today, it stand adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Senator.

SENATE RESOLUTION 170—HONORING THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE FOR THEIR COMMITMENT TO SECURITY AT THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL, PARTICULARLY ON AND SINCE SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Mr. WELLSTONE (for himself, Mr. DODD, and Mr. REID) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 170

Whereas the Capitol is an important symbol of freedom and democracy across the United States and throughout the world, and those who safeguard the Capitol safeguard that freedom and democracy;

Whereas millions of people visit the Capitol each year to observe and learn the workings of the democratic process;

Whereas the United States Capitol Police force was created by Congress in 1828 to provide security for the United States Capitol building;

Whereas, today the United States Capitol Police provide protection and support services throughout an array of congressional buildings, parks, and thoroughfares;

Whereas the United States Capitol police provide security for Members of Congress, their staffs, other government employees, and many others who live near, work on, and visit Capitol Hill;

Whereas the United States Capitol Police have successfully managed and coordinated major demonstrations, joint sessions of Congress, State of the Union Addresses, State funerals, and inaugurations;

Whereas the United States Capitol Police have bravely faced numerous emergencies, including three bombings and two shootings (the most recent of which in 1998 tragically took the lives of Private First Class Jacob 'J.J.' Chestnut and Detective John Michael Gibson);

Whereas the horrific events of September 11, 2001 have created a uniquely difficult environment, requiring heightened security, and prompting extra alertness and some strain among staff and visitors;

Whereas the U.S. Capitol Police force has responded to this challenge quickly and courageously, including by facilitating the evacuation of all of the buildings under their purview, as well as the perimeter thereof;

Whereas the United States Capitol Police Department has since instituted 12-hour, 6-day shifts, requiring that officers work 30 hours of overtime each week to ensure our continued protection;

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That—

(1) the Senate hereby honors and thanks the United States Capitol Police for their outstanding work and dedication, during a period of heightened security needs on the day of September 11, 2001 and thereafter;

(2) when the Senate adjourns on this date they shall do so knowing that they are protected and secure, thanks to the commitment of the United States Capitol Police.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 77—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE CONGRESS THAT A POSTAGE STAMP SHOULD BE ISSUED TO HONOR COAL MINERS

Mr. MCCONNELL submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs:

S. CON. RES. 77

Whereas the Nation is greatly indebted to coal miners for the difficult and dangerous work they have performed to provide the fuel needed to operate the Nation's industries and to provide energy to homes and businesses;

Whereas millions of workers have toiled in the Nation's coal mines over the last century, risking both life and limb to fuel the Nation's economic expansion;

Whereas during the last century over 100,000 coal miners have been killed in mining accidents in the Nation's coal mines, and 3,500,000 coal miners have suffered non-fatal injuries;

Whereas 100,000 coal miners have contracted Black Lung disease as a direct result of their toil in the Nation's coal mines;

Whereas coal provides 50 percent of the Nation's electricity and is an essential fuel for industries such as steel, cement, chemicals, food, and paper;

Whereas the United States has a demonstrated coal reserve of more than