

provide faster service for disabled and elderly veterans.

In conclusion, I urge my colleagues to support these vital enhancements to veterans benefits. As has been the case in previous years and is particularly important in light of our country's current military actions, this truly represents a bipartisan commitment to our Nation's veterans.

I ask unanimous consent that a summary of S. 1088 be printed in the RECORD.

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

SUMMARY OF S. 1088, AS AMENDED BY
MANAGER'S AMENDMENT

EDUCATION:

Increase the rate of the basic benefit of the Montgomery G.I. Bill (MGIB) from the current \$650 per month to \$700 per month beginning in October 1, 2001; \$800 per month in October 1, 2002; and \$950 per month in October 1, 2003.

Allows MGIB participants to receive their otherwise monthly payment as an accelerated lump-sum payment for the month in which the course begins.

Currently, MGIB benefits are paid in monthly installments. S. 1088 would create flexibility in the payment method for MGIB to partially pay for short-term/high tech courses. It would accelerate payment of up to 60 percent of the cost of an approved program that leads to employment in a high technology industry.

Preserves educational benefits for those that must leave their course of study to serve on active duty in support of the National Emergency declared in response to the events of September 11, 2001.

Increase Dependent's Educational Allowance (DEA) for dependents and eligible spouses of veterans for full-time students is to \$690 from \$588 on November 1, 2002.

COMPENSATION AND PENSION

Removes the arbitrary 30-year limit for manifestation of Agent Orange-related respiratory cancers in Vietnam veterans. The most recent National Academy of Sciences report confirmed that there is no scientific basis for assuming that cancers linked to dioxin exposure would occur with a specific window of time.

Tasks the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) to continue reviewing scientific evidence on effects on dioxin or herbicide exposure for 10 more years (five reports); and extends authority of the VA Secretary to presume service connection for additional diseases as based on future NAS reports for 10 more years.

Expands the compensation definition of "undiagnosed illness" for Gulf War veterans by adding poorly defined chronic multisymptom illnesses of unknown etiology, regardless of diagnosis. Congress provided compensation to these veterans disabled by "undiagnosed" illnesses. Since then many have received diagnoses for chronic conditions whose causes cannot be identified conclusively, but which preclude them from eligibility for benefits under the current law.

Streamlines VA pension eligibility and income reporting requirements.

HOUSING

Increases the home loan guaranty amount to \$63,175 from the current \$50,750, to keep pace with FHA loan guaranties supporting a loan of up to \$252,700. The VA guaranty amount has not been increased since 1994.

Extends the Native American veterans housing loan program, set to expire in 2002,

by four years. Special authority is necessary, in addition to the general VA home loan guaranty, because these homes sit on tribal land. This makes traditional foreclosure and resale by the mortgage holders impossible.

Extends the four years the authority for housing loan guaranties for members of the Selected Reserve (now set to expire in 2007). Reservists must serve six years in order to become eligible for a VA-guaranteed loan. In order for the home loan to be advertised as a recruiting incentive now, the benefit must be authorized beyond six years

BURIAL MATTERS

Increases VA burial benefits for service-connected deaths of veterans from \$1,500 to \$2,000.

Authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish bronze markers for already marked graves in order to more permanently commemorate the veteran's military service. VA is currently restricted by statute from providing a headstone or marker for already marked graves.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the Rockefeller-Specter substitute amendment at the desk be agreed to; the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to, as amended; the bill be read the third time; that the Veterans' Affairs Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1291; that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration; that all after the enacting clause be stricken; that the text of S. 1088, as amended, be inserted in lieu thereof; that the bill be read a third time and passed; that the title amendment be agreed to, which I now send to the desk; that S. 1088 be returned to the calendar; and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The amendment (No. 2462) was agreed to.

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended, was agreed to.

The bill (H.R. 1291), as amended, was read the third time and passed.

(The bill will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

The amendment (No. 2463) was agreed to, as follows:

Amend the title so as the read: "A Bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify and improve authorities relating to education benefits, compensation and pension benefits, housing benefits, burial benefits, and vocational rehabilitation benefits for veterans, to modify certain authorities relating to the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, and for other purposes."

MEASURE READ FOR THE FIRST
TIME—S. 1786

Mr. REID. I understand S. 1786 introduced earlier today by Senator DURBIN is at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1786) to expand aviation capacity in the Chicago area.

Mr. REID. I ask for its second reading, and I object to my own request on behalf of the minority.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The bill will be read the second time on the next legislative day.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST
TIME—S. 1789

Mr. REID. I understand S. 1789, introduced earlier today by Senator DODD, is at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1789) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to improve the safety and efficacy of pharmaceuticals for children.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I strongly support the Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act, which reauthorizes the pediatric drug exclusivity provision enacted as part of the FDA Modernization Act in 1997. I commend Senator DODD and Senator DEWINE for their effective leadership on this provision as well as Senator CLINTON for her important contributions to this legislation, and I also commend their staffs for their long and skilled work on this bill.

Combined with FDA's Rule that requires pediatric testing for drugs and biological products, this legislation is intended to do more to see that medicines are adequately tested for safety and effectiveness in children.

The 1997 provision has been a major success in encouraging essential studies of pharmaceutical products in children. Dozens of such drugs have been studied in children, and many of the products have now been relabeled or even reformulated for use in children. But the 1997 provision has not been an unqualified success. Although many products have been studied, others have not. For every label changed, others remain incomplete.

This reauthorization provides that every pharmaceutical product that is needed to treat children will, in fact, be studied in children. In a few years, there will be far fewer of these products that lack adequate information about pediatric use. The Food and Drug Administration will be able to act more quickly and successfully to see that drug companies label their products for such use. The bill also gives needed new priority to the appropriate use of cancer drugs for children.

In addition to extending and improving this program which has been so important in improving therapies for children, the bill closes technical loopholes which might have improperly barred generic drugs from the market or limited the incentives for generic drug development.

This is a bill that will make a major contribution to the health of American children and I urge its prompt passage by the Senate and the House.

Mr. REID. I ask for its second reading, and I object to my own request on behalf of the minority.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The bill will be read the second time on the next legislative day.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, December 11, the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 576, 587, and 591; that the Senate immediately vote on each nominee; that upon the disposition of these nominations, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and any statements thereon appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

I further ask unanimous consent that it be in order for the yeas and nays on each of the nominees with a show of hands.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask for the yeas and nays on the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2001

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until the hour of 3 p.m. on Monday, December 10, that immediately following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate resume consideration of S. 1731, the farm bill.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there will be no rollcall votes on Monday. The next rollcall votes will occur on Tuesday morning beginning at 9:30.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 3 P.M., MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2001

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 12:29 a.m., adjourned until Monday, December 10, 2001, at 3 p.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate December 7, 2001:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

PETER B. TEETS, OF MARYLAND, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE.

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.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

TAMMY DEE MCCUTCHEN, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE POSITIONS AND GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 8307:

To be the judge advocate general of the United States Air Force

MAJ. GEN. THOMAS J. FISCUS

To be major general and to be the deputy judge advocate general of the United States Air Force

BRIG. GEN. JACK L. RIVES

IN THE ARMY

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

To be brigadier general

COL. BRUCE H. BARLOW

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

BRIGADIER GENERAL KEITH B. ALEXANDER
BRIGADIER GENERAL ELDON A. BARGWELL
BRIGADIER GENERAL DAVID W. BARNO
BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN R. BATISTE
BRIGADIER GENERAL PETER W. CHIARELLI
BRIGADIER GENERAL CLAUDE V. CHRISTIANSON

BRIGADIER GENERAL ROBERT T. DAIL
BRIGADIER GENERAL PAUL D. EATON
BRIGADIER GENERAL KARL W. EIKENBERRY
BRIGADIER GENERAL ROBERT H. GRIFFIN
BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN W. HOLLY
BRIGADIER GENERAL DAVID H. HUNTOON, JR.
BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES C. HYLTON
BRIGADIER GENERAL GENE M. LACOSTE
BRIGADIER GENERAL DEE A. MCWILLIAMS
BRIGADIER GENERAL RAYMOND T. ODIERNO
BRIGADIER GENERAL VIRGIL L. PACKETT II
BRIGADIER GENERAL JOSEPH F. PETERSON
BRIGADIER GENERAL DAVID H. PETRAEUS
BRIGADIER GENERAL MARILYN A. QUAGLIOTTI
BRIGADIER GENERAL MICHAEL D. ROCHELLE
BRIGADIER GENERAL DONALD J. RYDER
BRIGADIER GENERAL HENRY W. STRATMAN
BRIGADIER GENERAL JOE G. TAYLOR, JR.
BRIGADIER GENERAL N. ROSS THOMPSON III
BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES D. THURMAN
BRIGADIER GENERAL THOMAS R. TURNER II
BRIGADIER GENERAL MICHAEL A. VANE
BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM G. WEBSTER, JR.

IN THE NAVY

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

TO BE REAR ADMIRAL

REAR ADM. (LH) ANTHONY W. LINGERICH

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

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) RICHARD B. PORTERFIELD

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

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. STEPHEN A. TURCOTTE

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

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) DAVID ARCHITZEL

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

VICE ADM. CHARLES W. MOORE, JR.

IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING KETTY M. GONZALEZ AND ENDING AMANDA D. STODARD, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 21, 2001.

IN THE ARMY

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING VERN J. ABDOO AND ENDING DOUGLAS K. ZIMMERMAN II, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 27, 2001.

IN THE NAVY

NAVY NOMINATION OF JOHN B. STOCKEL
NAVY NOMINATION OF PHILIP F. STANLEY