

such sums as are necessary to commission a drug test for MDMA which would meet the standards for the Federal Workplace.

SEC. 8006. NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE REPORT.

(a) RESEARCH.—The Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (referred to in this section as the “Director”) shall conduct research—

(1) that evaluates the effects that MDMA use can have on an individual’s health, such as—

(A) physiological effects such as changes in ability to regulate one’s body temperature, stimulation of the cardiovascular system, muscle tension, teeth clenching, nausea, blurred vision, rapid eye movement, tremors, and other such conditions, some of which can result in heart failure or heat stroke;

(B) psychological effects such as mood and mind altering and panic attacks which may come from altering various neurotransmitter levels such as serotonin in the brain;

(C) short-term effects like confusion, depression, sleep problems, severe anxiety, paranoia, hallucinations, and amnesia; and

(D) long-term effects on the brain with regard to memory and other cognitive functions, and other medical consequences; and

(2) documenting those research findings and conclusions with respect to MDMA that are scientifically valid and identify the medical consequences on an individual’s health.

(b) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than January 1, 2003, the Director shall submit a report to the Congress.

(c) REPORT PUBLIC.—The report required by this section shall be made public.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

SEC. 8007. INTERAGENCY ECSTASY/CLUB DRUG TASK FORCE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy shall establish a Task Force on Ecstasy/MDMA and Emerging Club Drugs (referred to in this section as the “task force”) which shall—

(A) design, implement, and evaluate the education, prevention, and treatment practices and strategies of the Federal Government with respect to Ecstasy, MDMA, and emerging club drugs; and

(B) specifically study the club drug problem and report its findings to Congress.

(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The task force shall—

(A) be under the jurisdiction of the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, who shall designate a chairperson; and

(B) include as members law enforcement, substance abuse prevention, judicial, and public health professionals as well as representatives from Federal, State, and local agencies.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The responsibilities of the task force shall be—

(1) to evaluate the current practices and strategies of the Federal Government in education, prevention, and treatment for Ecstasy, MDMA, and other emerging club drugs and recommend appropriate and beneficial models for education, prevention, and treatment;

(2) to identify appropriate government components and resources to implement task force recommendations; and

(3) to make recommendations to the President and Congress to implement proposed improvements in accordance with the National Drug Control Strategy and its budget allocations.

(c) MEETINGS.—The task force shall meet at least once every 6 months.

(d) TERMINATION.—The task force shall terminate 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, December 20, 2001, at 11:30 a.m., in executive session to consider a civilian nomination and pending military nominations.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Thursday, December 20, 2001, at 9:30 a.m., on the nomination of John Magaw to be Undersecretary of Transportation Security, (DOT).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. WELLSTONE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Ellen Gerrity, of my staff, be allowed floor privileges for the duration of today.

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

Mr. GRAHAM. I ask unanimous consent Tiffany Smith, a fellow in our office, be permitted the privilege of the floor.

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

MAKING FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to H.J. Res. 79, the continuing resolution, which is at the desk.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 79) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2002, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the joint resolution be read a third time, passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, without intervening action or debate.

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

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 79) was read the third time and passed.

CONVENING OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE 107TH CONGRESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.J. Res. 80, which we have just received from the House and is now at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the joint resolution.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 80) appointing the day for the convening of the second session of the one hundred seventh Congress.

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

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the joint resolution be read a third time, passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, without any intervening action or debate.

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

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 80) was read the third time and passed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senator from Montana is recognized.

TAX EXTENDERS

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, in a few moments I am going to ask that the Senate take up and pass the tax extenders legislation. It is unfortunate that the Congress, along with the President, were unable to agree on a stimulus to the American economy that would provide not only a boost to the American economy, but also assistance to those who have lost unemployment compensation benefits as a consequence of the decline in the economy accelerated by the events of September 11, as well as those who have lost health insurance as a consequence of losing their jobs.

It is almost axiomatic that the economy is in tough shape. I do not expect with a high degree of certainty that the Congress is going to come back to where we would like to be very quickly.

There are some small points which I think we should keep in mind. One is that auto sales broke records with zero percent financing, and the auto companies get most of their income from financing. So they were not making any money these past couple of months, which means reports coming out next quarter and even this quarter will not be high.

The same applies to retail sales. It is the Christmas season. We know stores across the country, in order to encourage more sales, are giving tremendous discounts, which clearly discounts that company’s income.

We are going to have to face a stimulus package and should this next year. I hope we do it in a much more accommodating manner than we have in the last several weeks.

I am not going to get into the blame game. I am not going to say who

caused this collapse. I have lots of ideas. That is history. What happened happened. It is now time to go forward. I urge my colleagues, after appropriate rest and a break over the holidays, when they are rested up, to come back with renewed vigor and renewed dedication and perseverance to working together and, most important, listening to the other side.

Too often we tend to talk, and we do not listen enough. If we were to listen a little more, even for a nanosecond, I think that would be progress. I urge my colleagues to listen to different points of view next year.

Nevertheless, I think we should salvage whatever we can, and part of that is what is called the tax extenders. These include matters that are very important for the economy and for people who are relying on them. One is the work opportunity tax credit which helps people find jobs.

The Joint Committee on Tax estimates 450,000 to 525,000 will be hired with this credit next year. It expires this year. All provisions I mentioned expire this year, and I think it is important to keep those in existence so next year people can rely upon them.

Another is extending the qualified zone academy bond that authorizes \$400 billion in bonds to States in the calendar year 2002. That is to renovate schools and purchase equipment. That expires this year and will terminate unless this legislation I mentioned passes.

A key point, and I urge my colleagues to listen to this, it is a matter of confidence and certainty. These are provisions upon which so many people in our country depend. Over the years, they have been on again, off again. It is like a yo-yo.

It is no way to do business. People need certainty, a little more than they have today in these uncertain times, a little more ability to predict the future. If we could pass this legislation tonight, extending the extenders, that would enable people with more certainty to know they can count on an existing law.

This is not new law. This is an extension of existing law. It is not right for us to be not continuing that legislation because, otherwise, we will wake up next year, January 1 or 2, and these are not in effect. There are many other of them that are very good and, again, it creates that uncertainty.

One, for example, is AMT for individuals. That is the alternative minimum tax credit. That is an extender. According to the Joint Committee on Tax, 900,000 Americans will be subject to the AMT without this relief, as one of the extenders we have.

Four hundred thousand of those will be taxpayers with incomes between \$50,000 and \$75,000. Those are really middle-income Americans. If we do not extend this extender, then those people will be subject to the AMT tax.

In addition, this package includes an extension of a GSP, that is a general-

ized preference for trade. That is a trade provision that is in the law today. The Andean Trade Preference Act extends that. It is in the law today, in addition to trade adjustment assistance.

I strongly urge my colleagues to think of Americans and pass this request.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to immediate consideration of Calendar No. 33, H.R. 8; that the Baucus substitute amendment at the desk be agreed to; the bill as amended be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. NICKLES. Reserving the right to object, I concur with many of the statements my friend from Montana made; it is very important for us to work together more than we have done in the last few months. The unanimous consent request, if I am reading it correctly, says the Senate wants to substitute the extenders for H.R. 8, which is the revenue package that passed April 6. Is that correct?

Mr. BAUCUS. That is correct.

Mr. NICKLES. That package would be a substitute for it? In other words, this was a bill that would basically, over a 10-year period of time, eliminate the death tax, I believe, and the Senator wants to strike all that language and put in a 2-year extender bill; is that correct?

Mr. BAUCUS. This is 1 year. There is no intention to repeal any of the tax provisions that passed earlier this year.

Mr. NICKLES. I am reading this as a substitute for the House bill. I believe it is a substitute for the House bill. If the Senator modifies this and makes it in addition to the House bill, at least this Senator would not object. But if it is striking the House bill, I feel constrained to object.

If the Senator is willing to move it, in addition to the House bill, I will not object at this time.

Mr. BAUCUS. I will respond to my colleague that my intention is to take up the bill that is already on the calendar.

Mr. NICKLES. I know.

Mr. BAUCUS. And strike out the substance of it; take it up and pass it back with these provisions.

I might answer my friend, this is the procedure we have to follow in order to pass these extenders.

Mr. NICKLES. Further reserving the right to object, again I will object if it is striking the House bill. The House passed a bill with a good vote. I do not remember exactly what it was. If it is in addition to the House bill, I would not object.

I ask my colleague—and I think I hear the Senator saying he is not going to—is it not the intent of the Senator not to pass the House-passed bill? I was hoping we could make a deal.

I might mention we might have to notify a few other Senators before we do this by unanimous consent.

Mr. BAUCUS. I see. It is now more clear to me what is happening.

Mr. NICKLES. My intention was, if we want to repeal the death tax and pass the extenders, this Senator would have no objection. I am sure we could whip it and see if there would be no objection.

Mr. BAUCUS. I understand. I am sure the Senator would love to do that, and I am also sure there would be other Senators who would object.

Mr. NICKLES. The Presiding Officer might like for us to do that.

Mr. BAUCUS. Given all the objections that approach will take, I was asking the Senator to consider the approach I am suggesting.

Mr. NICKLES. Further reserving the right to object, if the Senator is not going to agree to pass the House-passed language that passed in April with the extenders language, then I ask the Senator to modify his request and let us take up the stimulus package that did have the extenders, that did have many other provisions that would have helped the unemployed, that did have some things that would help stimulate the economy, that did some things that would help New York in addition to what we have already done today. So I ask my colleague to modify his request, let us take up the stimulus package, the H.R. 3529, which was received from the House.

I ask unanimous consent that the request be modified so that at first the Senate would proceed to consideration of H.R. 3529, which is the stimulus package received by the House; the bill be read a third time and passed, with no intervening action or debate.

I would add, before the Chair rules, the bill has extender language that my colleague from Montana is requesting and therefore it would accommodate his request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Does the Senator so modify his request?

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I believe the Senator made a unanimous consent request that would change my unanimous consent request, at least as I understand it. I ask the Senator if he will modify his request to substitute the stimulus bill that passed the Senate Finance Committee instead of the bill that passed the House.

Mr. NICKLES. I cannot agree to that. I do not know if we are playing one-upmanship. I would like to pass the bill that passed the House. So I will not agree to that.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, it is clear what is happening.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the request of the Senator from Montana?

Mr. NICKLES. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Under the previous order, the Senator from Louisiana is recognized.

BIOTERRORISM

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, there are many important issues on the