

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

S. 2003

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 "Veterans Benefits and Pensions Protection Act of 2002".

SEC. 2. APPLICABILITY OF PROHIBITION ON ASSIGNMENT OF VETERANS BENEFITS TO AGREEMENTS ON FUTURE RECEIPT OF CERTAIN BENEFITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5301(a) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting "(1)" after "(a)";

(2) by designating the last sentence as paragraph (2) and indenting such paragraph, as so designated, two ems from the left margin; and

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

"(3)(A) For purposes of this subsection, in any case where a beneficiary entitled to compensation, pension, or dependency and indemnity compensation enters into an agreement with another person under which agreement such other person acquires for consideration the right to receive payment of such compensation, pension, or dependency and indemnity compensation, as the case may be, whether by payment from the beneficiary to such other person, deposit into an account from which such other person may make withdrawals, or otherwise, such agreement shall be deemed to be an assignment and is prohibited.

"(B) Any agreement or arrangement for collateral for security for an agreement that is prohibited under subparagraph (A) is also prohibited.

"(C)(i) Any person who enters into an agreement that is prohibited under subparagraph (A), or an agreement or arrangement that is prohibited under subparagraph (B), shall be fined under title 18, imprisoned for not more than one year, or both.

"(ii) This subparagraph does not apply to a beneficiary with respect to compensation, pension, or disability and indemnity compensation to which the beneficiary is entitled under a law administered by the Secretary."

(b) EFFECTIVE DATES.—(1) Subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (3) of section 5301(a) of title 38, United States Code (as added by subsection (a) of this section), shall apply with respect to any agreement or arrangement described in such subparagraphs, whether entered into before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act, and any such agreement or arrangement entered into before the date of the enactment of this Act is void and unenforceable as of such date.

(2) Subparagraph (C) of such paragraph shall apply with respect to any agreement or arrangement covered by such subparagraph that is entered into on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) OUTREACH.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall, during the five-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, carry out a program of outreach to inform veterans and other recipients or potential recipients of compensation, pension, or disability and indemnity compensation benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of the prohibition on the assignability of such benefits under law. The program shall include information on various schemes to evade the prohibition, and means of avoiding such schemes.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is hereby authorized to be appropriated for the Department of Veterans Af-

fairs for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2007, \$3,000,000 for purposes of carrying out the program of outreach required by subsection (c).

STATEMENTS ON SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 222—COM-MENDING AND SUPPORTING THE TROOPS

Mr. DASCHLE (for himself and Mr. LOTT) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to.

S. RES. 222

Whereas, Al Qaeda, which attacked the United States on September 11 and killed thousands of people, remains a threat to the national security of the United States;

Whereas, the servicemen and women of the United States, who have undertaken more than twenty weeks of courageous and successful operations, are currently engaged in the largest ground combat operation in Afghanistan since the October 7, 2001 start of U.S. and allied military efforts;

Whereas, United States military personnel face tremendous risks in Afghanistan, as evidenced by the fierce attacks that killed at least 8 American servicemen and injured more than 30 American servicemen during the conduct of Operation Anaconda;

Whereas, we are engaged in an unprecedented global conflict, one that presents many new and dangerous challenges to the men and women of the Armed Forces;

Whereas, the Senate has supported all of the President's requests to meet this deadly new threat to world peace;

Whereas, this conflict will require our unflinching resolve, and the first priority of the Congress is to provide our soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines with the necessary resources and tools required for victory;

Whereas, the United States remains steadfastly determined to bring to justice the perpetrators of the September 11 attacks against America.

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That

(1) The Senate expresses the gratitude of the Nation to:

(A) The United States Armed Forces who are participating in Operation Enduring Freedom.

(B) The families of American service men and women participating in Operation Enduring Freedom, who have borne the burden of separation from their loved ones, and staunchly supported them during this effort.

(2) The Senate expresses its condolences to the families of the brave American service personnel who have lost their lives defending America in the war against terrorism.

(3) The Senate reaffirms that it stands united with the President in the ongoing effort to defeat terrorism.

SENATE RESOLUTION 223—DESIGNATING MARCH 8, 2002, AS "INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY"

Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. DODD, Mrs. CLINTON, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARPER, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. LANDRIEU, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. KOHL, Mr. HATCH, Mr. BREAUX, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. SNOWE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN,

Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. BAYH, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mrs. CARNAHAN, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. KERRY, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. BURNS, and Mr. BINGAMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to.

S. RES. 223

Whereas all over the world women are contributing to the growth of economies, participating in the world of diplomacy and politics, and improving the quality of the lives of their families, communities, and nations;

Whereas discrimination continues to deny women full political and economic equality and is often the basis for violations of women's basic human rights;

Whereas worldwide the lives and health of women and girls continue to be endangered by violence that is directed at them simply because they are women;

Whereas worldwide violence against women includes rape, genital mutilation, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, honor killings, sexual trafficking in women, dowry-related violence, female infanticide, sex selection abortion, forced pregnancy, forced sterilization and forced abortion;

Whereas worldwide at least 1 in 3 females has been beaten or sexually abused in her lifetime;

Whereas 1 in 6 women in the United States has experienced an attempted or completed sexual assault;

Whereas somewhere in the United States, a woman is battered, usually by her intimate partner, every 15 seconds;

Whereas somewhere in the United States, a woman is raped every 90 seconds;

Whereas it is estimated that 1 in 5 adolescent girls in the United States becomes a victim of physical or sexual abuse, or both, in a dating relationship;

Whereas only 17 countries consider marital rape to be a criminal offense;

Whereas worldwide, women account for almost half of all cases of HIV/AIDS, approximately 32,400,000, and in countries with high HIV prevalence, young women are at a higher risk than young men of contracting HIV;

Whereas worldwide sexual violence, including marital rape, has been denounced as a major cause of the rapid spread of HIV/AIDS among women;

Whereas 3% of the world's 876,000,000 individuals who are illiterate are women;

Whereas of the 125,000,000 school-aged children not in school all over the world, 3% are girls;

Whereas worldwide girls are less likely to complete school than boys;

Whereas in the United States, in the 3 decades since 1971, the educational attainment rates of females has increased faster than those of males, and by the year 2000, not only did females have higher rates of completing high school and some college, but there were no differences in the percentages of males and females with a bachelor's degree or higher;

Whereas it is estimated that women and their children make up more than 70 percent of the 1,300,000,000 poorest people in the world;

Whereas worldwide, women remain vastly underrepresented in national and local assemblies, accounting for less than 10 percent of the seats in parliament, on average (except for East Asia where the figure is approximately 18 to 19 percent), and in no developing region do women hold more than 8 percent of the ministerial positions;

Whereas illegal trafficking worldwide for forced labor, domestic servitude, or sexual exploitation involves between 1,000,000 and 2,000,000 women and children each year, of whom 50,000 are transported to the United States;

Whereas worldwide women still earn less, own less property, and have less access to education, employment, and health care than do men;

Whereas March 8 has become known as International Women's Day for the last century, and is a day on which people, often divided by ethnicity, language, culture, and income, come together to celebrate a common struggle for women's equality, justice, and peace;

Whereas the dedication and successes of those working all over the world to end violence against women and girls and fighting for equality should be recognized; and

Whereas the people of the United States should be encouraged to participate in International Women's Day: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates March 8, 2002, as International Women's Day;

(2) reaffirms its commitment—

(A) to ending discrimination and violence against women;

(B) to ensuring the safety and welfare of women; and

(C) to pursuing policies that guarantee the basic rights of women both in the United States and in the world; and

(3) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe "International Women's Day" with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 224—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 6, 2002, AS "NATIONAL CRAZY HORSE DAY"

Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. CAMPBELL, and Mr. FEINGOLD) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 224

Whereas Crazy Horse was born on Rapid Creek in 1843;

Whereas during his lifetime, Crazy Horse was a great leader of his people;

Whereas Crazy Horse was a warrior and a military genius, and his battle strategies are studied to this day at West Point;

Whereas Crazy Horse was a "Shirt Wearer", having duties comparable to those of the Secretary of State;

Whereas it was only after he saw the treaty of 1868 broken that Crazy Horse defended his people and their way of life in the only manner he knew;

Whereas Crazy Horse took to battle only after he saw his friend, Conquering Bear, killed and after he saw the failure of Federal Government agents to supply treaty guarantees such as food, clothing, shelter, and necessities for existence; and

Whereas Crazy Horse was killed at Fort Robinson, Nebraska, on September 6, 1877, when he was only 34 years of age: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 6, 2002, as "National Crazy Horse Day"; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the Federal Government and State and local governments, interested groups and organizations, and the people of the United States to observe the

day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a resolution that will commemorate the life of Crazy Horse. I submit this legislation along with Senators DORGAN, BEN NELSON, CONRAD, BINGAMAN, BAUCUS, DASCHLE, CAMPBELL, and FEINGOLD. Crazy Horse was a great leader of his people, and the designation of September 6 will be the ultimate commendation for his bravery and contribution to Native Americans.

Crazy Horse was born on Rapid Creek in 1843. He was killed when he was only 34 years of age, September 6, 1877. He was stabbed in the back by a soldier at Fort Robinson, NE, while he was under U.S. Army protection. During his life he was a great leader of his people. Crazy Horse was a warrior and a military genius. His battle strategies are studied to this day at West Point.

Crazy Horse was bestowed with the honor of becoming a Shirt Wearer. This honor is comparable to duties like that of the Secretary of State.

Crazy Horse defended his people and their way of life in the only manner he knew, but only after he saw the treaty of 1868 broken. He took to the warpath only after he saw his friend Conquering Bear killed; only after he saw the failure of the government agents to bring required treaty guarantees such as food, clothing, shelter and necessities for existence. In battle the Sioux war leader would rally his warriors with the cry, "It is a good day to fight—it is a good day to die."

Throughout recent history, a memorial commemorating the life of this great warrior is under construction in my State of South Dakota. I would like to take these efforts one step further and designate September 6, 2002, the 125th anniversary of Crazy Horse's death, as "National Crazy Horse Day."

I urge my colleagues to join me in the commemoration of this great hero.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2992. Mr. NELSON of Florida submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2917 proposed by Mr. DASCHLE (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN) to the bill (S. 517) to authorize funding the Department of Energy to enhance its mission areas through technology transfer and partnerships for fiscal years 2002 through 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2992. Mr. NELSON of Florida submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2917 proposed by Mr. DASCHLE (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN) to the bill (S. 517) to authorize funding the Department of Energy to enhance its mission areas through technology transfer and partnerships for fiscal years 2002 through 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 94, between lines 16 and 17, insert the following:

SEC. 5. REPORT ON MISSILE DEFENSE OF NUCLEAR FACILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall conduct a study of the feasibility and desirability of establishing ground-based air defense missile systems, integrated with the national air defense system under the North American Aerospace Defense Command, at critical nuclear facilities to protect against threats from aircraft.

(b) MATTERS TO BE ADDRESSED.—The study shall include analyses of—

(1) alternative organizations, structures, and equipment to be used in connection with the missile defense systems; and

(2) the utility, suitability, feasibility, risks, and costs of establishing the missile defense systems.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy shall submit to Congress a report describing the results of the study.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Sarah Lennon, a fellow in the office of Senator CARNAHAN, be granted floor privileges during debate on the energy bill.

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

RECESS SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, we will be taking up other business before the end of the day, but until that time, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 11:20 a.m., recessed subject to the call of the Chair and reassembled at 11:50 a.m., when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. WYDEN).

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, there are pieces of business we need to accommodate prior to the end of the session today. All of these matters have the approval of the distinguished Republican leader.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. DASCHLE. I begin by asking unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar Nos. 707 through 723, en bloc, that the nominations be confirmed en bloc, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, any statements thereon appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD, and the Senate return to legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Paul I. Perez, of Florida, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Florida, for the term of four years.

Eric F. Melgren, of Kansas, to be United States Attorney for the District of Kansas for the term of four years.