

STATEMENTS ON SUBMITTED  
RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 51—AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. LIEBERMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 51

*Resolved,*

SECTION 1. COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of such rules, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Governmental Affairs (referred to in this resolution as the “committee”) is authorized from March 1, 2003, through February 28, 2005, in its discretion—

(1) to make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) to employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, to use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2003.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2003, through September 30, 2003, under this section shall not exceed \$4,764,738, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$75,000, may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 72a(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000, may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2003, through September 30, 2004, under this section shall not exceed \$8,387,779, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$75,000, may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 72a(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000, may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2005.—For the period October 1, 2004, through February 28, 2005, expenses of the committee under this section shall not exceed \$3,576,035, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$75,000, may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000, may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 2. REPORTING LEGISLATION.

The committee shall report its findings, together with such recommendations for leg-

islation as it deems advisable, to the Senate at the earliest practicable date, but not later than February 28, 2005.

SEC. 3. EXPENSES; AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS; AND INVESTIGATIONS.

(a) EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), any expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee.

(2) VOUCHERS NOT REQUIRED.—Vouchers shall not be required for—

(A) the disbursement of salaries of employees of the committee who are paid at an annual rate;

(B) the payment of telecommunications expenses provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(C) the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of Stationery;

(D) payments to the Postmaster of the Senate;

(E) the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(F) the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services; or

(G) for payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate.

(b) AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.—There are authorized such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee for the period March 1, 2003, through September 30, 2003, for the period October 1, 2003, through September 30, 2004, and for the period October 1, 2004, through February 28, 2005, to be paid from the appropriations account for “Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations” of the Senate.

(c) INVESTIGATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The committee, or any duly authorized subcommittee of the committee, is authorized to study or investigate—

(A) the efficiency and economy of operations of all branches of the Government including the possible existence of fraud, misfeasance, malfeasance, collusion, mismanagement, incompetence, corruption, or unethical practices, waste, extravagance, conflicts of interest, and the improper expenditure of Government funds in transactions, contracts, and activities of the Government or of Government officials and employees and any and all such improper practices between Government personnel and corporations, individuals, companies, or persons affiliated therewith, doing business with the Government; and the compliance or noncompliance of such corporations, companies, or individuals or other entities with the rules, regulations, and laws governing the various governmental agencies and its relationships with the public;

(B) the extent to which criminal or other improper practices or activities are, or have been, engaged in the field of labor-management relations or in groups or organizations of employees or employers, to the detriment of interests of the public, employers, or employees, and to determine whether any changes are required in the laws of the United States in order to protect such interests against the occurrence of such practices or activities;

(C) organized criminal activity which may operate in or otherwise utilize the facilities of interstate or international commerce in furtherance of any transactions and the manner and extent to which, and the identity of the persons, firms, or corporations, or other entities by whom such utilization is being made, and further, to study and investigate the manner in which and the extent to which persons engaged in organized criminal

activity have infiltrated lawful business enterprise, and to study the adequacy of Federal laws to prevent the operations of organized crime in interstate or international commerce; and to determine whether any changes are required in the laws of the United States in order to protect the public against such practices or activities;

(D) all other aspects of crime and lawlessness within the United States which have an impact upon or affect the national health, welfare, and safety; including but not limited to investment fraud schemes, commodity and security fraud, computer fraud, and the use of offshore banking and corporate facilities to carry out criminal objectives;

(E) the efficiency and economy of operations of all branches and functions of the Government with particular reference to—

(i) the effectiveness of present national security methods, staffing, and processes as tested against the requirements imposed by the rapidly mounting complexity of national security problems;

(ii) the capacity of present national security staffing, methods, and processes to make full use of the Nation’s resources of knowledge and talents;

(iii) the adequacy of present intergovernmental relations between the United States and international organizations principally concerned with national security of which the United States is a member; and

(iv) legislative and other proposals to improve these methods, processes, and relationships;

(F) the efficiency, economy, and effectiveness of all agencies and departments of the Government involved in the control and management of energy shortages including, but not limited to, their performance with respect to—

(i) the collection and dissemination of accurate statistics on fuel demand and supply;

(ii) the implementation of effective energy conservation measures;

(iii) the pricing of energy in all forms;

(iv) coordination of energy programs with State and local government;

(v) control of exports of scarce fuels;

(vi) the management of tax, import, pricing, and other policies affecting energy supplies;

(vii) maintenance of the independent sector of the petroleum industry as a strong competitive force;

(viii) the allocation of fuels in short supply by public and private entities;

(ix) the management of energy supplies owned or controlled by the Government;

(x) relations with other oil producing and consuming countries;

(xi) the monitoring of compliance by governments, corporations, or individuals with the laws and regulations governing the allocation, conservation, or pricing of energy supplies; and

(xii) research into the discovery and development of alternative energy supplies; and

(G) the efficiency and economy of all branches and functions of Government with particular references to the operations and management of Federal regulatory policies and programs.

(2) EXTENT OF INQUIRIES.—In carrying out the duties provided in paragraph (1), the inquiries of this committee or any subcommittee of the committee shall not be construed to be limited to the records, functions, and operations of any particular branch of the Government and may extend to the records and activities of any persons, corporation, or other entity.

(3) SPECIAL COMMITTEE AUTHORITY.—For the purposes of this subsection, the committee, or any duly authorized subcommittee of the committee, or its chairman, or any other member of the committee or subcommittee designated by the chairman, from March 1, 2003, through February 28, 2005, is authorized, in its, his, or their discretion—

(A) to require by subpoena or otherwise the attendance of witnesses and production of correspondence, books, papers, and documents;

(B) to hold hearings;

(C) to sit and act at any time or place during the sessions, recess, and adjournment periods of the Senate;

(D) to administer oaths; and

(E) to take testimony, either orally or by sworn statement, or, in the case of staff members of the Committee and the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, by deposition in accordance with the Committee Rules of Procedure.

(4) AUTHORITY OF OTHER COMMITTEES.—Nothing contained in this subsection shall affect or impair the exercise of any other standing committee of the Senate of any power, or the discharge by such committee of any duty, conferred or imposed upon it by the Standing Rules of the Senate or by the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946.

(5) SUBPOENA AUTHORITY.—All subpoenas and related legal processes of the committee and its subcommittee authorized under S. Res. 54, agreed to March 8, 2001 (107th Congress) are authorized to continue.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 52—RECOGNIZING THE SOCIAL PROBLEM OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT, AND SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO ENHANCE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE PROBLEM

Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself, Mr. CRAIG, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. LOTT, Mr. DORGAN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. KOHL, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. BIDEN, and Mr. ALLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 52

Whereas approximately 3,000,000 reports of suspected or known child abuse and neglect involving 5,000,000 American children are made to child protective service agencies each year;

Whereas 588,000 American children are unable to live safely with their families and are placed in foster homes and institutions;

Whereas it is estimated that more than 1,200 children, 85 percent of whom are under the age of 6 years and 44 percent of whom are under the age of 1 year, lose their lives as a direct result of abuse and neglect every year in America;

Whereas this tragic social problem results in human and economic costs due to its relationship to crime and delinquency, drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence, and welfare dependency; and

Whereas Childhelp USA has initiated a "Day of Hope" to be observed on Wednesday, April 2, 2003, during Child Abuse Prevention Month, to focus public awareness on this social ill: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That—

(1) it is the sense of the Senate that—

(A) all Americans should keep the victims of child abuse and neglect in their thoughts and prayers;

(B) all Americans should seek to break the cycle of child abuse and neglect and to give

these victimized children hope for the future; and

(C) the faith community, nonprofit organizations, and volunteers across America should recommit themselves and mobilize their resources to assist these abused and neglected children; and

(2) the Senate—

(A) supports the goals and ideas of the "Day of Hope", which was initiated by Childhelp USA and will be observed on April 2, 2003, as part of Child Abuse Prevention Month; and

(B) commends Childhelp USA for all of its efforts on behalf of abused and neglected children throughout the United States.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, today I am submitting a resolution declaring Wednesday, April 2, 2003, as a National Day of Hope dedicated to remembering the victims of child abuse and neglect and recognizing Childhelp USA for initiating such a day. I am pleased to be joined in this effort by my colleagues Senators CRAIG, LINCOLN, HATCH, LOTT, DORGAN, LANDRIEU, KOHL, INHOFE, DOMENICI, SPECTER, BIDEN, and ALLEN who are original cosponsors of the resolution.

This resolution is similar to one I introduced in the 107th Congress, S. Res. 132, which passed the Senate by unanimous consent on May 22, 2002. It expresses the sense of Congress that we must break the cycle of child abuse and neglect by mobilizing all our resources including the faith community, nonprofit organizations and volunteers.

The resolution also recognizes Childhelp USA for focusing its efforts on prevention and research as well as on treatment. Childhelp USA is one of our oldest national organizations dedicated to meeting the needs of abused and neglected children. Childhelp and many other non-profits or faith-based organizations nationwide are performing a vital service to these children that they would not have otherwise, and they are to be commended for their efforts.

More than 3 million children are reported as suspected victims of child abuse and neglect each year. That is 3 million children too many. And, it is estimated that more than 1200 children lose their lives as a direct result of abuse and neglect every year. That is not acceptable. We must do something to change these disturbing statistics.

I know first-hand the importance of having help when it is needed. The National Day of Hope Resolution calls on each of us to renew our duty and responsibility to the vulnerable children and families caught in the cycle of child abuse and neglect.

While we are encouraged by the efforts of many organizations nationwide, more needs to be done. That is why we urge our colleagues to act quickly on this resolution so we can move another step closer to erasing the horror of child abuse from our Nation's history.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 53—AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. SPECTER submitted the following resolution; from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 53

*Resolved*, That, in carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdictions under rule XXV of such rules, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs is authorized from March 1, 2003, through September 30, 2003; October 1, 2003, through September 30, 2004; and October 1, 2004, through February 28, 2005, in its discretion (1) to make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate, (2) to employ personnel, and (3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, to use on a reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. (a) The expenses of the committee for period March 1, 2003, through September 30, 2003, under this resolution shall not exceed \$1,112,475, of which amount (1) not to exceed \$59,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended), and (2) not to exceed \$5,900 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

(b) For the period October 1, 2003, through September 30, 2004, expenses of the committee under this resolution shall not exceed \$1,958,451, of which amount (1) not to exceed \$100,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended), and (2) not to exceed \$10,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

(c) For the period October 1, 2004, through February 28, 2005, expenses of the committee under this resolution shall not exceed \$834,987, of which amount (1) not to exceed \$42,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended), and (2) not to exceed \$4,200 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

SEC. 3. The committee shall report its findings, together with such recommendation for legislation as it deems advisable, to the Senate at the earliest practicable date, but not later than February 28, 2004, and February 28, 2005, respectively.

SEC. 4. Expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee, except that vouchers shall not be required for (1) the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate, or (2) for the

payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate, or (3) for the payment stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of Stationery, United States Senate, or (4) for payments to the Postmaster, United States Senate, or (5) for the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate, or (6) for the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services, or (7) for payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate.

SEC. 5. There are authorized such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee from March 1, 2003, through September 30, 2003; October 1, 2003, through September 30, 2004; and October 1, 2004, through February 28, 2005, to be paid from the appropriations account for "Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations."

**SENATE RESOLUTION 54—TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS TO CERTAIN CONGRESSIONAL DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING CERTAIN CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE PUBLICATIONS, CERTAIN SENATE GIFT REPORTS, AND SENATE AND JOINT COMMITTEE DOCUMENTS**

Mr. McCAIN (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. HARKIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 54

Whereas it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) it is often burdensome, difficult, and time-consuming for citizens to obtain access to public records of the United States Congress;

(2) congressional documents that are placed in the Congressional Record are made available to the public electronically by the Superintendent of Documents under the direction of the Public Printer;

(3) other congressional documents are also made available electronically on websites maintained by Members of Congress and Committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives;

(4) a wide range of public records of the Congress remain inaccessible to the public;

(5) the public should have easy and timely access, including electronic access, to public records of the Congress;

(6) the Congress should use new technologies to enhance public access to public records of the Congress; and

(7) an informed electorate is the most precious asset of any democracy; and

Whereas it is the sense of the Senate that it will foster democracy—

(1) to ensure public access to public records of the Congress;

(2) to improve public access to public records of the Congress; and

(3) to enhance the electronic public access, including access via the Internet, to public records of the Congress: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate shall make information available to the public in accordance with the provisions of this resolution.

**SEC. 2. AVAILABILITY OF CERTAIN CRS INFORMATION.**

(a) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate, in consultation with the Director of the Congressional Research Service,

shall make available through a centralized electronic system, for purposes of access and retrieval by the public under section 4 of this resolution, all information described in paragraph (2) that is available through the Congressional Research Service website.

(2) INFORMATION TO BE MADE AVAILABLE.—The information to be made available under paragraph (1) is:

(A) Congressional Research Service Issue Briefs.

(B) Congressional Research Service Reports that are available to Members of Congress through the Congressional Research Service website.

(C) Congressional Research Service Authorization of Appropriations Products and Appropriations Products.

(b) LIMITATIONS.—

(1) CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.—Subsection (a) does not apply to—

(A) any information that is confidential, as determined by—

(i) the Director; or

(ii) the head of a Federal department or agency that provided the information to the Congressional Research Service; or

(B) any documents that are the product of an individual, office, or committee research request (other than a document described in subsection (a)(2)).

(2) REDACTION AND REVISION.—In carrying out this section, the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate, in consultation with the Director of the Congressional Research Service, may—

(A) remove from the information required to be made available under subsection (a) the name and phone number of, and any other information regarding, an employee of the Congressional Research Service;

(B) remove from the information required to be made available under subsection (a) any material for which the Director determines that making it available under subsection (a) may infringe the copyright of a work protected under title 17, United States Code; and

(C) make any changes in the information required to be made available under subsection (a) that the Director determines necessary to ensure that the information is accurate and current.

(c) MANNER.—The Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate, in consultation with the Director of the Congressional Research Service, shall make the information required under this section available in a manner that is practical and reasonable.

**SEC. 3. PUBLIC RECORDS OF THE SENATE.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Senate, through the Office of Public Records and in accordance with such standards as the Secretary may prescribe, shall make reports required under paragraph 2(a)(1)(B) and paragraph 4(b) of Rule XXXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate available on the Internet for purposes of access and retrieval by the public within 10 days (Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays excepted) after they are received.

(b) DIRECTORY.—The Superintendent of Documents, under the Direction of the Public Printer in the Government Printing Office, shall include information about the documents made available on the Internet under this section in the electronic directory of Federal electronic information required by section 4101(a)(1) of title 44, United States Code.

**SEC. 4. METHOD OF ACCESS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The information required to be made available to the public on the Internet under this resolution shall be made available as follows:

(1) CRS INFORMATION.—Public access to information made available under section 2 shall be provided through the websites main-

tained by Members and Committees of the Senate.

(2) PUBLIC RECORDS.—Public access to information made available under section 3 by the Secretary of the Senate's Office of Public Records shall be provided through the United States Senate website.

(b) EDITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CRS REPORTS ONLINE.—The Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate is responsible for maintaining and updating the information made available on the Internet under section 2.

**SEC. 5. CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE MATERIALS.**

It is the sense of the Senate that each standing and special committee of the Senate and each Joint Committee of the Congress, in accordance with such rules as the committee may adopt, should provide access via the Internet to publicly-available committee information, documents, and proceedings, including bills, reports, and official transcripts of committee meetings that are open to the public.

**SEC. 6. IMPLEMENTATION.**

The Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate shall establish the database described in section 2(a) within 6 months after the date of adoption of this resolution.

**SEC. 7. GAO STUDY.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning 1 year after the date on which the database described in section 2(a) is established, the Sergeant-at-Arms shall request the Comptroller General to examine the cost of implementing this resolution, other than this section, with particular attention to the cost of establishing and maintaining the database and submit a report within 6 months thereafter. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall ask the Comptroller General to include in the report recommendations on how to make operations under this resolution more cost-effective, and such other recommendations for administrative changes or changes in law, as the Comptroller General may determine to be appropriate.

(b) DELIVERY.—The Sergeant-at-Arms shall transmit a copy of the Comptroller General's report under subsection (a) to—

(1) the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration;

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

(3) the Senate Committee on the Judiciary; and

(4) the Joint Committee of the Congress on the Library of Congress.

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to be joined today by Senators LEAHY, LIEBERMAN, and HARKIN in submitting a resolution to make Congressional Research Service, CRS, reports, and other Senate documents, accessible over the Internet to the American people.

CRS is well-known for producing high quality reports and issue briefs that are concise, factual, and unbiased—a rarity in Washington. Many of us rely on the work of CRS to make decisions on a wide variety of diverse legislative proposals, such as formulating policies on homeland security, determining the implications of war with Iraq, contemplating the future of the Internet, developing health care reform, and analyzing tax policy. Also, we routinely send CRS reports to our constituents in order to help them understand the important issues of our time.

The sponsors of this resolution believe that it is important for the public

to have access to these CRS reports. The American public paid over \$81 million to fund CRS's operations in fiscal year 2002 alone. The informational reports covered by this resolution are not confidential or classified, and the public deserves to have access to them.

By making these reports publicly available, the Senate will better serve an important function in helping to inform their constituents. Members of the public will be able to read these CRS products and receive a concise summary of issues that concern them. These reports also will help voters make decisions and petition their legislators on how to best represent them.

Currently, corporations, universities, and other well-heeled entities often hire former Members of Congress as lobbyists to get access to these reports. However, the general public does not have access to these reports. Instead, the public has to obtain these reports through independent companies, such as Penny Hill Press, which charges almost \$30 for each report. Otherwise, they must search through a variety of government and non-government web sites for outdated reports or get them from their Members of Congress through the mail. It is not fair for the American people to have to pay a third party or search all over the web for products for which they have already footed the bill.

This resolution is drafted to set up a system for distributing CRS Reports that is similar to a pilot program ongoing in the House of Representatives. Under our resolution, the Senate Sergeant-at-Arms would establish and maintain a system for distribution of CRS documents. The public would only be able to access these documents through Senators' or Senate Committees' web pages. This system would allow Senators and Committee Chairmen to be able to choose which documents are made available to the public through their web page.

This resolution also includes other safeguards to ensure that CRS is able to carry out its mission. Confidential information and reports done for confidential research requests would not be made available to the public. The resolution provides authorization for the Senate Sergeant-at-Arms to remove the names of CRS employees from these products to prevent the public from distracting CRS employees. In addition, the Senate Sergeant-at-Arms would be authorized to remove copyrighted information from the publicly-available reports. This resolution would ensure that the CRS' mission is not altered in any way, and that it cannot be open to liability suits.

Finally, we recognize that cost concerns had been raised about prior versions of this legislation introduced in past Congresses. Yet, our understanding is that the House system of distribution has been achieved at a relatively low cost. We have designed this resolution to eliminate the cost burden to CRS by shifting the operation and

maintenance of the system over to the Senate Sergeant-at-Arms. In addition, the Senate Sergeant-at-Arms is directed to ask the General Accounting Office, GAO, to evaluate the program after one year to explore how to make the operations more cost-effective.

The resolution also would require the Senate Office of Public Records to put other selected documents related to Members' receipt of honoraria and travel reimbursement on the Internet. We have already voted to make this information available to the public. Unfortunately, the public can only get access to this information by personally visiting an office in the Hart building. This resolution would allow our constituents throughout the country to access this information more readily.

This resolution has been endorsed by many groups, including the Project on Government Oversight, the Congressional Accountability Project, Intel, Computer & Communications Industry Association, the Center for Democracy and Technology, the American Library Association, SeeBeyond Technology Corporation, and others. I ask unanimous consent that these letters of support be printed in the RECORD.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution. The Internet offers a unique opportunity to allow the American people to have everyday access to important information about their government.

There being no objection, the letters were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

SEEBEYOND,

Reston, VA, February 11, 2003.

Senator JOHN MCCAIN,  
Chairman, Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAIN: We are writing to express our support for the Congressional Openness Act that allows constituents easier and faster access to information through the Internet, and to urge quick Senate passage of the bill.

SeeBeyond is a software technology company that enables Government agencies to communicate and share vital information in real time to other federal agencies, state and local Governments and most importantly constituents.

The bill allows better ways for the Government to share information, documents and proceedings, including bills, reports and transcripts of committee meetings that educate the public, and we commend your efforts to further the Federal Government's work in this area.

We are pleased to offer you our support of this legislation and to encourage its swift passage by the full Senate.

Sincerely,

SAM MACCHEROLA,  
Vice President, Public Sector,  
SeeBeyond Technology Corp.

CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY  
PROJECT,

Portland, OR, February 11, 2003.

Senator JOHN MCCAIN,  
U.S. Senate, Russell Senate Office Building,  
Washington, DC.

Senator PATRICK LEAHY,  
U.S. Senate, Russell Senate Office Building,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATORS MCCAIN AND LEAHY: We heartily endorse your resolution to place

useful congressional documents on the Internet, including Congressional Research Service (CRS) Reports and Issue Briefs, CRS Authorization and Appropriation products, and Senate gift disclosure reports. This resolution is a simple and inexpensive way to improve our democracy.

Citizens need access to congressional documents to discharge their civic duties. Regrettably, the 20th Century has come and gone, and yet Congress still has not put many of its most important documents on the Internet. Your resolution will help fix this problem.

The Congressional Research Service is a taxpayer-funded research arm of Congress. Their research materials are among the best produced by the federal government. They explain, with fairness and clarity, the controversies and complexities surrounding the most pressing issues of our day. This research belongs on the Internet. Taxpayers deserve easy access to the documents we pay for.

We applaud the resolution's directive that Senate committees should "provide access via the Internet to publicly-available committee information, documents and proceedings, including bills, reports, and official transcripts of committee meetings that are open to the public."

In 1822, James Madison explained why citizens need such information: "A popular government," he wrote, "without popular information, or the means of acquiring it, is but a Prologue to a Farce or a Tragedy; or, perhaps both. Knowledge will forever govern ignorance; And a people who mean to be their own Governors, must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives."

Sincerely,

American Association of Law Libraries; American Library Association; American Society of Newspaper Editors; Association of Research Libraries; Center for Democracy and Technology; Center for Digital Democracy; Center for Responsive Politics, Common Cause; Computer & Communications Industry Association; Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility; Congressional Accountability Project; Consumer Federation of America; Consumer Project on Technology; Electronic Frontier Foundation; Electronic Privacy Information Center.

Federation of American Scientists; Friends of the Earth; Green Party of the United States; Medical Library Association; National Federation of Press Women; National Security Archive; National Taxpayers Union; National Newspaper Association; OMB Watch; Project on Government Oversight; Public Citizen; Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press; Society of Professional Journalists; Taxpayers for Common Sense; Union of Concerned Scientists; U.S. Public Interest Research Group (USPIRG).

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am pleased to join today with Senator MCCAIN to submit our bipartisan resolution to make Congressional Research Service products available over the Internet to the American people. I also want to thank the Project on Government Oversight for its excellent report on the need for access to CRS information.

The Congressional Research Service has a well-known reputation for producing high-quality reports and information briefs that are unbiased, concise and accurate. The taxpayers of this country, who pay millions of dollars a year to fund the CRS, deserve

speedy access to these public resources and have a right to see that their money is being spent well.

The goal of our bipartisan legislation is to allow every citizen the same access to the wealth of CRS information as a Member of Congress enjoys today. CRS performs invaluable research and produces first-rate reports on hundreds of topics. American taxpayers have every right to have direct access to these wonderful resources.

Our legislation ensures that private CRS products will remain protected by giving the CRS Director the authority to hold back any products that are deemed confidential. Moreover, the Director may protect the identity of CRS researchers and any copyrighted material. We can do both—protect confidential material and empower our citizens through electronic access to invaluable CRS products.

The Internet offers us a unique opportunity to allow the American people to have everyday access to this public information. Our bipartisan legislation would harness the power of the Information Age to allow average citizens to see these public records of the Senate in their official form, in context and without editorial comment.

All of these reports are “public” for only those who can afford to hire a lawyer or lobbyist, or who can afford to physically travel to Washington to visit the Office of Public Records in the Hart Building and read them. Indeed, the Project on Government Oversight reports that over 150 registered lobbyists are former Members of Congress who have automatic access to CRS documents. That is not very “public,” and does almost nothing for the average voter in Vermont or the rest of this country who does not have easy access to Washington.

We can do better, and this resolution does better. Under our resolution, any citizen in any corner of this country with access to a computer at home, at the office or at the public library will be able to get on the Internet and get these important congressional documents under our resolution. It allows individual citizens to check the facts, to make comparisons, and to make up their own minds.

I commend the senior Senator from Arizona for his leadership on this and similar issues. I share his desire for the American people to have electronic access to many more congressional resources. I look forward to working with him in the coming days to let the information age open up the Halls of Congress to all our citizens.

As Thomas Jefferson wrote, “Information is the currency of democracy.” Our democracy is stronger if all citizens have equal access to at least the “congressional-type” of currency, and that is something in which Members on both sides of the aisle can celebrate and join.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 4—WELCOMING THE EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT OF 18 EUROPEAN NATIONS FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNSEL RESOLUTION 1441

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, and Mr. BAYH) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 4

Whereas on November 8, 2002, the United Nations Security Council approved Security Council Resolution 1441 under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter by a vote of 15–0, giving Iraq “a final opportunity to comply with its disarmament obligations”;

Whereas on November 21, 2002, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization’s North Atlantic Council unanimously approved a declaration stating, “We deplore Iraq’s failure to comply fully with its obligations which were imposed as a necessary step to restore international peace and security and we recall that the Security Council has decided in its resolution to afford Iraq a final opportunity to comply with its disarmament obligations under relevant resolutions of the Council.”;

Whereas the North Atlantic Council stated, “NATO Allies stand united in their commitment to take effective action to assist and support the efforts of the United Nations to ensure full and immediate compliance by Iraq, without conditions or restrictions, with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1441. We recall that the Security Council in this resolution has warned Iraq that it will face serious consequences as a result of its continued violation of its obligations.”;

Whereas, on January 30, 2003, the Prime Ministers of Denmark, Italy, Hungary, Poland, Portugal, Spain, and the United Kingdom, and the President of the Czech Republic (“The Eight”), issued a declaration regarding Security Council Resolution 1441;

Whereas in their declaration, The Eight stated, “The transatlantic relationship must not become a casualty of the current Iraqi regime’s persistent attempts to threaten world security. . . . The Iraqi regime and its weapons of mass destruction represent a clear threat to world security. This danger has been explicitly recognized by the United Nations. All of us are bound by Security Council Resolution 1441, which was adopted unanimously.”;

Whereas The Eight stated, “Resolution 1441 is Saddam Hussein’s last chance to disarm using peaceful means. The opportunity to avoid greater confrontation rests with him. . . . Our governments have a common responsibility to face this threat. . . . [T]he Security Council must maintain its credibility by ensuring full compliance with its resolutions. We cannot allow a dictator to systematically violate those resolutions. If they are not complied with, the Security Council will lose its credibility and world peace will suffer as a result.”;

Whereas on February 5, 2003, the Foreign Ministers of Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia (“The Ten”) issued a declaration regarding Security Council Resolution 1441;

Whereas in their declaration, The Ten stated, “[T]he United States [has] presented compelling evidence to the United Nations Security Council detailing Iraq’s weapons of mass destruction programs, its active efforts to deceive United Nations inspectors, and its links to international terrorism. . . . The

transatlantic community, of which we are a part, must stand together to face the threat posed by the nexus of terrorism and dictators with weapons of mass destruction.”;

Whereas The Ten stated, “[I]t has now become clear that Iraq is in material breach of United Nations Security Council resolutions, including United Nations Resolution 1441. . . . The clear and present danger posed by Saddam Hussein’s regime requires a united response from the community of democracies. We call upon the United Nations Security Council to take the necessary and appropriate action in response to Iraq’s continuing threat to international peace and security.”; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress welcomes—*

(1) the expression of support from Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, and the United Kingdom for Iraq’s full compliance with Security Council Resolution 1441; and

(2) their expression of solidarity with the United States in calling for the demands of the Security Council to be met with regard to Iraq’s full disarmament.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet on Thursday, February 13, 2003, at 10:30 a.m., to conduct its organization meetings and to conduct a hearing on those Senate Committees that have presented budgets above guidelines for the 108th Congress.

For further information regarding this hearing, please contact Susan Wells at the Rules Committee on 224-6352.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 11, 2003, at 10 a.m., to conduct an oversight hearing on the semi-annual monetary policy report of the Federal Reserve. The Committee will also vote on the nomination of Mr. William H. Donaldson to be a member of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Tuesday, February 11, 2003, at 9:30 a.m. on FAA reauthorization.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on