

cosponsors of amendment No. 400 proposed to S. Con. Res. 23, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2003 and for fiscal years 2005 through 2013.

AMENDMENT NO. 400

At the request of Mr. SARBANES, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 400 proposed to S. Con. Res. 23, *supra*.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BUNNING (for himself, Mr. SMITH, and Mr. GRAHAM of Florida):

S. 698. A bill to clarify the status of the Young Men's Christian Association Retirement Fund for purposes of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a bill of critical importance to the over 90,000 participants and beneficiaries of the YMCA pension plan. This issue affects the 656 hard-working YMCA employees in Kentucky that initially brought this problem to my attention.

With its presence felt in more than 10,000 communities nationwide, YMCA is the Nation's largest community service organization. Each year YMCA employees deliver important health and social services to over 17.9 million Americans. The YMCA mission to "put Christian principles in practice through programs that build healthy spirit for mind, body, for all" is indeed a very noble endeavor. YMCAs serve people of all faiths, incomes, ages, and race. This generous organization never turns people away for inability to pay.

YMCA's strength is in both its dedicated employees and the people they bring together through its service. Each local YMCA is tailored to the specific needs of the community in which it serves. The employees of the YMCA do God's work each day. This bill ensures that they will continue to receive the pensions they have earned and deserve.

With over \$3 billion in assets, the YMCA pension plan has been in place for over 80 years. The plan has always been considered as a "church pension plan." There are no problems with the operation of the plan and the IRS has said it is in full compliance—with one possible exception.

Generally, in order to be considered a "church plan" the sponsoring organization must be affiliated with a specific church. Traditionally, the YMCA has not affiliated with any one church, but has instead identified with a "Christian affiliation." This bill would clarify that the plan will continue to be a "church plan" despite the fact that the YMCA is not limited to one specific church or religious denomination. It is important that Congress clarifies this technicality to ensure that the bene-

ficiaries of the YMCA pension plan receive the benefits they have earned and deserve.

By Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself and Mr. BIDEN):

S. 700. A bill to provide for the promotion of democracy, human rights, and rule of law in the Republic of Belarus and for the consolidation and strengthening of Belarus sovereignty and independence; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, as Co-Chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, I have closely monitored developments in the Republic of Belarus and informed my Senate colleagues of disturbing trends in that nation. I have met with members of this fledgling democratic opposition who, at great personal risk, dare to speak out against the repressive regime led by Alexander Lukashenka. I have met with the courageous wives whose husbands disappeared because they stood up to the regime and would not be silent. Against the backdrop of this climate of fear, the powers of the state have been brought to bear against independent journalists, trade unionists, and other voices of dissent.

Increasingly, Belarus has been driven into self-imposed isolation under Lukashenka devoid of legitimate leadership or accountability. A little over a year ago I addressed the Senate to voice concern over reported arms deals between the regime and rouge states, including Iraq. It appears that such sales have taken on greater importance as the Belarusian economy spirals downward.

While some might be tempted to dismiss Belarus as an anomaly, the stakes are too high and the costs too great to ignore. Accordingly, today, I am introducing the Belarus Democracy Act of 2003, which is designed to help put an end to repression and human rights violations in Belarus and to promote Belarus' entry into a democratic Euro-Atlantic community of nations.

As a participating State in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, OSCE, Belarus has accepted a series of norms in the areas of democracy, human rights and the rule of law. As Europe's last dictator, Lukashenka continues to brashly trample the fundamental rights of his own people and their culture.

As I alluded to earlier, independent media, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and the democratic opposition have had to operate under extremely difficult conditions, often facing serious mistreatment and an orchestrated campaign of harassment. Despite the repressions there are courageous individuals who support democracy have not been silenced. Two weeks ago, for example, Alexander Yarashuk, the leader of the Belarusian Congress of Democratic Trade Unions, called on Lukashenka to immediately cease backing Saddam. Moreover, just

last week, on March 12, thousands gathered peacefully in a central Minsk square to protest deteriorating economic and social conditions in Belarus. Four of the rally's organizers—Andrei Sannikov, Ludmila Gryaznova, Dmitry Bondarenko and Leonid Malakhov—were given 15 day jail sentences for "participation in unauthorized mass actions."

Despite calls for change within Belarus, and considerable prodding from the international community, Lukashenka has shown no desire to deviate from his path of authoritarianism and personal profit at the expense of his own people. A few months ago, Lukashenka, who effectively controls the Belarusian parliament, signed into law a new, repressive religion law. Local elections held earlier this month followed the pattern of Belarus' 2000 parliamentary and 2001 presidential elections—they were a joke. Control of election commissions, denials of registration for opposition candidates, "early voting" and outright falsifications were the norm.

The Belarus Democracy Act of 2003 would authorize additional assistance for democracy-building activities such as support for NGOs, independent media, including radio and television broadcasting to Belarus, and international exchanges. It also encourages free and fair parliamentary elections, which have been notably absent in Belarus. This bill would also deny high-ranking officials of the Lukashenka regime entry into the United States. Additionally, strategic exports to the Belarusian Government would be prohibited, as well as U.S. Government financing except for humanitarian goods and agricultural or medical products. The U.S. executive directors of the international financial institutions would be encouraged to vote against financial assistance to the Government of Belarus except for loans and assistance for humanitarian needs. The bill would also require reports from the President concerning the sale of delivery of weapons or weapons-related technologies from Belarus to rouge states, including Iraq and North Korea.

I am very pleased that the Ranking Member of the Committee on Foreign Relations, Senator BIDEN, is an original cosponsor of this measure. His support will ensure that we proceed on a bipartisan basis as we work to ensure the timely adoption and implementation of this legislation.

The goal of the Belarus Democracy Act is to assist Belarus in becoming a genuine European state, in which respect for human rights and democracy is the norm and in which the long-suffering Belarusian people are able to overcome the legacy of dictatorship—past and present. Adoption and implementation of the Belarus Democracy Act will offer a ray of hope that the current period of political, economic and social stagnation will indeed end. The people of Belarus deserve a chance for a brighter future free of repression and fear.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the Belarus Democracy Act be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 700

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 "Belarus Democracy Act of 2003".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The United States supports the promotion of democracy, respect for human rights, and the rule of law in the Republic of Belarus consistent with its commitments as a participating state of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

(2) The United States has a vital interest in the independence and sovereignty of the Republic of Belarus and its integration into the European community of democracies.

(3) The last parliamentary election in Belarus deemed to be free and fair by the international community was conducted in 1995 from which emerged the 13th Supreme Soviet whose democratically and constitutionally derived authorities and powers have been usurped by the authoritarian regime of Belarus President Aleksandr Lukashenka.

(4) In November 1996, Lukashenka orchestrated an illegal and unconstitutional referendum that enabled him to impose a new constitution, abolish the duly-elected parliament, the 13th Supreme Soviet, install a largely powerless National Assembly, and extend his term of office to 2001.

(5) In May 1999, democratic forces in Belarus challenged Lukashenka's unconstitutional extension of his presidential term by staging alternative presidential elections which were met with repression.

(6) Democratic forces in Belarus have organized peaceful demonstrations against the Lukashenka regime in cities and towns throughout Belarus which led to beatings, mass arrests, and extended incarcerations.

(7) Victor Gonchar, Anatoly Krasovsky, and Yuri Zakharenka, who have been leaders and supporters of the democratic forces in Belarus, and Dmitry Zavadsky, a journalist known for his critical reporting in Belarus, have disappeared and are presumed dead.

(8) Former Belarus Government officials have come forward with credible allegations and evidence that top officials of the Lukashenka regime were involved in the disappearances.

(9) The Lukashenka regime systematically harasses and represses the independent media and independent trade unions, imprisons independent journalists, and actively suppresses freedom of speech and expression.

(10) The Lukashenka regime harasses the autocephalic Belarusian Orthodox Church, the Roman Catholic Church, the Jewish community, the Hindu Lights of Kalyasa community, evangelical Protestant churches (such as Baptist and Pentecostal groups), and other minority religious groups.

(11) The Law on Religious Freedom and Religious Organizations, passed by the National Assembly and signed by Lukashenka on October 31, 2002, establishes one of the most repressive legal regimes in the OSCE region, severely limiting religious freedom and placing excessively burdensome government controls on religious practice.

(12) The United States, the European Union, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Parliamentary Assembly, and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly have not recognized the National Assembly.

(13) The parliamentary elections of October 15, 2000, conducted in the absence of a democratic election law, were illegitimate, unconstitutional, and plagued by violent human rights abuses committed by the Lukashenka regime, and have been determined by the OSCE to be nondemocratic.

(14) The presidential election of September 9, 2001, was determined by the OSCE and other observers to be fundamentally unfair, to have failed to meet OSCE commitments for democratic elections formulated in the 1990 Copenhagen Document, and to have featured significant and abusive misconduct by the Lukashenka regime, including—

(A) the harassment, arrest, and imprisonment of opposition members;

(B) the denial of equal and fair access by opposition candidates to state-controlled media;

(C) the seizure of equipment and property of independent nongovernmental organizations and press organizations, and the harassment of their staff and management;

(D) voting and vote counting procedures that were not transparent; and

(E) a campaign of intimidation directed against opposition activists, domestic election observation organizations, and opposition and independent media, and a libelous media campaign against international observers.

SEC. 3. ASSISTANCE TO PROMOTE DEMOCRACY AND CIVIL SOCIETY IN BELARUS.

(a) PURPOSES OF ASSISTANCE.—Assistance under this section shall be available for the following purposes:

(1) To assist the people of the Republic of Belarus in regaining their freedom and to enable them to join the European community of democracies.

(2) To encourage free and fair presidential, parliamentary, and local elections in Belarus, conducted in a manner consistent with internationally accepted standards and under the supervision of internationally recognized observers.

(3) To assist in restoring and strengthening institutions of democratic governance in Belarus.

(b) AUTHORIZATION FOR ASSISTANCE.—To carry out the purposes set forth in subsection (a), the President is authorized to furnish assistance and other support for the activities described in subsection (c), to be provided primarily for indigenous groups in Belarus that are committed to the support of democratic processes in Belarus.

(c) ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED.—Activities that may be supported by assistance under subsection (b) include—

(1) the observation of elections and the promotion of free and fair electoral processes;

(2) the development of democratic political parties;

(3) radio and television broadcasting to and within Belarus;

(4) the development of nongovernmental organizations promoting democracy and supporting human rights;

(5) the development of independent media working within Belarus and from locations outside Belarus, and supported by nonstate-controlled printing facilities;

(6) international exchanges and advanced professional training programs for leaders and members of the democratic forces in matters central to the development of civil society; and

(7) other activities consistent with the purposes of this Act.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the President to carry out this section \$40,000,000 for fiscal years 2004 and 2005.

(2) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Amounts appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations under paragraph (1) are authorized to remain available until expended.

SEC. 4. RADIO BROADCASTING TO BELARUS.

(a) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this section to authorize increased support for United States Government and surrogate radio broadcasting to the Republic of Belarus that will facilitate the unhindered dissemination of information in Belarus.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to such sums as are otherwise authorized to be appropriated, there is authorized to be appropriated \$5,000,000 for each fiscal year for Voice of America and RFE/RL, Incorporated for radio broadcasting to the people of Belarus in languages spoken in Belarus.

(c) REPORT ON RADIO BROADCASTING TO AND IN BELARUS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on how funds appropriated and allocated pursuant to the authorizations of appropriations under subsection (b) and section 3(d) will be used to provide AM and FM broadcasting that covers the territory of Belarus and delivers independent and uncensored programming.

SEC. 5. SANCTIONS AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT OF BELARUS.

(a) APPLICATION OF SANCTIONS.—The sanctions described in subsections (c) and (d), and any sanction imposed under subsection (e) or (f), shall apply with respect to the Republic of Belarus until the President determines and certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that the Government of Belarus has made significant progress in meeting the conditions described in subsection (b).

(b) CONDITIONS.—The conditions referred to in subsection (a) are the following:

(1) The release of individuals in Belarus who have been jailed based on political or religious beliefs.

(2) The withdrawal of politically motivated legal charges against all opposition figures and independent journalists in Belarus.

(3) A full accounting of the disappearances of opposition leaders and journalists in Belarus, including Victor Gonchar, Anatoly Krasovsky, Yuri Zakharenka, and Dmitry Zavadsky, and the prosecution of the individuals who are responsible for their disappearances.

(4) The cessation of all forms of harassment and repression against the independent media, independent trade unions, nongovernmental organizations, religious organizations (including their leadership and members), and the political opposition in Belarus.

(5) The implementation of free and fair presidential and parliamentary elections in Belarus consistent with Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) standards on democratic elections and in cooperation with relevant OSCE institutions.

(c) PROHIBITION ON STRATEGIC EXPORTS TO BELARUS.—

(1) PROHIBITION.—No computers, computer software, goods, or technology intended to manufacture or service computers, or any other related goods or technology, may be exported to Belarus for use by the Government of Belarus, or by its military, police, prison system, or national security agencies. The prohibition in the preceding sentence shall not apply with respect to the export of goods or technology for democracy-building or humanitarian purposes.

(2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall prevent the issuance of licenses to ensure the safety of civil aviation and safe operation of commercial passenger

aircraft of United States origin or to ensure the safety of ocean-going maritime traffic in international waters.

(d) **PROHIBITION ON LOANS AND INVESTMENT.**—

(1) **UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FINANCING.**—No loan, credit guarantee, insurance, financing, or other similar financial assistance may be extended by any agency of the United States Government (including the Export-Import Bank and the Overseas Private Investment Corporation) to the Government of Belarus, except with respect to the provision of humanitarian goods and agricultural or medical products.

(2) **TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.**—No funds available to the Trade and Development Agency may be available for activities of the Agency in or for Belarus.

(e) **DENIAL OF ENTRY INTO UNITED STATES OF CERTAIN BELARUS OFFICIALS.**—

(1) **DENIAL OF ENTRY.**—It is the sense of Congress that, in addition to the sanctions provided for in subsections (c) and (d), the President should use the authority under section 212(f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(f)) to deny the entry into the United States of any alien who—

(A) holds a position in the senior leadership of the Government of Belarus; or

(B) is a spouse, minor child, or agent of a person described in subparagraph (A).

(2) **SENIOR LEADERSHIP OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BELARUS DEFINED.**—In this subsection, the term “senior leadership of the Government of Belarus” includes—

(A) the President, Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Ministers, government ministers, Chairmen of State Committees, and members of the Presidential Administration of Belarus;

(B) any official of the Government of Belarus who is personally and substantially involved in the suppression of freedom in Belarus, including judges and prosecutors; and

(C) any other individual determined by the Secretary of State (or the Secretary’s designee) to be personally and substantially involved in the formulation or execution of the policies of the Lukashenka regime in Belarus that are in contradiction of internationally recognized human rights standards.

(f) **MULTILATERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.**—It is the sense of Congress that, in addition to the sanctions provided for in subsections (c) and (d), the Secretary of the Treasury should instruct the United States Executive Director of each international financial institution to which the United States is a member to use the voice and vote of the United States to oppose any extension by those institutions of any financial assistance (including any technical assistance or grant) of any kind to the Government of Belarus, except for loans and assistance that serve humanitarian needs.

(g) **WAIVER.**—The President may waive the application of any sanction described in this section with respect to Belarus if the President determines and certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that it is important to the national interests of the United States to do so.

SEC. 6. MULTILATERAL COOPERATION.

It is the sense of Congress that the President should continue to seek to coordinate with other countries, particularly European countries, a comprehensive, multilateral strategy to further the purposes of this Act, including, as appropriate, encouraging other countries to take measures with respect to the Republic of Belarus that are similar to measures provided for in this Act.

SEC. 7. ANNUAL REPORTS.

(a) **REPORTS.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and

every year thereafter, the President shall transmit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that describes, with respect to the preceding 12-month period, the following:

(1) The sale or delivery of weapons or weapons-related technologies from the Republic of Belarus to any country, the government of which the Secretary of State has determined, for purposes of section 6(j)(1) of the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. App. 2405(j)(1)), has repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism.

(2) An identification of each country described in paragraph (1) and a detailed description of the weapons or weapons-related technologies involved in the sale.

(3) An identification of the goods, services, credits, or other consideration received by Belarus in exchange for the weapons or weapons-related technologies.

(4) The personal assets and wealth of Aleksandr Lukashenka and other senior leadership of the Government of Belarus.

(b) **FORM.**—A report transmitted pursuant to subsection (a) shall be in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

SEC. 8. DECLARATION OF POLICY.

Congress hereby—

(1) expresses its support to those in the Republic of Belarus seeking—

(A) to promote democracy, human rights, and the rule of law and to consolidate the independence and sovereignty of Belarus; and

(B) to promote the integration of Belarus into the European community of democracies;

(2) expresses its grave concern about the disappearances of Victor Gonchar, Anatoly Krasovskiy, Yuri Zakharenka, and Dmitry Zavadskiy;

(3) calls upon the Lukashenka regime in Belarus to cease its persecution of political opponents or independent journalists and to release those individuals who have been imprisoned for opposing his regime or for exercising their right to freedom of speech;

(4) calls upon the Lukashenka regime to end the pattern of clear, gross, and uncorrected violations of relevant human dimension commitments of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and to respect the basic freedoms of speech, expression, assembly, association, language, culture, and religion or belief;

(5) calls upon the Government of the Russian Federation to use its influence to encourage democratic development in Belarus so that Belarus can become a democratic, prosperous, sovereign, and independent state that is integrated into Europe;

(6) calls upon the Government of Belarus to resolve the continuing constitutional and political crisis in Belarus through—

(A) free, fair, and transparent presidential and parliamentary elections in Belarus, as called for by the OSCE;

(B) respect for human rights in Belarus;

(C) an end to the current climate of fear in Belarus;

(D) meaningful access by the opposition to state media in Belarus;

(E) modification of the electoral code of Belarus in keeping with OSCE commitments;

(F) engagement in genuine talks with the opposition in Belarus; and

(G) modifications of the constitution of Belarus to allow for genuine authority for the parliament; and

(7) commends the democratic opposition in Belarus for their commitment to freedom, their courage in the face of the repression of the Lukashenka regime, and the emergence of a pluralist civil society in Belarus—the foundation for the development of democratic political structures.

SEC. 9. DEFINITION.

In this Act, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(1) the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 701. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage contributions of capital gain real property made for conservation purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, today I re-introduced the Rural Heritage Conservation Act, along with my good friend Senator GRASSLEY from Iowa. I would like to say a few words about why this bill is so important to my home state of Montana and to the Nation.

We are losing precious agricultural and ranch lands at a record pace. Farming and ranching are the backbone of my state, comprising the largest sector of my state’s economy. Not only do these farms and ranches provide Montana and the Nation with the highest quality food and fiber, they also provide wildlife habitat, open space and peace of mind. It is imperative that we help our hard-working farmers and ranchers preserve this precious heritage and their way-of-life.

Conservation easements have been tremendously successful in preserving open space and wildlife habitat. Unfortunately, the way current tax law is structured makes it difficult for farmers and ranchers, who generally don’t have much income, to take advantage of the tax benefits associated with donating conservation easements. They’ve been left behind by this important conservation tool. That’s why I introduced the Rural Heritage Conservation Act. My bill will provide targeted income tax relief to small farmers and ranchers who wish to make a charitable contribution of a qualified conservation easement.

The Rural Heritage Conservation Act would allow eligible farmers and ranchers to increase the amounts of deduction that may be taken currently for charitable contributions of qualified conservation easements by raising the Adjusted Gross Income limitations to 100 percent and extending the carry-over period from 5 years to 15 years. In the case of all of the landowners, the AGI limitation would be raised from 30 percent to 50 percent.

This is a win-win situation—farmers and ranchers will be able to preserve their important agricultural and ranching lands for future generations, while continuing to operate their businesses and stay on their land. It’s a purely voluntary, incentive-based way to promote conservation. It will allow us to bring people together. Landowners, conservationists, the federal government, and local communities all can work together to preserve our precious natural resources.

This legislation is vitally important to Montana, and to every other state in

the Nation where important agricultural or ranching lands are being lost to rapid development, and a way-of-life is disappearing. I ask my colleagues to join with me and Senator GRASSLEY to pass this bill as soon as possible and send it to the President's desk. We have to act now.

By Mr. INOUE (for himself and Mr. AKAKA):

S. 702. A bill to amend the Native Hawaiian Health Care Improvement Act to revise and extend that Act; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a bill to reauthorize the Native Hawaiian Health Care Improvement Act. Senator AKAKA joins me in sponsoring this measure.

The Native Hawaiian Health Care Improvement Act was enacted into law in 1988, and has been reauthorized every four years since that time.

The Act provides authority for a range of programs and services designed to improve the health care status of the Native people of Hawaii.

With the enactment of the Native Hawaiian Health Care Improvement Act and the establishment of Native Hawaiian health care systems on most of the islands that make up the State of Hawaii, we have witnessed significant improvements in the health status of Native Hawaiians, but as the findings of unmet needs and health disparities set forth in this bill make clear, we still have a long way to go.

For instance, Native Hawaiians have the highest cancer mortality rates in the State of Hawaii—rates that are 21 percent higher than the rate for the total State male population and 64 percent higher than the rate for the total State female population. Nationally, Native Hawaiians have the third highest mortality rate as a result of breast cancer.

With respect to diabetes, in 2000, Native Hawaiians had the highest mortality rate associated with diabetes in the State—a rate which is 138 percent higher than the statewide rate for all racial groups.

When it comes to heart disease, the mortality rate of Native Hawaiians associated with heart disease is 68 percent higher than the rate for the entire State, and the mortality rate for hypertension is 84 percent higher than that for the entire State.

These statistics on the health status of Native Hawaiians are but a small part of the long list of data that makes clear that our objective of assuring that the Native people of Hawaii attain some parity of good health comparable to that of the larger U.S. population has not yet been achieved.

By Mr. HAGEL (for himself and Mr. NELSON of Nebraska):

S. 703. A bill to designate the regional headquarters building for the National Park Service under construction in Omaha, Nebraska, as the "Carl T. Curtis National Park Service Mid-

west Regional Headquarters Building"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 703

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF CARL T. CURTIS NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MIDWEST REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS BUILDING.

The regional headquarters building for the National Park Service under construction in Omaha, Nebraska, shall be known and designated as the "Carl T. Curtis National Park Service Midwest Regional Headquarters Building".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the regional headquarters building referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the Carl T. Curtis National Park Service Midwest Regional Headquarters Building.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. MCCAIN):

S. 704. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to increase the amount of the death gratuity payable with respect to deceased members of the Armed forces; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation on behalf of my self and Senator WARNER that will provide increased support for the families of those brave men and women in the armed forces who make the ultimate sacrifice in service to our Nation. The bill I introduce will raise the amount paid to the next-of-kin of military personnel killed while on active duty from \$6,000 to \$12,000. Further, it makes this increase retroactive to September 11, 2001.

Like all Americans, I have been greatly saddened by the loss of life in recent days during our operations in Iraq. While all of us understand the dangers whenever the Commander-in-Chief sends our troops into harm's way, that does not lessen the shock and sadness we all have felt as we learn of the loss of lives and see the cruel video of American POWs held in Iraq.

In the initial days of the war, two Marines with ties to Maine lost their lives. Both Captain Jay Aubin and Corporal Brian Kennedy, who perished in a helicopter crash in the Kuwaiti desert, have parents living in Maine. I came to this floor yesterday to express my condolences to their families, and declare my commitment to ensuring that their sacrifice is remembered.

I can think of no better way to honor their memories, and the memories of other Americans who have given their lives, than to ensure that their loved ones receive the care that they need and deserve. The last time that the death gratuity was raised was in 1991,

during the period of the last Gulf War. At that time, it was increased from \$3,000 to 6,000. It well past time for the Congress to move forward and increase this amount to better recognize the sacrifices of these families.

The death gratuity is commonly provided within 72 hours to the family of the servicemember who is killed while on active duty. This amount, while a small solace to a grieving family, assist them with their immediate financial needs. It is our obligation as a Nation to ensure that those families receive every support we can provide during such a terrible time. Just as important, as our troops enter into combat they need to be confident that, should the worst occur, that their family will have the support they need.

We can never fully repay the debt of our Nation to those who have laid down their lives for our Nation. The best we can do is honor their memory, ensure that their sacrifice is not in vain, and help provide for their families. The bill I have introduced will send a message to our brave young men and women that their Nation is grateful for their service.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, and Mr. ALLEN):

S. 705. A bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to alleviate delay in the payment of the Selected Reserve reenlistment bonus to members of Selected Reserve who are mobilized; to the Committee on Veteran's Affairs.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 705

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

SECTION 1. PAYMENT OF SELECTED RESERVE REENLISTMENT BONUS TO MEMBERS OF SELECTED RESERVE WHO ARE MOBILIZED.

Section 308b of title 37, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (d), (e), and (f) as subsections (e), (f), and (g), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the following new subsection (d):

"(d) PAYMENT TO MOBILIZED MEMBERS.—In the case of a member entitled to a bonus under this section who is called or ordered to active duty, any amount of such bonus that is payable to the member during the period of active duty of the member shall be paid the member during that period of active duty, notwithstanding the service of the member on active duty pursuant to such call or order to active duty."

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, and Mr. ALLEN):

S. 706. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide Survivor Benefit Plan annuities for surviving spouses of Reserves not eligible for retirement who die from a cause incurred or aggravated while on inactive-

duty training; to the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 706

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

SECTION 1. SURVIVOR BENEFIT PLAN ANNUITIES FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES OF RESERVE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR RETIREMENT WHO DIE FROM A CAUSE INCURRED OR AGGRAVATED WHILE ON INACTIVE-DUTY TRAINING.

(a) SURVIVING SPOUSE ANNUITY.—Paragraph (l) of section 1448(f) of title 10, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(l) SURVIVING SPOUSE ANNUITY.—The Secretary concerned shall pay an annuity under this subchapter to the surviving spouse of—

“(A) a person who is eligible to provide a reserve-component annuity and who dies—

“(i) before being notified under section 12731(d) of this title that he has completed the years of service required for eligibility for reserve-component retired pay; or

“(ii) during the 90-day period beginning on the date he receives notification under section 12731(d) of this title that he has completed the years of service required for eligibility for reserve-component retired pay if he had not made an election under subsection (a)(2)(B) to participate in the Plan; or

“(B) a member of a reserve component not described in subparagraph (A) who dies from an injury or illness incurred or aggravated in line of duty during inactive-duty training.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading for subsection (f) of section 1448 of such title is amended by inserting “OR BEFORE” after “DYING WHEN”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as of September 10, 2001, and shall apply with respect to performance of inactive-duty training (as defined in section 101(d) of title 10, United States Code) on or after that date.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 97—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE ARRESTS OF CUBAN DEMOCRACY ACTIVISTS BY THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT

Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself and Mr. ALLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

S. RES. 97

Whereas on March 18, 2003, Fidel Castro and the Government of Cuba began an island-wide campaign to arrest and jail dozens of prominent democracy activists and critics of the repressive regime;

Whereas since March 18, 2003, the Cuban police have arrested more than 100 Cubans for engaging in free speech under Law 88, the Law for the Protection of National Independence and the Economy of Cuba, which is a notorious law passed 3 years ago by the communist county;

Whereas the imprisoned political opponents of Castro include librarians, journalists, and others who have supported the

Varela Project, which seeks to bring free speech, open elections, and democracy to the island nation;

Whereas Fidel Castro has seized the opportunity to expand his brutal oppression of the Cuban people while the attention of the United States and other nations around the world is focused on the war in Iraq; and

Whereas the failure to condemn the Cuban Government's renewed political repression of democracy activists will undermine the opportunity for freedom on the island: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the recent arrests and other intimidation tactics against democracy activists by the Castro regime;

(2) calls on the Cuban Government to immediately release those imprisoned and held during this most recent crackdown for activities the government wrongly deems “subversive, counter-revolutionary, and provocative”;

(3) reaffirms Senate Resolution 272, 107th Congress, agreed to June 10, 2002, which was agreed to without opposition and which called for, among other things, amnesty for all political prisoners;

(4) praises the bravery of those Cubans who, because they practiced free speech and signed the Varela Project petition, have been targeted in this most recent government crackdown; and

(5) urges the President to demand the immediate release of these prisoners and to take all appropriate steps to secure their immediate release.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 29—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING SEMICONDUCTOR TRADE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE NEED TO ASSURE THAT UNITED STATES TRADE ACTIONS DO NOT RESULT IN GEOPOLITICAL TENSIONS OR UNITED STATES JOB LOSSES

Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

S. CON. RES. 29

Whereas the Republic of Korea is a vital ally of the United States in Asia;

Whereas the current tensions on the Korean Peninsula require the strongest possible alliance between the United States and the Republic of Korea;

Whereas Hynix Semiconductor Inc. is a major Korean and global semiconductor manufacturer;

Whereas Hynix Semiconductor Inc. has invested over \$1,000,000,000 in its facilities in Eugene, Oregon, and is increasing that investment;

Whereas Hynix Semiconductor Inc. employs over 1,000 highly skilled and compensated Americans at its facilities in Eugene, Oregon;

Whereas these jobs are particularly valuable to Oregon and the United States economy at a time of economic uncertainty;

Whereas semiconductor trade between the United States and the Republic of Korea is currently the subject of trade remedy proceedings and continuing review by the United States Trade Representative;

Whereas the Republic of Korea has, as a result of the currency crisis in the mid-1990s, implemented economic reforms;

Whereas as a result of those reforms the Government of South Korea is no longer involved in commercial lending decisions; and

Whereas the Government of South Korea has affirmed that it has had no role in the economic restructurings of Hynix Semiconductor Inc.: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the United States Government should act carefully and judiciously with regard to issues involving semiconductor trade between the United States and the Republic of Korea to assure that trade disputes do not create geopolitical or economic tensions between the United States and the Republic of Korea, and do not result in the loss of highly skilled American jobs, including jobs at United States facilities of Korean semiconductor manufacturers;

(2) the Secretary of Commerce should review carefully and objectively all the facts surrounding the financial restructuring of Hynix Semiconductor Inc. in light of economic reforms which have taken place in South Korea in recent years, and avoid taking any action which will threaten the jobs of American workers in the semiconductor industry or threaten future investment in Hynix Semiconductor Inc.'s facility in Eugene, Oregon; and

(3) the United States Trade Representative should seek to address issues involving semiconductor trade between the United States and the Republic of Korea through consultation after full review of the facts.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 411. Mr. CONRAD proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2003 and for fiscal years 2005 through 2013.

SA 412. Mr. BYRD proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, *supra*.

SA 413. Mr. BUNNING submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, *supra*.

SA 414. Mr. GREGG proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, *supra*.

SA 415. Mr. DODD proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, *supra*.

SA 416. Mr. NICKLES (for Mr. CAMPBELL) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, *supra*.

SA 417. Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. KERRY, Mr. DODD, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. JOHNSON, and Mr. AKAKA) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, *supra*.

SA 418. Mrs. CLINTON (for herself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. DAYTON, and Mr. SARBANES) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, *supra*.

SA 419. Mr. DODD (for himself, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. CORZINE, and Mr. DAYTON) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, *supra*.

SA 420. Mr. BREAUX proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, *supra*.

SA 421. Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. HARKIN) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, *supra*.

SA 422. Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself, Mr. CHAFEE, and Mr. CARPER) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 23, *supra*.

SA 423. Mr. CORZINE (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs.