

increasing the risk of damage and expense in future disasters. The IRS policy runs counter to good public policy and common sense.

Senator KIT BOND and Representative MARK FOLEY have introduced S. 2886 and H.R. 5206, respectively, identical bills that would fix this problem by exempting mitigation grants from being included as taxable income. These bills have drawn support from both sides of the aisle and a large number of the Florida Congressional delegation. I am disappointed that we will not have an opportunity to pass these bills before Congress adjourns. If we fail to act early on in the 109th Congress, come April, some homeowners could be in for a rude awakening in the form of a higher tax bill from the IRS.

To help ease the minds of Floridians and other Americans living in disaster prone areas of the country, I joined Senator LANDRIEU in sending a letter to Finance Committee Chairman GRASSLEY and Ranking Member BAUCUS asking them to direct the Treasury and the IRS to delay implementing this policy until Congress has the opportunity to act.

I will continue to work with my colleagues in the Senate to find a solution to this problem.●

WOOL TRUST FUND

● Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, today I make note of a technical error in the drafting of the Wool Trust Fund, which was included in H.R.1047, the "Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act of 2004." Section 4002, entitled "Extension and Modification of Duty Suspension on Wool Products, Wool Research Fund, Wool Duty Refunds," extends the current Wool Trust Fund through December 31, 2007. The purpose of this provision is to extend the current program, as well as to provide grants to textile mills, for an additional 2 years beyond the current date of expiration, which is December 31, 2005. This fact is reflected in the conference report of H.R. 1047, in which the conferees observe that the House recedes to the Senate proposal "so that all programs are extended by two years beyond the current date of expiration of the current programs." In other words, all provisions—including all programs and all tariff reductions—are to be in effect through 2007.

Unfortunately, a drafting error occurs in section 4002(a)(5), entitled "Fabrics of Combed Wool," and mistakenly terminates the extension of duty reductions, for the goods identified in that subsection, at the end of 2006, rather than 2007. This error is clearly and patently inconsistent with the expressed intention of the conferees to extend the program through 2007.

I urge the Members of the 109th Congress to correct this technical error, in order to allow the program to operate as clearly and expressly intended by the 108th Congress.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:32 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests to concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5370. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4985 Moorehead Avenue in Boulder, Colorado, as the "Donald G. Brozman Post Office Building".

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 2618. An act to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to extend medicare cost-sharing for the medicare part B premium for qualifying individuals through September 2005.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 8. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that there should be established a "National Visiting Nurse Association Week."

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 1113. An act to authorize an exchange of land at Fort Frederica National Monument, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1417. An act to amend title 17, United States Code, to replace copyright arbitration royalty panels with a Copyright Royalty Judge, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1446. An act to support the efforts of the California Missions Foundation to restore and repair the Spanish colonial and mission-era missions in the State of California and to preserve the artworks and artifacts of these missions, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1964. An act to assist the States Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania in conserving priority lands and natural resources in the Highlands region, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3936. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the authorization of appropriations for grants to benefit homeless veterans, to improve programs for management and administration of veterans' facilities and health care programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4516. An act to require the Secretary of Energy to carry out a program of research and development to advance high-end computing.

H.R. 4593. An act to establish wilderness areas, promote conservation, improve public land, and provide for the high quality development in Lincoln County, Nevada, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

At 3:07 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the act (H.R. 1630) to revise the boundary of the Petrified Forest National Park in the State of Arizona, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

H.R. 5382. An act to promote the development of the emerging commercial human space flight industry, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 528. Concurrent resolution directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make technical corrections in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 4818.

At 4:22 p.m., a message from the House of Representative, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4818) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes, having met, have agreed, that the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate, and agree to the same with an amendment.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 114. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2005, and for other purposes.

At 5:08 p.m., message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3818. An act to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to improve the results and accountability of microenterprise development assistance programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5419. An act to amend the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act to facilitate the reallocation of spectrum from governmental to commercial users; to improve, enhance, and promote the Nation's homeland security, public safety, and citizen activated emergency response capabilities through the use of enhanced 911 services, to further upgrade Public Safety Answering Point capabilities and related functions in receiving E-911 calls, and to support in the construction and operation of a ubiquitous and reliable citizen activated system; and to provide that funds received as universal service contributions under section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934 and the universal service support programs established pursuant thereto are not subject to certain provisions of title 31, United States Code, commonly known as the Antideficiency Act, for a period of time.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 2192. An act to amend title 35, United States Code, to promote cooperative research involving universities, the public sector, and private enterprises.

S. 2873. An act to extend the authority of the United States District Court for the

Southern District of Iowa to hold court in Rock Island, Illinois.

S. 3014. An act to reauthorize the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 529. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

The message also announced that House agree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2655) to amend and extend the Irish Peace Process Cultural and Training Program Act of 1998.

ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS SIGNED

The message further announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills and joint resolutions:

H.R. 1047. An act to amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to modify temporarily certain rates of duty, to make other technical amendments to the trade laws, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1630. An act to revise the boundary of the Petrified Forest National Park in the State of Arizona, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2912. An act to reaffirm the inherent sovereign rights of the Osage Tribe to determine its membership and form of government.

H.J. Res. 110. Joint resolution recognizing the 60th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge during World War II.

H.J. Res. 111. Joint resolution appointing the day for convening of first session of the One Hundred Ninth Congress.

The enrolled bills and joint resolutions were signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

At 10:42 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 114. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2005, and for other purposes.

The enrolled joint resolution was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-10055. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Management, Veterans' Benefits Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Increase in Rates Payable Under the Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program" (RIN2900-AL64) received on November 5, 2004; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-10056. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Trends in Educational Equity of Girls and Women: 2004"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-10057. A communication from the Director, Corporate Policy and Research Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Benefits Payable in Terminated Single Employer Plans; Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing and Paying Benefits" received on November 16, 2004; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-10058. A communication from the Chairman, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's Performance and Accountability Report for Fiscal Year 2004; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-10059. A communication from the Director, Corporate Policy and Research Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Antiperspirant Drug Products for Over-the-Counter Human Use; Final Monograph; Partial Stay; Reopening of the Administrative Record" received on November 16, 2004; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-10060. A communication from the Executive Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Corporation's Performance and Accountability Report for Fiscal Year 2004; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-10061. A communication from the Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Performance and Accountability Report for Fiscal Year 2004; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-10062. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Political Committee Status, Definition of Contribution, and Allocation for Separate Segregated Funds and Nonconnected Committees" received on November 18, 2004; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-10063. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Management, Veterans' Benefits Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Increase in Rates Payable Under the Montgomery GI Bill—Selected Reserve" (RIN2900-AL80) received on November 5, 2004; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-10064. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Management, Veterans' Benefits Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standards for Collection, Compromise, Suspension, or Termination of Collection Effort, and Referral of Civil Claims for Money, Property; Regional Office Committees on Waivers and Compromises; Salary Offset Provisions; Delegations of Authority" (RIN2900-AK10) received on November 5, 2004; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-10065. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Management, Veterans' Benefits Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Waivers" (RIN2900-AK29) received on November 5, 2004; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-10066. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Management, Veterans' Benefits Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Veterans' Education: Increased Allowances for the Educational Assistance Test Program" (RIN2900-AL81) received on November 5, 2004; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. COLLINS, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2635. A bill to establish an intergovernmental grant program to identify and develop homeland security information, equipment, capabilities, technologies, and services to further the homeland security needs of the United States and to address the homeland security needs of Federal, State, and local governments (Rept. No. 108-420).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 3021. A bill to provide for the protection of intellectual property rights, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

By Mr. MCCAIN:

S. 3022. A bill to enhance the Federal investment in research and development and the development of innovative technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DODD:

S. 3023. A bill to improve funeral home, cemetery, and crematory inspection systems, to establish consumer protections relating to funeral service contracts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DODD:

S. 3024. A bill to establish the National Center for Transportation Solutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 3025. A bill to strengthen efforts to combat slavery and trafficking in persons, within the United States and around the world; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. FRIST (for himself and Mr. ENSIGN):

S. 3026. A bill to support the Boy Scouts of America and the Girl Scouts of the United States of America; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DEWINE (for himself, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. SMITH, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. HAGEL, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 3027. A bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to improve the results and accountability of microenterprise development assistance programs, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

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

S. 3028. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act to provide authority for the Attorney General to authorize the export of controlled substances from the United States to another country for subsequent export from that country to a second country, if certain conditions and safeguards are satisfied; considered and passed.

By Mr. STEVENS:

S.J. Res. 42. A joint resolution to make a correction in the Conference Report to accompany H.R. 4818; considered and passed.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated: