

for students in kindergarten through grade 12;

Whereas a 2002 study by the JumpStart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy found that high school seniors know even less about credit cards, retirement funds, insurance, and other personal finance basics than high school seniors did 5 years ago;

Whereas 55 percent of college students acquire their first credit card during their first year in college, and 83 percent of college students have at least 1 credit card;

Whereas personal savings as a percentage of personal income decreased from 7.5 percent in the early 1980s to 2.3 percent in the first 3 quarters of 2003;

Whereas today more than 42,000,000 people in the United States participate in 401(k) plans;

Whereas a 2002 Retirement Confidence Survey found that only 32 percent of workers surveyed have calculated how much money they will need to save for retirement;

Whereas only 30 percent of those surveyed in a 2003 Employee Benefit Trend Study are confident in their ability to make the right financial decisions for themselves and their families, and 25 percent have done no specific financial planning;

Whereas between 25,000,000 and 56,000,000 adults are unbanked, i.e., not using mainstream, insured financial institutions;

Whereas millions of people in the United States derive great benefits from the wide variety of products and services offered by the financial services industry in the United States, and such financial products and services allow individuals and families to build homes, start businesses, finance educations, buy cars, and meet the everyday needs of everyday life;

Whereas expanding access to the mainstream financial system provides individuals with lower cost, safer options for managing their finances and building wealth;

Whereas a greater understanding and familiarity with financial markets and institutions will lead to increased economic activity and growth;

Whereas financial education has been linked to lower delinquency rates for mortgage borrowers, higher participation and contribution rates in retirement plans, improved spending and saving habits, higher net worth, and positive knowledge, attitude, and behavior changes;

Whereas financial literacy empowers individuals to make wise financial decisions and reduces the confusion of an increasingly complex economy;

Whereas personal financial management skills and life-long habits develop during childhood;

Whereas personal financial education is essential to ensure that individuals are prepared to manage money, credit, and debt, and become responsible workers, heads of households, investors, entrepreneurs, business leaders, and citizens; and

Whereas Congress found it important enough to ensure coordination of Federal financial literacy efforts and formulate a national strategy that it established the Financial Literacy and Education Commission in 2003 and designated the Office of Financial Education of the Department of the Treasury to provide support for the Commission: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 2004 as “Financial Literacy Month” to raise public awareness about the importance of financial education in the United States and the serious consequences that may be associated with a lack of understanding about personal finances; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the Federal Govern-

ment, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, other entities, and the people of the United States to observe the month with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 97—RECOGNIZING THE 91ST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GARDEN CLUB OF AMERICA

Mr. SARBANES (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 97

Whereas The Garden Club of America is holding its 91st annual meeting in Washington, D.C. April 24 through 27, 2004;

Whereas The Garden Club of America has 195 member clubs in 40 States and the District of Columbia, representing more than 17,000 members;

Whereas since its founding in 1913, The Garden Club of America has become a recognized leader in the fields of horticulture, conservation, historic preservation, and civic improvement, and an influential organization in the protection of America's environment; and

Whereas in our Nation's Capital, The Garden Club of America was instrumental in the founding of the National Arboretum, the development of the Archives of American Gardens at the Smithsonian Institution, and the creation and installation of the Butterfly Habitat Garden which now graces The National Mall at the National Museum of Natural History: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress commends The Garden Club of America for the many contributions it has made in our Nation's Capital and in communities across the United States, and sends its best wishes on the occasion of its 91st annual meeting in Washington, D.C., April 24 through 27, 2004.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, today I am submitting legislation together with Senator MIKULSKI that would recognize the achievements of The Garden Club of America on the occasion of its 91st annual meeting in Washington, DC, from April 24 through 27, 2004. This meeting in our Nation's Capital is especially significant because it occurs here only once every twenty-five years. This legislation recognizes and honors The Garden Club and the work of its 17,000 members to improve our country.

Since its founding in 1913, The Garden Club of America has grown to include 195 member clubs in 40 States and the District of Columbia. It is a recognized leader in the fields of horticulture, conservation, historic preservation, civic improvement, and has significant influence in the protection of America's environment.

Right here in the District of Columbia we can witness the results of The Garden Club's labor. Indeed it played an instrumental role in the founding of the National Arboretum and the development of the Archives of American Gardens at the Smithsonian Institution.

Perhaps even more importantly, The Garden Club has become a significant impetus for community service across the United States. The scope of The

Garden Club of America goes well beyond its numerous publications, its public plant and flower shows, and its national medalists. It is a source for the exchange of ideas and a platform for the betterment of our communities across this great country. The purpose of The Garden Club of America is to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening, but also to share the advantages of association through educational meetings, conferences, correspondence, and publications, and to improve the quality of the environment through conservation and civic improvement.

As a Marylander I know first hand of the contributions The Garden Club of America has made to our State. Ladew Topiary Gardens is a prime example of the edification and enjoyment that stems from the support of The Garden Club of America. Since 1971, Ladew Gardens has used its 22 acres of gardens to educate children, entertain families, and promote the importance of beautiful landscapes within our communities. Every spring and summer, hundreds of families congregate in the gardens to enjoy the Sunday concerts, afternoon picnics, and self-guided educational nature walks. And every year, hundreds of families leave the gardens with an exhilarated appreciation for America's outdoors, and an enriched desire to conserve that beauty.

The Garden Club of America has asked for very little in return for its dedication to America's beautiful landscapes. I am submitting this legislation today in the hope that we in the Congress can recognize this significant contribution as The Garden Club of America holds its annual meeting here in our Nation's Capital. I urge my colleagues in the Senate to join me in supporting this legislation.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2703. Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. JEFFORDS, and Mr. CORZINE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2704. Mr. CONRAD proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra.

SA 2705. Mr. VOINOVICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2706. Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2707. Mr. SANTORUM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2708. Mr. LUGAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2709. Mr. PRYOR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2710. Mr. DASCHLE (for himself, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. CLINTON, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. REID, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. GRAHAM of Florida, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. CORZINE) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra.

SA 2711. Mr. SMITH (for himself, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mrs. LINCOLN, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4, to reauthorize and improve the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families, improve access to quality child care, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2712. Mr. DORGAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2713. Ms. CANTWELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2714. Mr. VOINOVICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2715. Mr. DEWINE (for himself, Mr. NELSON of Florida, and Mr. COLEMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2716. Mr. SANTORUM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2717. Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. DORGAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2718. Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SPECTER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. KOHL, Mr. LEVIN, and Mrs. CLINTON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1637, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to comply with the World Trade Organization rulings on the FSC/ETI benefit in a manner that preserves jobs and production activities in the United States, to reform and simplify the international taxation rules of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2703. Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. JEFFORDS, and Mr. CORZINE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 3, line 9, increase the amount by \$1,501,000,000.

On page 3, line 10, increase the amount by \$1,629,000,000.

On page 3, line 11, increase the amount by \$1,696,000,000.

On page 3, line 12, increase the amount by \$1,735,000,000.

On page 3, line 13, increase the amount by \$1,754,000,000.

On page 3, line 17, increase the amount by \$1,501,000,000.

On page 3, line 18, increase the amount by \$1,629,000,000.

On page 3, line 19, increase the amount by \$1,696,000,000.

On page 3, line 20, increase the amount by \$1,735,000,000.

On page 3, line 21, increase the amount by \$1,754,000,000.

On page 4, line 20, increase the amount by \$1,501,000,000.

On page 4, line 21, increase the amount by \$1,629,000,000.

On page 4, line 22, increase the amount by \$1,696,000,000.

On page 4, line 23, increase the amount by \$1,735,000,000.

On page 4, line 24, increase the amount by \$1,754,000,000.

On page 5, line 3, decrease the amount by \$1,501,000,000.

On page 5, line 4, decrease the amount by \$3,130,000,000.

On page 5, line 5, decrease the amount by \$4,826,000,000.

On page 5, line 6, decrease the amount by \$6,561,000,000.

On page 5, line 7, decrease the amount by \$8,315,000,000.

On page 5, line 11, decrease the amount by \$1,501,000,000.

On page 5, line 12, decrease the amount by \$3,130,000,000.

On page 5, line 13, decrease the amount by \$4,826,000,000.

On page 5, line 14, decrease the amount by \$6,561,000,000.

On page 5, line 15, decrease the amount by \$8,315,000,000.

On page 25, line 8, decrease the amount by \$1,501,000,000.

SA 2704. Mr. CONRAD proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009; as follows:

At the end of title IV, insert the following:
SEC. ____ . POINT OF ORDER TO PROTECT SOCIAL SECURITY FIRST.

(a) **POINT OF ORDER IN THE SENATE.**—It shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any direct spending or revenue legislation that would increase the on-budget deficit in any fiscal year until the budget is balanced without Social Security.

(b) **SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.**—This section may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn. An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required in the Senate to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

SA 2705. Mr. VOINOVICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . BALANCED BUDGET POINT OF ORDER.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in subsection (b), it shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill or resolution (or any amendment, motion, or conference report on that bill or resolution) that would result in an on budget deficit larger than—

- (1) in fiscal year 2004, \$639,000,000,000;
- (2) in fiscal year 2005, \$575,000,000,000;
- (3) in fiscal year 2006, \$511,000,000,000;
- (4) in fiscal year 2007, \$447,000,000,000;
- (5) in fiscal year 2008, \$383,000,000,000;
- (6) in fiscal year 2009, \$319,000,000,000;
- (7) in fiscal year 2010, \$255,000,000,000;
- (8) in fiscal year 2011, \$191,000,000,000;
- (9) in fiscal year 2012, \$127,000,000,000;
- (10) in fiscal year 2013, \$63,000,000,000; and
- (11) in fiscal year 2015, \$0.

(b) **EXCEPTION.**—Subsection (a) shall not apply if—(1) the President has declared a state of national emergency; or (2) the economy is in recession, defined as 3 consecutive quarters of negative growth in Gross Domestic Product.

(c) **SUPERMAJORITY.**—(1) **WAIVER.**—This section may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by the affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(2) **APPEALS.**—Appeals in the Senate from the decisions of the Chair relating to any provision of this section shall be limited to 1 hour, to be equally divided between, and controlled by, the appellant and the manager of the bill or joint resolution, as the case may be. An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required in the Senate to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

(d) **EXERCISE OF RULEMAKING POWERS.**—Congress adopts the provisions of this section—(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate and the House of Representatives, respectively, and as such they shall be considered as part of the rules of each house, or of that house to which they specifically apply, and such rules shall supersede other rules only to the extent that they are inconsistent therewith; and (2) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either house to change those rules (so far as they relate to that house) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of that house.

SA 2706. Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 3, line 9, increase the amount by \$300,000,000.

On page 3, line 10, increase the amount by \$572,000,000.

On page 3, line 11, increase the amount by \$470,000,000.

On page 3, line 12, increase the amount by \$580,000,000.

On page 3, line 13, increase the amount by \$78,000,000.

On page 3, line 17, increase the amount by \$300,000,000.

On page 3, line 18, increase the amount by \$572,000,000.

On page 3, line 19, increase the amount by \$470,000,000.

On page 3, line 20, increase the amount by \$580,000,000.