

safety and a minimal impact on our environment. As the 2001 NAS Report also stated, "Because of the concerns about greenhouse gas emissions and the level of oil imports, it is appropriate for the Federal Government to ensure fuel economy levels beyond those expected to result from market forces alone." How can we do anything less?

So many questions that we already have the answers to but not the initiative or will to do so. Closing the SUV loophole will help us achieve so many goals, and it's an idea whose time has long since arrived.

I ask for my colleagues' support for closing the SUV loophole, and I thank the Chair.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 118—RECOGNIZING JUNE 2 THROUGH JUNE 5, 2005, AS THE "VERMONT DAIRY FESTIVAL," IN HONOR OF HAROLD HOWRIGAN FOR HIS SERVICE TO HIS COMMUNITY AND THE VERMONT DAIRY INDUSTRY

Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself and Mr. LEAHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:

S. RES. 118

Recognizing June 2 through June 5, 2005, as the "Vermont Dairy Festival", in honor of Harold Howrigan for his service to his community and the Vermont dairy industry.

Whereas the town of Enosburg Falls, Vermont, will host the "Vermont Dairy Festival" from June 2 through June 5, 2005;

Whereas the men and women of the Enosburg Lions Club will sponsor the Vermont Dairy Festival, which celebrates its 49th year;

Whereas the Vermont Dairy Festival is a beloved expression of the civic pride and agricultural heritage of the people of Enosburg Falls and Franklin County, Vermont;

Whereas the people of Enosburg Falls and Franklin County have long-held traditions of family owned and operated dairy farms;

Whereas the St. Albans Cooperative Creamery, Inc., which was established in 1919, is a farmer-owned cooperative;

Whereas Harold Howrigan served on the Board of the St. Albans Cooperative for 24 years;

Whereas Mr. Howrigan was the President of the Board of the St. Albans Cooperative for 17 years;

Whereas Mr. Howrigan recently retired from his position as President of the Board of the St. Albans Cooperative; and

Whereas Mr. Howrigan led the St. Albans Cooperative to uphold the region's traditions and to meet future challenges: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes June 2 through June 5, 2005, as the "Vermont Dairy Festival", in honor of Harold Howrigan for his service to his community and the Vermont dairy industry.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 564. Mr. CRAIG (for himself and Mr. AKAKA) proposed an amendment to the bill

H.R. 1268, Making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, to establish and rapidly implement regulations for State driver's license and identification document security standards, to prevent terrorists from abusing the asylum laws of the United States, to unify terrorism-related grounds for inadmissibility and removal, to ensure expeditious construction of the San Diego border fence, and for other purposes.

SA 565. Mr. STEVENS (for Mr. DEWINE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. STEVENS to the bill H.R. 1268, supra.

SA 566. Mr. STEVENS (for Mr. FRIST) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. STEVENS to the bill H.R. 1268, supra.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 564. Mr. CRAIG (for himself and Mr. AKAKA) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1268, Making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, to establish and rapidly implement regulations for State driver's license and identification document security standards, to prevent terrorists from abusing the asylum laws of the United States, to unify terrorism-related grounds for inadmissibility and removal, to ensure expeditious construction of the San Diego border fence, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . . . TRAUMATIC INJURY PROTECTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter III of chapter 19, Title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 1965, by adding at the end the following:

"(1) The term 'activities of daily living' means the inability to independently perform 2 of the 6 following functions:

- "(A) Bathing.
- "(B) Continence.
- "(C) Dressing.
- "(D) Eating.
- "(E) Toileting.
- "(F) Transferring."; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"§ 1980A. Traumatic injury protection

"(a) A member who is insured under subparagraph (A)(i), (B), or (C)(i) of section 1967(a)(1) shall automatically be issued a traumatic injury protection rider that will provide for a payment not to exceed \$100,000 if the member, while so insured, sustains a traumatic injury that results in a loss described in subsection (b)(1). The maximum amount payable for all injuries resulting from the same traumatic event shall be limited to \$100,000. If a member suffers more than 1 such loss as a result of traumatic injury, payment will be made in accordance with the schedule in subsection (d) for the single loss providing the highest payment.

"(b)(1) A member who is issued a traumatic injury protection rider under subsection (a) is insured against such traumatic injuries, as prescribed by the Secretary, in collaboration with the Secretary of Defense, including, but not limited to—

- "(A) total and permanent loss of sight;
- "(B) loss of a hand or foot by severance at or above the wrist or ankle;
- "(C) total and permanent loss of speech;
- "(D) total and permanent loss of hearing in both ears;
- "(E) loss of thumb and index finger of the same hand by severance at or above the metacarpophalangeal joints;

"(F) quadriplegia, paraplegia, or hemiplegia;

"(G) burns greater than second degree, covering 30 percent of the body or 30 percent of the face; and

"(H) coma or the inability to carry out the activities of daily living resulting from traumatic injury to the brain.

"(2) For purposes of this subsection—

"(A) the term 'quadriplegia' means the complete and irreversible paralysis of all 4 limbs;

"(B) the term 'paraplegia' means the complete and irreversible paralysis of both lower limbs; and

"(C) the term 'hemiplegia' means the complete and irreversible paralysis of the upper and lower limbs on 1 side of the body.

"(3) The Secretary, in collaboration with the Secretary of Defense, shall prescribe, by regulation, the conditions under which coverage against loss will not be provided.

"(c) A payment under this section may be made only if—

"(1) the member is insured under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance when the traumatic injury is sustained;

"(2) the loss results directly from that traumatic injury and from no other cause; and

"(3) the member suffers the loss before the end of the period prescribed by the Secretary, in collaboration with the Secretary of Defense, which begins on the date on which the member sustains the traumatic injury, except, if the loss is quadriplegia, paraplegia, or hemiplegia, the member suffers the loss not later than 365 days after sustaining the traumatic injury.

"(d) Payments under this section for losses described in subsection (b)(1) shall be—

"(1) made in accordance with a schedule prescribed by the Secretary, in collaboration with the Secretary of Defense;

"(2) based on the severity of the covered condition; and

"(3) in an amount that is equal to not less than \$25,000 and not more than \$100,000.

"(e)(1) During any period in which a member is insured under this section and the member is on active duty, there shall be deducted each month from the member's basic or other pay until separation or release from active duty an amount determined by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs as the premium allocable to the pay period for providing traumatic injury protection under this section (which shall be the same for all such members) as the share of the cost attributable to provided coverage under this section, less any costs traceable to the extra hazards of such duty in the uniformed services.

"(2) During any month in which a member is assigned to the Ready Reserve of a uniformed service under conditions which meet the qualifications set forth in section 1965(5)(B) of this title and is insured under a policy of insurance purchased by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under section 1966 of this title, there shall be contributed from the appropriation made for active duty pay of the uniformed service concerned an amount determined by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (which shall be the same for all such members) as the share of the cost attributable to provided coverage under this section, less any costs traceable to the extra hazards of such duty in the uniformed services. Any amounts so contributed on behalf of any member shall be collected by the Secretary of the concerned service from such member (by deduction from pay or otherwise) and shall be credited to the appropriation from which such contribution was made in advance on a monthly basis.

"(3) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall determine the premium amounts to be

charged for traumatic injury protection coverage provided under this section.

“(4) The premium amounts shall be determined on the basis of sound actuarial principles and shall include an amount necessary to cover the administrative costs to the insurer or insurers providing such insurance.

“(5) Each premium rate for the first policy year shall be continued for subsequent policy years, except that the rate may be adjusted for any such subsequent policy year on the basis of the experience under the policy, as determined by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in advance of that policy year.

“(6) The cost attributable to insuring such member under this section, less the premiums deducted from the pay of the member's uniformed service, shall be paid by the Secretary of Defense to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. This amount shall be paid on a monthly basis, and shall be due within 10 days of the notice provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to the Secretary of the concerned uniformed service.

“(7) The Secretary of Defense shall provide the amount of appropriations required to pay expected claims in a policy year, as determined according to sound actuarial principles by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

“(8) The Secretary of Defense shall forward an amount to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs that is equivalent to half the anticipated cost of claims for the current fiscal year, upon the effective date of this legislation.

“(f) The Secretary of Defense shall certify whether any member claiming the benefit under this section is eligible.

“(g) Payment for a loss resulting from traumatic injury will not be made if the member dies before the end of the period prescribed by the Secretary, in collaboration with the Secretary of Defense, which begins on the date on which the member sustains the injury. If the member dies before payment to the member can be made, the payment will be made according to the member's most current beneficiary designation under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance, or a by law designation, if applicable.

“(h) Coverage for loss resulting from traumatic injury provided under this section shall cease at midnight on the date of the member's separation from the uniformed service. Payment will not be made for any loss resulting from injury incurred after the date a member is separated from the uniformed services.

“(i) Insurance coverage provided under this section is not convertible to Veterans' Group Life Insurance.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 19 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding after the item relating to section 1980 the following:

“1980A. Traumatic injury protection.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the first day of the first month beginning more than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) RULEMAKING.—Before the effective date described in paragraph (1), the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in collaboration with the Secretary of Defense, shall issue regulations to carry out the amendments made by this section.

SA 565. Mr. STEVENS (for Mr. DEWINE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. STEVENS to the bill H.R. 1268, Making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, to establish and rapidly implement regulations for State driver's li-

cense and identification document security standards, to prevent terrorists from abusing the asylum laws of the United States, to unify terrorism-related grounds for inadmissibility and removal, to ensure expeditious construction of the San Diego border fence, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 169, between lines 8 and 9, insert the following:

SENSE OF SENATE ON INCREASED PERIOD OF CONTINUED TRICARE COVERAGE OF CHILDREN OF MEMBERS OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES WHO DIE WHILE SERVING ON ACTIVE DUTY FOR A PERIOD OF MORE THAN 30 DAYS

SEC. 1122. It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) Congress should enact an amendment to section 1079 of title 10, United States Code, in order to increase the period of continued TRICARE coverage of children of members of the uniformed services who die while serving on active duty for a period of more than 30 days under that section such that the period of continued eligibility is the longer of—

(A) the three-year period beginning on the date of death of the member;

(B) the period ending on the date on which the child attains 21 years of age; or

(C) in the case of a child of a deceased member who, at 21 years of age, is enrolled in a full-time course of study in a secondary school or in a full-time course of study in an institution of higher education approved by the administering Secretary and was, at the time of the member's death, in fact dependent on the member for over one-half of the child's support, the period ending on the earlier—

(i) the date on which the child ceases to pursue such a course of study, as determined by the administering Secretary; or

(ii) the date on which the child attains 23 years of age; and

(2) Congress should make the amendment applicable to deaths of members of the Armed Forces on or after October 7, 2001, the date of the commencement of military operations in Afghanistan.

SA 566. Mr. STEVENS (for Mr. FRIST) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. STEVENS to the bill H.R. 1268, Making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, to establish and rapidly implement regulations for State driver's license and identification document security standards, to prevent terrorists from abusing the asylum laws of the United States, to unify terrorism-related grounds for inadmissibility and removal, to ensure expeditious construction of the San Diego border fence, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 231, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following new section:

RECIPROCAL VISAS FOR NATIONALS OF AUSTRALIA

SEC. 6047. (a) Section 101(a)(15)(E) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(E)) is amended—

(1) by adding at the end “or (iii) solely to perform services in a specialty occupation in the United States if the alien is a national of the Commonwealth of Australia and with respect to whom the Secretary of Labor determines and certifies to the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of State that the intending employer has filed

with the Secretary of Labor an attestation under section 212(t)(1);”; and

(2) in clause (i), by striking “or” after “national;”.

(b) Section 202 of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1152) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(f) SPECIAL RULE FOR AUSTRALIA.—The total number of aliens who may acquire non-immigrant status under section 101(a)(15)(E)(iii) may not exceed 5000 for a fiscal year.”

(c) Section 214(i)(1) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(i)(1)) is amended by inserting “, section 101(a)(15)(E)(iii),” after “section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b).”

(d) Section 212(t) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(t)), as added by section 402(b)(2) of the United States-Chile Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (Public Law 108-77; 117 Stat. 941), is amended—

(1) by inserting “or section 101(a)(15)(E)(iii)” after “section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b1)” each place it appears;

(2) in paragraph (3)(C)(i)(II), by striking “or” in the third place it appears;

(3) in paragraph (3)(C)(ii)(II), by striking “or” in the third place it appears; and

(4) in paragraph (3)(C)(iii)(II), by striking “or” in the third place it appears.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the Subcommittee on National Parks has scheduled a hearing to review the National Park Service's funding needs for administration and management of the national park system.

The hearing will be held on Tuesday May 10, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, SD-364 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC.

For further information, please contact Tom Lillie at (202) 224-5161 or Brian Carlstrom at (202) 224-6293.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet on Wednesday, April 27, 2005, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct an Oversight Hearing on Regulation of Indian Gaming.

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee at 224-2251.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet on Wednesday, May 11, 2005, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct an Oversight Hearing on Federal Recognition of Indian Tribes.

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee at 224-2251.