

Murray, Gordon Smith, Mark Pryor,
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Maria Cantwell.●

FURTHER CHANGES TO S. CON. RES. 21

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, pursuant to section 301 of S. Con. Res. 21, I previously filed revisions to S. Con. Res. 21, the 2008 budget resolution. Those revisions were made for legislation reauthorizing the State Children's Health Insurance Program, SCHIP.

The Senate passed H.R. 976 on August 2. To preserve the adjustment for SCHIP legislation, I am further revising the 2008 budget resolution and reversing the adjustments previously made pursuant to section 301 to the aggregates and the allocation provided to the Senate Finance Committee. Assuming it meets the conditions of the deficit-neutral reserve fund specified in section 301, I will again adjust the aggregates and the Senate Finance Committee's allocation for final SCHIP legislation.

I ask unanimous consent to have the following revisions to S. Con. Res. 21 printed in the RECORD.

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

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008—S. CON. RES. 21; FURTHER REVISIONS TO THE CONFERENCE AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 301 DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR SCHIP LEG- ISLATION

(In billions of dollars)

Section 101	
(1)(A) Federal Revenues:	
FY 2007	1,900.340
FY 2008	2,015.841
FY 2009	2,113.811
FY 2010	2,169.475
FY 2011	2,350.248
FY 2012	2,488.296
(1)(B) Change in Federal Revenues:	
FY 2007	-4.366
FY 2008	-34.955
FY 2009	6.885
FY 2010	5.754
FY 2011	-44.302
FY 2012	-108.800
(2) New Budget Authority:	
FY 2007	2,371.470
FY 2008	2,495.877
FY 2009	2,517.139
FY 2010	2,570.687
FY 2011	2,686.675
FY 2012	2,721.607
(3) Budget Outlays:	
FY 2007	2,294.862
FY 2008	2,467.472
FY 2009	2,565.763
FY 2010	2,600.015
FY 2011	2,693.749
FY 2012	2,705.780

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(In millions of dollars)

Current Allocation to Senate Finance Committee	
FY 2007 Budget Authority	1,011,527
FY 2007 Outlays	1,017,808
FY 2008 Budget Authority	1,086,142
FY 2008 Outlays	1,081,969
FY 2008-2012 Budget Authority	6,064,784
FY 2008-2012 Outlays	6,056,901

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(In millions of dollars)

Adjustments	
FY 2007 Budget Authority	0
FY 2007 Outlays	0
FY 2008 Budget Authority	-7,237
FY 2008 Outlays	-2,055
FY 2008-2012 Budget Authority	-47,405
FY 2008-2012 Outlays	-35,191
Revised Allocation to Senate Finance Committee	
FY 2007 Budget Authority	1,011,527
FY 2007 Outlays	1,017,808
FY 2008 Budget Authority	1,078,905
FY 2008 Outlays	1,079,914
FY 2008-2012 Budget Authority	6,017,379
FY 2008-2012 Outlays	6,021,710

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AMENDMENTS ACT

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, last week the Senate passed H.R. 3580, the Food and Drug Administration Amendments Act of 2007, and sent it on to the President for his signature. This is the biggest drug safety reform in a decade, and I was proud to support it. Among other things, this legislation will help the FDA do a better job approving and monitoring prescription drugs and medical devices, encourage the research and development of medical treatments for children, and provide needed resources to the FDA.

I am very pleased that the incentive which encourages more studies of medicines in children was preserved in the final version of this bill. Over the last 10 years, this program has helped provide worried parents and concerned physicians with information they need to make better decisions in prescribing treatment for young children. By extending drug patents in exchange for additional research on how these drugs affect children, this program has prompted studies on 144 products and led to 122 label changes on some of the most frequently prescribed medicines for children. Clearly the system works and should be continued, especially since to date only a third of drugs prescribed to children have been studied and labeled for children.

I also am pleased that this legislation reinforces FDA's broad authority over prescription drug labels. Under current law, States are preempted from substituting their judgment for the FDA's scientific decisions based on exhaustive reviews of clinical data. If this weren't the case, medicine labels would become so overwhelmed with warnings designed to avert lawsuits that most Americans will simply stop paying attention to them.

Additionally, Congress has decided to give FDA the authority to make expedited labeling changes, so that when prescription drug safety problems are identified the FDA and drug manufacturers can work together to quickly update product labels to ensure that the American people have the latest safety information. If a drug manufacturer comes to the FDA in good faith

to discuss the possible need for an expedited labeling change—and if the FDA does not respond in a timely manner or decides that the science does not require a labeling change—then that drug manufacturer should not be subject to frivolous lawsuits.

I am pleased that Congress came together in a bipartisan manner to approve this legislation. It can serve as a model for how the parties can come together to pass other meaningful bills during the remainder of the 110th Congress.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. EDWARD M. GRAMLICH

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I would like to honor the life of Dr. Edward M. Gramlich, who recently passed away at the age of 68. Dr. Gramlich was an outstanding and dedicated public servant whose expertise, knowledge, and counsel were highly sought after among the leaders of Michigan's economic and academic communities.

Dr. Gramlich will be best remembered as a pragmatic economist who championed the cause of consumer protection and sought to tighten mortgage lending practices. Appointed to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in 1997 by President Clinton, Dr. Gramlich brought a balanced view to the Reserve Board that included a deep respect for consumer-protection issues. For years he warned of the looming crisis in the mortgage industry, citing excessive fees and high cost mortgages offered to those who could not afford them. In June of this year, while undergoing medical treatment, Dr. Gramlich published a timely critique of these practices entitled "Sub-prime Mortgages: America's Latest Boom and Bust," which both assessed the issue and offered timely solutions to the problem.

In 2005, Dr. Gramlich resigned from the Fed to return as interim provost to the University of Michigan, where he enjoyed a decades-long affiliation. He held a number of distinguished positions there throughout his career, including as a professor of economics and public policy, chair of the Economics Department, and Dean of the Ford School of Public Policy. Other important positions included Dr. Gramlich's service as chair of the Air Transportation Stabilization Board after the attacks of September 11, 2001; deputy director and acting director of the Congressional Budget Office; senior fellow at the Brookings Institute; and director of the Policy Research Division at the Office of Economic Opportunity.

Prior to his work with the Reserve Board, Dr. Gramlich served as chairman of the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation. In that capacity Dr. Gramlich worked to urge legislators to clamp down on predatory lending practices and to toughen regulations on

banks and mortgage lenders. During his tenure at the Fed, his strong calls for regulation were often met with resistance from a system that favors industry self-regulation. Given today's mortgage and credit crises, we cannot help but wonder "what if" with respect to many of those decisions. In any event, as Congress and the States seek ways to grapple with the current situation, Dr. Gramlich's work on consumer protection issues and his insightful analyses will undoubtedly have significant influence.

Dr. Gramlich is mourned by many in Michigan and across the country, including his wife Ruth; his children, Sarah Howard and Robert; his parents, J. Edward and Harriet; as well as many other family members, friends, and colleagues. Dr. Gramlich made an extraordinary impact throughout his life, and I hope that those mourning this loss find comfort in the significant legacy he leaves behind.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting a nomination and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 5:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, 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. 1199. An act to attend the grant program for drug-endangered children.

H.R. 1389. An act to establish the Star-Spangled Banner and War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1520. An act to establish the Champlain Quadricentennial Commemoration Commission, the Hudson-Fulton 400th Commemoration Commission, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1664. An act to authorize grants for contributions toward the establishment of the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library.

H.R. 3375. An act to extend the trade adjustment assistance program under the Trade Act of 1974 for 3 months.

H.R. 3540. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

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

H. Con. Res. 140. Concurrent resolution recognizing the low presence of minorities in

the financial services industry and minorities and women in upper level positions of management, and expressing the sense of the Congress that active measures should be taken to increase the demographic diversity of the financial services industry.

H. Con. Res. 186. Concurrent resolution honoring the 75th anniversary of Brookgreen Gardens in Murrells Inlet, South Carolina.

H. Con. Res. 193. Concurrent resolution recognizing all hunters across the United States for their continued commitment to safety.

H. Con. Res. 217. Concurrent resolution to correct technical errors in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 3580.

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

S. 1983. An act to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to renew and amend the provisions for the enhanced review of covered pesticide products, to authorize fees for certain pesticide products, to extend and improve the collection of maintenance fees, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1199. An act to extend the grant program for drug-endangered children; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 1389. An act to establish the Star-Spangled Banner and War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 1664. An act to authorize grants for contributions toward the establishment of the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

The following concurrent resolutions were read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 140. Concurrent resolution recognizing the low presence of minorities in the financial services industry and minorities and women in upper level positions of management, and expressing the sense of the Congress that active measures should be taken to increase the demographic diversity of the financial services industry; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H. Con. Res. 186. Concurrent resolution honoring the 75th anniversary of Brookgreen Gardens in Murrells Inlet, South Carolina; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H. Con. Res. 193. Concurrent resolution recognizing all hunters across the United States for their continued commitment to safety; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1520. An act to establish the Champlain Quadricentennial Commemoration Commission, the Hudson-Fulton 400th Commemoration Commission, and for other purposes.

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-3386. A communication from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving exports to Turkey including seven Boeing 737-800 passenger aircraft; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3387. A communication from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Mississippi Regulatory Program" (Docket No. MS-021-FOR) received on September 24, 2007; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3388. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Alachlor; Pesticide Tolerance" ((FRL No. 8147-2)(Docket No. EPA-HQ-OPP-2007-0146)) received on September 21, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3389. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Ohio" ((FRL No. 8470-7)(Docket No. EPA-R05-OAR-2006-0544)) received on September 21, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3390. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Louisiana; Clean Air Interstate Rule Nitrogen Oxides Trading Programs" ((FRL No. 8473-5)(Docket No. EPA-R06-OAR-2007-0651)) received on September 21, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3391. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Missouri" ((FRL No. 8471-9)(Docket No. EPA-R07-OAR-2007-0926)) received on September 21, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3392. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Arkansas; Clean Air Interstate Rule Nitrogen Oxides Ozone Season Trading Program" ((FRL No. 8473-3)(Docket No. EPA-R06-OAR-2007-0886)) received on September 21, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3393. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Award of United States-Mexico Border Program and Alaska Rural and Native Villages Program Grants Authorized by the Revised Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2007" ((FRL No. 8472-1) received on September 21, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.