

greater international pressure to make it clear to the generals that they will be completely isolated by the international community if they continue.

The Association of Southeastern Asian Nations, ASEAN, expressed revulsion at the killings and demanded fellow member Burma stop using violence against demonstrators. Japan announced a cut in foreign assistance. And just the other day, the U.N. Security Council issued a statement agreed to by all of its members saying that it “deplores the use of violence against peaceful demonstrations” in Burma, called for the release of “all political prisoners and remaining detainees,” and urged a “genuine dialogue” with opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi.

Recently, Senators FEINSTEIN, KERRY, LIEBERMAN, and I joined for a discussion with the Chinese Ambassador on the situation in Burma. We discussed the need for China, in particular, to play a more constructive role in ending the violence and pushing for democratic change. I am glad that China helped with U.N. Special Envoy Gambari’s timely trip to Burma and its support of the recent U.N. statement. But the global community must do more. China must do more. And the United States must do more. We must not let the brutal crackdown bring an end to the desperate need for change in Burma.

So once again, I speak to lend my support to these peaceful protests and to call on the Burmese military to immediately begin working with Aung San Suu Kyi and the U.N. envoy, Ibrahim Gambari, to bring about peaceful change and democracy in Burma. It should also unconditionally release all political prisoners, including four recently detained dissidents, Htay Kywe, Mie Mie, Min Ko Naing, and Ko Ko Gyi.

I call on the ASEAN nations and the Governments of China, Thailand, and India to use their special relationships with the Burmese Government to once and for all start democratic change. ASEAN should consider suspending, even expelling, Burma under these circumstances, and Japan needs to apply even greater economic pressure.

I also call on the U.N. to tighten sanctions, including an arms embargo against the Burmese military. We in Congress should also do all we can to tighten our existing sanctions against Burma.

My colleague Senator McCAIN has introduced important legislation to take such steps. I am pleased to enthusiastically cosponsor Senator McCAIN’s bipartisan efforts.

The circumstances in Burma couldn’t be more compelling: A Nobel Peace Prize winner is held under house arrest for 12 of the last 18 years, held under house arrest even while her party wins a landslide election in the country; a brutal and corrupt military government pillages the country’s economic wealth and its own children’s future; and repeated attempts by the people

through elections and peaceful demonstrations to bring about democratic change are extinguished.

No nation on Earth should support or protect this ghastly regime. No nation should trade one more item with these horrible leaders in the junta in Burma. And no nation should ever sell any arms to a regime which treats its people with such brutality.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

ALASKA DAY

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, today is Alaska Day, the day 140 years ago when our territory was officially transferred from Russia to the United States. That was the beginning of a long road towards the American dream for our State.

What was once called “Seward’s folly” has become one of our Nation’s great assets. Alaska has more than made good on Seward’s initial investment. The Federal Government has collected enough revenue from the development of our resources to repay this investment hundreds and hundreds of times over.

Over the years, Alaskans have worked hard to realize our land’s vast potential. And, while much remains to be done, we have much to celebrate.

We are working towards creating a climate for investment, attracting capital to develop and market our valuable natural resources. As our state grows, we are working to ensure that all Alaskans enjoy the benefits of a strong and vibrant economy.

Through programs such as the Denali Commission, we are building modern water and sewer facilities, health care centers and providing education and job opportunities to Alaskans in the far corners of our state.

Though many challenges lay ahead, today, we can look on our accomplishments and know that together we can continue making progress on the road to the American Dream.

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.

Congress cleared H.R. 976 on September 27, 2007. The President vetoed that legislation on October 3, 2007. Unfortunately, the House of Representatives was unsuccessful today in its attempt to override that veto. Consequently, 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.

I ask unanimous consent that the following revisions to S. Con. Res. 21 be 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 LEGISLATION

[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	1,088,003
FY 2008 Outlays	1,082,326
FY 2008–2012 Budget Authority	6,065,057
FY 2008–2012 Outlays	6,056,617
Adjustments:	
FY 2007 Budget Authority	0
FY 2007 Outlays	0
FY 2008 Budget Authority	-9,098
FY 2008 Outlays	-2,412
FY 2008–2012 Budget Authority	-47,678
FY 2008–2012 Outlays	-34,907
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

CLIMATE SECURITY ACT

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, today our friends and colleagues Senators LIEBERMAN and WARNER are introducing their bill to cap carbon emissions. I would like to outline some of the ways their approach will unfairly and unnecessarily hurt our most vulnerable families and workers.

To begin with, capping carbon will make more expensive what we all depend upon in our everyday lives. Our heating bills in the winter, air conditioning bills in the summer, every time we put gas in our cars; they will all be much more expensive under their plan.

While the rich can afford higher power bills, millions of struggling families cannot. Will we force them to

choose between heating their homes or buying school clothes for their children?

I support higher Federal LIHEAP funding, but almost 30 million American families still cannot afford to pay their heating bills. How many millions more will suffer under this bill?

Millions of fixed-income seniors have no room in their budget for higher power bills. Will we force them to choose between air conditioning in the summer or buying their prescription medicine?

Blue collar workers supporting middle class families will also suffer when their manufacturing jobs flee the U.S. for cheaper energy sources in other countries.

Are we telling millions of auto assembly, steel, aluminum, plastics, fertilizer, cement, and lime workers we do not care about them supporting their modest families?

The Lieberman-Warner bill admits it hurts vulnerable families and workers and tries to help them through rebates funded by carbon auctions. But vulnerable workers cannot afford to pay higher energy bills now and wait months later for a rebate check. Where do they get the extra money to pay their higher energy bills now? What do they go without while they are waiting to get their rebate check later?

The whole carbon auction and rebate system is inherently unfair and unnecessary. Some push it so that companies will not see windfall profits. I oppose windfall profits too, but they are only possible in 14 States, mostly in the northeast and west coast where electricity markets are deregulated. In the other 36 states with regulated markets, utilities are prevented by law from reaping windfall profits.

That means a national carbon auction unfairly punishes 36 States in the midwest, mountain, west and south where there would be no problem. Mr. President, 36 States will pay higher energy bills then needed. Families and workers in 36 States will suffer unnecessarily. We must find a better way.

Europe, in their system, made the mistake of passing out more carbon allowances then needed. We can easily avoid that mistake.

As long as the obligation we impose to submit carbon allowances for carbon emissions is greater than the amount of allowances we pass out, there will be no surplus profits in those 36 regulated States.

We must address the issue of preemption. We will create havoc with a national carbon cap system on top of regional systems.

We also need to set up a liability system for sequestering carbon underground. We do not want to set up an impossible situation where we capture all this carbon and have nowhere to put it.

We need to guarantee that we will not harm low income families and vulnerable workers. Protections should kick in automatically at a set level, so

that our struggling elements of society are not left to the whims of a fickle and vague cost containment system.

We need to calibrate any cap plan to the ability of technology to meet that plan." The welfare of millions are too important to roll the dice that low carbon solutions are around the corner. We also cannot inflict too much pain on struggling families and workers in the interim while we wait for those clean energy solutions to come on line.

There are many things we can do now to reduce carbon emissions. We have on the shelf or stuck in stalled legislative vehicles, measures to promote energy efficiency, promote low-carbon biofuels, cut vehicle emissions through aggressive but achievable stronger CAFE standards, require renewable and clean energy generation, increase renewable energy transmission, green buildings, carbon storage research and development, and clean energy research, development and deployment.

That is 8 different ways I am prepared to reduce carbon emissions today. So before we go down the road of hurting the poor, hurting vulnerable workers, sending jobs overseas, let us take advantage of what we have now. Let us get serious about our energy future and fund a Manhattan project for clean energy. Let us get to work where we can join together and do so now.

SCHOOL SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT IMPROVEMENT ACT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, more than 2 months ago, the Senate Judiciary Committee originated the School Safety and Law Enforcement Improvement Act of 2007, a legislative package that responds to the tragic deaths that occurred this past April, almost exactly 6 months ago, on the campus of Virginia Tech and to the ongoing problem of violence in our schools. We have attempted to show deference to Governor Kaine and the task forces at work in Virginia and to complement their work and recommendations. Working with several Senators, including Senators BOXER, REED, SPECTER, FEINGOLD, SCHUMER, and DURBIN, the committee originated this bill and reported it before the start of the academic year in the hope that the full Senate could pass these critical school safety improvements this fall.

Over the past few weeks, Senator SCHUMER and I have tried separately to pass the component of the bill designed to fix flaws in the Nation's background check system. Regrettably, our efforts were blocked by a single Senator.

I do not think the Senate should continue to stand by and wait for the next horrific school tragedy to make the critical changes necessary to ensure safety in our schools and on our college campuses. Risks of school violence will not go away just because Congress may shift its focus. In just the last few weeks we have seen tragedy at Delaware State, University of Memphis, and SuccessTech Academy in Cleve-

land, Ohio, as well as incidents in California, New York, Pennsylvania, and Oregon. I urge the Senate to move aggressively with the comprehensive school safety legislation. It includes background check improvements, together with other sensible yet effective safety improvement measures supported by law enforcement across the country. Accordingly, I urge the Senate to take up and swiftly pass S. 2084. If we are prohibited by objection from doing so by unanimous consent, then let us move to it and let those with objections seek to amend those provisions to which they object.

There are too many incidents at too many colleges and schools nationwide. This terrorizes students and their parents. We should be doing what we can to help. Just a few weeks ago, a troubled student wearing a Fred Flintstone mask and carrying a rifle through campus was arrested at St. John's University in Queens, NY, prompting authorities to lock down the campus for 3 hours. The next day, an armed 17-year-old on the other side of the country in Oroville, CA, held students hostage at Las Plumas High School, also resulting in a lock-down. The incidents have continued this month, with the arrest last week of an armed student suspected of plotting a Columbine-style attack on fellow high school students in Norristown, PA. Just today, in Happy Valley, OR, police arrested a 10-year-old student who brought a semi-automatic weapon into his elementary school. The students in these situations were lucky and escaped without injury.

University of Memphis student Taylor Bradford was not so lucky. He was killed on campus on September 30 in what university officials believe was a targeted attack. He was 21 years old. Shalita Middleton and Nathaniel Pew were not so lucky. They were both wounded during an incident at Delaware State. They are each only 17 years old. High school teachers Michael Grassie and David Kachadourian and students Michael Peek and Darnell Rodgers—all of whom were wounded by a troubled student at SuccessTech Academy on October 10—were not so lucky.

The School Safety and Law Enforcement Improvement Act responds directly to incidents like these by squarely addressing the problem of violence in our schools in several ways. The bill enlists the States as partners in the dissemination of critical information by making significant improvements to the National Instant Background Check System, known as the NICS system. The bill also authorizes federal assistance for programs to improve the safety and security of our schools and institutions of higher education, provides equitable benefits to law enforcement serving those institutions, and funds pilot programs to develop cutting-edge prevention and intervention programs for our schools. The bill also clarifies and strengthens two existing statutes—the Terrorist