

S. 1210

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1210, a bill to extend the grant program for drug-endangered children.

S. 1211

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1211, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide enhanced penalties for marketing controlled substances to minors.

S. 1232

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1232, a bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, to develop a voluntary policy for managing the risk of food allergy and anaphylaxis in schools, to establish school-based food allergy management grants, and for other purposes.

S. 1237

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1237, a bill to increase public safety by permitting the Attorney General to deny the transfer of firearms or the issuance of firearms and explosives licenses to known or suspected dangerous terrorists.

S. 1243

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1243, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to reduce the age for receipt of military retired pay for nonregular service from 60 years of age to 55 years of age.

S. 1244

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1244, a bill to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to expand coverage under the Act, to increase protections for whistleblowers, to increase penalties for certain violators, and for other purposes.

S. 1250

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1250, a bill to direct the United States Trade Representative to conduct an investigation of the personal exemption allowance that Canada provides for merchandise purchased abroad by Canadian residents, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 3

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 3, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that it is the goal of the United States that, not later than January 1, 2025, the agricultural, forestry, and working

land of the United States should provide from renewable resources not less than 25 percent of the total energy consumed in the United States and continue to produce safe, abundant, and affordable food, feed, and fiber.

S. RES. 125

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 125, a resolution designating May 18, 2007, as "Endangered Species Day", and encouraging the people of the United States to become educated about, and aware of, threats to species, success stories in species recovery, and the opportunity to promote species conservation worldwide.

S. RES. 146

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 146, a resolution designating June 20, 2007, as "American Eagle Day", and celebrating the recovery and restoration of the American bald eagle, the national symbol of the United States.

S. RES. 162

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 162, a resolution commemorating and acknowledging the dedication and sacrifice made by the men and women who have lost their lives while serving as law enforcement officers.

S. RES. 171

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN), and the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 171, a resolution memorializing fallen firefighters by lowering the United States flag to half-staff on the day of the National Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. KYL, Mr. THOMAS, and Mr. DOMENICI):

S. 1255. A bill to protect Indian arts and crafts through the improvement of applicable criminal proceedings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to be joined by my colleagues Senator THOMAS, Senator KYL, and Senator DOMENICI in introducing a bill to amend the Indian Arts and Crafts Act. This legislation would improve Federal laws that protect the integrity and originality of Native American arts and crafts.

The Indian Arts and Crafts Act prohibits the misrepresentation in marketing of Indian arts and crafts products, and makes it illegal to display or sell works in a manner that falsely

suggests it is the product of an individual Indian or Indian Tribe.

Unfortunately, the law is written so that only the Federal Bureau of Investigation, FBI, acting on behalf of the Attorney General, can investigate and make arrests in cases of suspected Indian art counterfeiters. The bill we are introducing would amend the law to expand existing Federal investigative authority by authorizing other Federal investigative bodies, such as the BIA Office of Law Enforcement, in addition to the FBI, to investigate cases of misrepresentation of Indian arts and crafts. This bill is similar to provisions included in the Native American Omnibus Act, S. 536, and S. 1375, which passed the Senate at the end of the last Congress but were not acted on by the House.

A major source of tribal and individual Indian income is derived from the sale of handmade Indian arts and crafts. Yet millions of dollars are diverted each year from these original artists and Indian tribes by those who reproduce and sell counterfeit Indian goods. Few, if any, criminal prosecutions have been brought in Federal court for such violations. It is understandable that enforcing the criminal law under the Indian Arts and Crafts Act is often stalled by the other responsibilities of the FBI including investigating terrorism activity and violent crimes in Indian country. Therefore, expanding the investigative authority to include other Federal agencies is intended to promote the active investigation of alleged misconduct. It is my hope that this much needed change will deter those who choose to violate the law.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. LEVIN):

S. 1256. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize loan programs under that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I rise today to join with Senator KERRY in introducing, the Small Business Lending Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2007. This bill is especially timely considering the Nation recently celebrated National Small Business Week, and this body just passed the America COMPETES Act, a bill that invests in innovation and education to improve the competitiveness of the United States in the global economy.

The impact small businesses have on our country's economy and the technological innovations they create simply cannot be overstated. Small hi-tech firms represent the most innovative sector in America. According to the Small Business Administration's Office of Advocacy, these businesses hold over 40 percent of the Nation's patents, obtain 13 to 14 times more patents per

employee than large businesses, and secure patents which are twice as technologically significant as larger firms. With American jobs and our security at stake, it is essential that we support innovation programs to meet national challenges in defense, healthcare, energy, and information technology.

A critical partner for small businesses is the Small Business Administration, SBA, whose fundamental purpose is to "aid, counsel, assist, and protect the interests of small-business concerns." The SBA's methods for carrying out this mandate vary widely, but the agency's primary tool is found in its small business lending programs. The SBA's 7(a), 504, and Microloan programs are tailored to encourage small business growth and expansion. With small businesses representing 99 percent of all employers, creating nearly 75 percent of all net new jobs, and employing 51 percent of the private-sector workforce, it is essential that Congress affirms long-term stability in the lending programs the SBA provides to the small business community.

As it has in the past, the SBA continues to meet the demands of small businesses, both in my home state of Maine and across the country. In fiscal Year 2006, the SBA backed a net 100,197 loans totaling over \$19.1 billion under the 7(a) and 504 programs. In fact, both the number of loans and the dollar amount represent record amounts for the agency—dramatically highlighting the significance of the SBA and the critical role it plays in our nation's economy.

The foundation for the bill Senator KERRY and I are introducing today started during the 109th Congress under an extensive reauthorization process which I led. This process ultimately culminated in the unanimous Small Business Committee passage of a comprehensive SBA reauthorization bill. I firmly believe that the Small Business Lending Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2007 will help the SBA continue its legacy of achievement.

The SBA's loan and investment programs have produced success story after success story, which include assisting the founders of Intel, Staples, and Federal Express, as well as thousands of other successful businesses. Our bipartisan measure will build upon these past successes and make the SBA even more effective. As former Chair and now ranking member of the Small Business Committee, I believe we must do everything possible to sustain prosperity and job creation throughout the United States. To achieve that goal, I have long fought to solidify and expand the reach of the SBA's programs that have helped millions of aspiring entrepreneurs and existing small businesses.

Small businesses yearn to grow, flourish, and thrive, and the SBA has the experience and the resources to be their bridge to success. It is essential that we upgrade the SBA's core lending programs for the 21st century entrepreneur. The American economy needs

a strong and vibrant Small Business Administration. The Small Business Lending Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2007 will build on the previous success of the Agency, and help to ensure the success of tomorrow's entrepreneurs.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself, Mr. HATCH, and Mr. BENNETT):

S. 1257. A bill to provide the District of Columbia a voting seat and the State of Utah an additional seat in the House of Representatives; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise today with my colleague from Utah, Senator HATCH, to introduce bipartisan legislation that I believe is the breakthrough we have been searching for to bring House voting representation to the residents of the District of Columbia, who have historically been denied this fundamental birthright.

I am proud to join with, DC Delegate ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON and Representative TOM DAVIS, and the many others from both parties and both houses who have worked without rest to remedy the disenfranchisement of District residents since the capital was established in Washington in 1800. I especially want to thank my friend Senator HATCH for his influential support of this voting rights proposal, which would bring to an end a gross inconsistency with the founding principles of our Nation.

Mr. President, we have a historic opportunity today to finally bestow upon the citizens of the District of Columbia the civic entitlement every other tax-paying American citizen enjoys no matter where he or she resides, democracy's most essential right, voting representation in Congress.

The bill is simple. It would increase the number of voting representatives in the House from 435 to 437 by providing the District with a voting representative and by adding another congressional seat for Utah, the next State in line to increase its representation based on the 2000 Census.

Working cooperatively in the spirit of service to the people of Washington, DC, and Utah, Congresswoman NORTON and Congressman DAVIS shepherded a similar proposal through the House Government Reform Committee on March 13 by a vote of 24-5. The full House approved the measure April 20 by a vote of 241-177, a historic day unlike any other since 1978 when Congress approved a constitutional amendment to give District residents voting rights in the House and Senate. Of course, that amendment came to naught when too few States ratified it.

The people of this city have waited far too long for this right. They have been the direct target of terrorist attacks, and yet they have no representative to vote in Congress on policies to protect their homeland security. Citizens of Washington, DC, pay income

taxes just like everyone else. In fact, they pay more: Per capita, District residents have the second highest Federal tax obligation. And yet they have no voice in how high those taxes will be or how they will be spent. The District is also the only jurisdiction in the country that must seek congressional approval, through the appropriations process, before spending locally-generated tax dollars. When Congress fails to pass appropriations bills before the beginning of the fiscal year, the District's budget is essentially frozen. And yet DC has no say in that appropriations process.

DC residents fight and die for our democracy but they cannot participate fully in it. I ask you, how can we effectively promote democracy abroad while denying it to hundreds of thousands of citizens in our Nation's Capital?

There is no good reason why DC residents have been denied congressional representation. In 1800, when the nation's capital was established as the District of Columbia, an oversight left the area's residents without congressional representation. Maryland and Virginia ceded land for the capitol in 1788 and 1789, respectively, but it took another 10 years for Congress to establish the District of Columbia. In the interim, residents continued to vote either in Maryland or Virginia, but Congress withdrew those voting rights once the District was founded. Unfortunately, apparently by omission, Congress neglected to establish new voting rights for the citizens of the new district.

The right to be counted, to have your voice heard by your government is central to a functioning democracy and fundamental to a free society. If we are willing to sacrifice our young men and women in the name of freedom, we must be willing to protect their freedoms as well. This legislation would do just that.

In 2002, 10 cosponsors and I introduced the No Taxation without Representation Act. I held a hearing on the bill in the Governmental Affairs Committee, which I then chaired. It was the first hearing in Congress on DC voting rights since 1994. We reported the bill out of committee, but the Senate never took action on it.

Today, the tide has changed. Members from both parties have come together to find a solution to break the stalemates of the past that have denied DC residents equal representation in Congress. The State of Utah has united in favor of a fourth congressional seat, and Senator HATCH has lent his considerable support to this effort. Mr. President, this legislation represents an uncommon victory for fairness and a rare but hopefully increasingly more common example of what we can do if we work together to accomplish our mutual goals.

The essence of our work in the legislative branch is compromise, and the compromise reached by Senator HATCH

and I will bring partial voting representation to the District while ensuring Utah receives the additional representation it is due.

I know there are those who believe this bill is unconstitutional. But the District clause of the Constitution, which gives Congress the power to legislate "in all cases whatsoever" pertaining to the District, provides ample authority for the legislative branch to give DC residents voting rights.

Mr. President, this is our moment to do right here at home, just as we have done throughout our history for our democratic allies abroad. By giving the citizens of the District of Columbia a vote in the House, we will ensure not only that their voices will finally be heard. We will be following the imperative of our history and moral values. The Framers of our Constitution in effect placed with Congress the solemn responsibility of assuring that the rights of DC citizens would be protected in the future, just as it is our responsibility to protect the rights of all citizens throughout this great country. Congress has failed to meet this obligation for more than 200 years, and I am not prepared to make DC citizens wait another 200 years.

Mr. President, the tax-paying citizens of the District of Columbia have been without congressional voting representation for too long. The House has acted. Now it is time for the Senate to act. I urge my colleagues to join Senator HATCH and me in support of this essential legislation.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1257

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act of 2007".

SEC. 2. TREATMENT OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AS CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the District of Columbia shall be considered a Congressional district for purposes of representation in the House of Representatives.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO APPORTIONMENT OF MEMBERS OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

(1) INCLUSION OF SINGLE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MEMBER IN REAPPORTIONMENT OF MEMBERS AMONG STATES.—Section 22 of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the fifteenth and subsequent decennial censuses and to provide for apportionment of Representatives in Congress", approved June 28, 1929 (2 U.S.C. 2a), is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(d) This section shall apply with respect to the District of Columbia in the same manner as this section applies to a State, except that the District of Columbia may not receive more than one Member under any reapportionment of Members."

(2) CLARIFICATION OF DETERMINATION OF NUMBER OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS ON BASIS OF 23RD AMENDMENT.—Section 3 of title 3,

United States Code, is amended by striking "come into office;" and inserting the following: "come into office (subject to the twenty-third article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States in the case of the District of Columbia);".

SEC. 3. INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

(a) PERMANENT INCREASE IN NUMBER OF MEMBERS.—Effective with respect to the 111th Congress and each succeeding Congress, the House of Representatives shall be composed of 437 Members, including the Member representing the District of Columbia pursuant to section 2(a).

(b) REAPPORTIONMENT OF MEMBERS RESULTING FROM INCREASE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 22(a) of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the fifteenth and subsequent decennial censuses and to provide for apportionment of Representatives in Congress", approved June 28, 1929 (2 U.S.C. 2a(a)), is amended by striking "the then existing number of Representatives" and inserting "the number of Representatives established with respect to the 111th Congress".

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply with respect to the regular decennial census conducted for 2010 and each subsequent regular decennial census.

(c) TRANSMITTAL OF REVISED APPORTIONMENT INFORMATION BY PRESIDENT.—

(1) STATEMENT OF APPORTIONMENT BY PRESIDENT.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall transmit to Congress a revised version of the most recent statement of apportionment submitted under section 22(a) of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the fifteenth and subsequent decennial censuses and to provide for apportionment of Representatives in Congress", approved June 28, 1929 (2 U.S.C. 2a(a)), to take into account this Act and the amendments made by this Act and identifying the State of Utah as the State entitled to one additional Representative pursuant to this section.

(2) REPORT BY CLERK.—Not later than 15 calendar days after receiving the revised version of the statement of apportionment under paragraph (1), the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall submit a report to the Speaker of the House of Representatives identifying the State of Utah as the State entitled to one additional Representative pursuant to this section.

SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE; TIMING OF ELECTIONS.

The general election for the additional Representative to which the State of Utah is entitled for the 111th Congress and 112th Congress and the general election for the Representative from the District of Columbia for the 111th Congress and the 112th Congress shall be subject to the following requirements:

(1) The additional Representative from the State of Utah will be elected pursuant to a redistricting plan enacted by the State, such as the plan the State of Utah signed into law on December 5, 2006, which—

(A) revises the boundaries of Congressional districts in the State to take into account the additional Representative to which the State is entitled under section 3; and

(B) remains in effect until the taking effect of the first reapportionment occurring after the regular decennial census conducted for 2010.

(2) The additional Representative from the State of Utah and the Representative from the District of Columbia shall be sworn in and seated as Members of the House of Representatives on the same date as other Members of the 111th Congress.

SEC. 5. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) REPEAL OF OFFICE OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DELEGATE.—

(1) REPEAL OF OFFICE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Sections 202 and 204 of the District of Columbia Delegate Act (Public Law 91-405; sections 1-401 and 1-402, D.C. Official Code) are repealed, and the provisions of law amended or repealed by such sections are restored or revived as if such sections had not been enacted.

(B) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall take effect on the date on which a Representative from the District of Columbia takes office for the 111th Congress.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ELECTIONS CODE OF 1955.—The District of Columbia Elections Code of 1955 is amended as follows:

(A) In section 1 (sec. 1-1001.01, D.C. Official Code), by striking "the Delegate to the House of Representatives," and inserting "the Representative in Congress,".

(B) In section 2 (sec. 1-1001.02, D.C. Official Code)—

(i) by striking paragraph (6); and

(ii) in paragraph (13), by striking "the Delegate to Congress for the District of Columbia," and inserting "the Representative in Congress,".

(C) In section 8 (sec. 1-1001.08, D.C. Official Code)—

(i) in the heading, by striking "Delegate" and inserting "Representative"; and

(ii) by striking "Delegate," each place it appears in subsections (h)(1)(A), (i)(1), and (j)(1) and inserting "Representative in Congress,".

(D) In section 10 (sec. 1-1001.10, D.C. Official Code)—

(i) in subsection (a)(3)(A)—

(I) by striking "or section 206(a) of the District of Columbia Delegate Act"; and

(II) by striking "the office of Delegate to the House of Representatives" and inserting "the office of Representative in Congress";

(ii) in subsection (d)(1), by striking "Delegate," each place it appears; and

(iii) in subsection (d)(2)—

(I) by striking "(A) In the event" and all that follows through "term of office," and inserting "In the event that a vacancy occurs in the office of Representative in Congress before May 1 of the last year of the Representative's term of office,"; and

(II) by striking subparagraph (B).

(E) In section 11(a)(2) (sec. 1-1001.11(a)(2), D.C. Official Code), by striking "Delegate to the House of Representatives," and inserting "Representative in Congress,".

(F) In section 15(b) (sec. 1-1001.15(b), D.C. Official Code), by striking "Delegate," and inserting "Representative in Congress,".

(G) In section 17(a) (sec. 1-1001.17(a), D.C. Official Code), by striking "the Delegate to Congress from the District of Columbia" and inserting "the Representative in Congress".

(b) REPEAL OF OFFICE OF STATEHOOD REPRESENTATIVE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 4 of the District of Columbia Statehood Constitutional Convention Initiative of 1979 (sec. 1-123, D.C. Official Code) is amended as follows:

(A) By striking "offices of Senator and Representative" each place it appears in subsection (d) and inserting "office of Senator".

(B) In subsection (d)(2)—

(i) by striking "a Representative or";

(ii) by striking "the Representative or"; and

(iii) by striking "Representative shall be elected for a 2-year term and each".

(C) In subsection (d)(3)(A), by striking "and 1 United States Representative".

(D) By striking "Representative or" each place it appears in subsections (e), (f), (g), and (h).

(E) By striking "Representative's or" each place it appears in subsections (g) and (h).

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) STATEHOOD COMMISSION.—Section 6 of such Initiative (sec. 1-125, D.C. Official Code) is amended—

(i) in subsection (a)—

(I) by striking "27 voting members" and inserting "26 voting members";

(II) by adding "and" at the end of paragraph (5); and

(III) by striking paragraph (6) and redesignating paragraph (7) as paragraph (6); and

(ii) in subsection (a-1)(1), by striking subparagraph (H).

(B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 8 of such Initiative (sec. 1-127, D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking "and House".

(C) APPLICATION OF HONORARIA LIMITATIONS.—Section 4 of D.C. Law 8-135 (sec. 1-131, D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking "or Representative" each place it appears.

(D) APPLICATION OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAWS.—Section 3 of the Statehood Convention Procedural Amendments Act of 1982 (sec. 1-135, D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking "and United States Representative".

(E) DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ELECTIONS CODE OF 1955.—The District of Columbia Elections Code of 1955 is amended—

(i) in section 2(13) (sec. 1-1001.02(13), D.C. Official Code), by striking "United States Senator and Representative," and inserting "United States Senator,;" and

(ii) in section 10(d) (sec. 1-1001.10(d)(3), D.C. Official Code), by striking "United States Representative or".

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall take effect on the date on which a Representative from the District of Columbia takes office for the 111th Congress.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS REGARDING APPOINTMENTS TO SERVICE ACADEMIES.—

(1) UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY.—Section 4342 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (5); and

(B) in subsection (f), by striking "the District of Columbia,".

(2) UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY.—Such title is amended—

(A) in section 6954(a), by striking paragraph (5); and

(B) in section 6958(b), by striking "the District of Columbia,".

(3) UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY.—Section 9342 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (5); and

(B) in subsection (f), by striking "the District of Columbia,".

(4) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection and the amendments made by this subsection shall take effect on the date on which a Representative from the District of Columbia takes office for the 111th Congress.

SEC. 6. NONSEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS.

If any provision of this Act or any amendment made by this Act is declared or held invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions of this Act or any amendment made by this Act shall be treated and deemed invalid and shall have no force or effect of law.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to join with Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Chairman JOSEPH LIEBERMAN and Senator ROBERT BENNETT in introducing the District of Columbia Voting House Rights Act of

2007. Our colleagues in the House of Representatives recently passed similar legislation, H.R. 1905, that would provide a fourth congressional seat for my home state of Utah and the first voting member for the District of Columbia. No doubt, this is a historic time for the citizens of the District of Columbia and a unique opportunity for Utah to receive a long overdue fourth congressional seat.

The Founding Fathers made clear in article 1, section 8 of the Constitution that the District of Columbia would be the seat of the national government and granted Congress the power "[t]o exercise exclusive Legislation, in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the Acceptance of Congress become the Seat of the Government of the United States . . ." This clause became effective in 1790 when Congress accepted land that Maryland and Virginia ceded to the United States to create the national capital. Ten years later, in December 1800, jurisdiction over the District of Columbia was vested in the Federal Government. Since then, District residents have not had the right to vote for Members of Congress. Additionally, article 1, section 2 and section 3 of the Constitution provides that citizens of States shall have voting representation in the House and Senate.

During my time in the Senate, I have heard from many District residents who believe strongly that their voice should be heard in Congress. They pay taxes, vote in presidential elections, and serve in the military. Yet these nearly 600,000 Americans do not have a voting representative in Congress. Many, including myself, have been reluctant to support previous proposals based upon the constitutional principle that States, not territories, are afforded congressional representation. I understand the argument that congressional representation is dependent on statehood and, therefore, the Constitution would need to be amended before the District is given a voting representative in Congress. While the Constitution does not affirmatively grant District residents the right to vote in congressional elections, it does affirmatively grant Congress plenary power to govern the District's affairs. Indeed, the Constitution grants Congress exclusive authority to legislate all matters concerning the District, and I believe this authority extends to the granting of congressional voting rights for District residents.

I support this legislation not only because it rectifies the District's undemocratic political status, but it gives my home State of Utah a long overdue fourth voting Member in the House of Representatives.

During the 2000 Census count, Utah missed out on a fourth House seat by only 857 people. The Census Bureau counted members of the military serving abroad as residents of their home State, but did not count an estimated

14,000 Utah missionaries from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints living abroad. Utah took its fight for a fourth seat all the way to the Supreme Court, but lost. Instead, North Carolina gained another seat in the House by 856 residents. Since then, I have heard from many Utahns and share their frustrations about the outcome of the 2000 Census.

Why push for an additional seat now? Under normal circumstances, Utah would have to wait until the 2010 Census to see if its growing population justifies another congressional seat. However, the proposed legislation provides Utah a chance to receive another voting member of Congress 5 years early. That is equivalent to two and a half terms for a Member of Congress and places the new Member well on his or her way in establishing seniority and influence for the benefit of Utah's citizens. I don't think this is an offer we should dismiss.

I have some constitutional concerns with H.R. 1905's attempt to impose an at-large seat upon my State of Utah. In States with more than one seat in the House, Members are expected to represent insular constituencies. Under H.R. 1905, residents of one State would be represented by two House Members while citizens in other States would have one. In addition, in our constitutional system, States are responsible for elections and Utah has chosen the approach it wants to take by redistricting. I see no warrant for Congress to undermine this balance and impose upon Utah a scheme it has not chosen for itself. For this reason, in the proposed Senate legislation, I insisted that Utah be required to redistrict to provide for the new seat. I believe that Utah's legislators deserve the freedom to determine their representatives' districts without unjustified intrusion or mandate of the Federal Government.

Additionally, the House bill would require Utah to hold a special election in 2007 if the bill passes. The Senate version requires that both seats be elected in the November 2008 general election. Thereafter, both new Members would begin their service at the start of the 111th Congress in 2009.

In conclusion, let me say that I recognize there are many who strongly oppose this legislation. There are many who wish the District voting rights issue would simply go away. The Democratic-controlled Congress could have simply pushed forward with legislation giving the District of Columbia a seat without balancing a "Democrat" seat with a "Republican" seat. I am pleased that this was not the case. The House of Representatives has already voted in favor of moving this legislation forward. Now it is up to the Senate. Let me be clear, the proposed legislation does not provide Senate representation for the District of Columbia. I am not in favor of granting two Senators for the District and would not support such a proposal.

As one who represents Utah, I have an important responsibility to ensure

that my State is dealt with properly and fairly. And, in light of the House's recent legislative action, I am determined to do all that I can to ensure that Utah's fourth seat configuration is done right. I want my fellow Utahns to know that the window of opportunity is quickly closing. In fact, I dare say there won't be another opportunity like this again. For this reason, I intend to make the most of it and hope that my Senate colleagues will support me in this endeavor.

By Mrs. CLINTON (for herself and Mr. SMITH):

S. 1259. A bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide assistance for developing countries to promote quality basic education and to establish the achievement of universal basic education in all developing countries as an objective of United States foreign assistance policy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, today, I am proud to introduce, along with Senator GORDON SMITH, the Education for All Act of 2007. This bill would enable us to increase our spending on global education initiatives in order to help millions of children around the world have the opportunity to receive an education.

Worldwide, more than 77 million children do not have access to primary school education. The majority of these—approximately 44 million—are girls. Approximately half of the school-age children who start primary school do not complete it. And there are hundreds of millions more children who are denied the opportunity to complete a secondary school education—to become the next generation of doctors, nurses, lawyers, scientists, and teachers. These statistics represent a unconscionable misuse of human potential—a misuse that we can and must remedy.

In 2000, the United States, along with other governments around the world, committed to the goal of achieving universal basic education by 2015. Through some of the initiatives and partnership in which our government is participating, such as the Education for All Fast Track Initiative, we have made progress. Since the Fast Track Initiative was launched in 2002, approximately 4 million children each year have gained access to school.

Yet despite such gains, we are not on track to meet our 2015 goal. In order to do so, we would need to help millions more children enter school each year—requiring a global financial commitment of more than \$7 billion every year.

The Education for All Act of 2007 would authorize \$10 billion in spending over the next 5 years, enabling the U.S. Government to make a significant commitment to reach the 2015 goal, and help children in developing countries, particularly areas experiencing conflict or humanitarian emergencies, have access to a quality basic edu-

cation. The bill that I am introducing today will make a tangible difference in the lives of children around the world, by helping them to attend school and receive a quality education. And its impact will go far beyond the individual, but will also benefit families, communities, and countries.

A 2004 report by Barbara Herz and Gene Sperling from the Center on Universal Education at the Council on Foreign Relations detailed the gains that are to be made when we invest in education, particularly for girls. A single year of primary education correlates with a 10–20 percent increase in women's wages later in life. An extra year of a woman's education has been shown to reduce the risk that her children will die in infancy by 5–10 percent, and a study of South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa found that from 1960 to 1992, equality in education between men and women could have led to nearly 1 percent higher annual per capita GDP growth.

We have the data to show that education is the path to good jobs, strong democracies, and stable societies. We have the capacity, responsibility, and opportunity to help millions of children worldwide. All it takes now is the will to expand access to educational opportunity.

I believe with bipartisan support we can turn this bill into law, and lead the world in meeting the goal of universal basic education, and I look forward to working with my colleagues in Congress in making education for all a reality.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Education for All Act of 2007 with my colleague from New York, Senator HILLARY CLINTON. This legislation will focus U.S. efforts to help provide all children worldwide with a basic education. At this time, at least 77 million children of primary school age around the world are not in school.

Basic education is a critical part of a child's development. In addition to providing children the tools necessary to succeed in life, education provides a secondary purpose of helping to reduce poverty and inequality. A strong basic education system also lays the foundation for sound governance, civic participation, and strong familial institutions. Without an education, children are less able to contribute to a country's development, often becoming a burden on society.

A recent Government Accountability Office concluded there are seven U.S. Federal agencies providing international basic education services in approximately 70 countries. Unfortunately, the GAO also found instances when agencies did not coordinate the planning or delivery of international basic education activities. To maximize the impact of U.S. aid dollars, we must efficiently coordinate between government agencies to decrease redundant spending on overlapping programs. The Education for All Act will help achieve this.

In 2000, at the World Education Forum in Dakar, Senegal, the United States was one of 180 countries to commit to the goal of universal basic education by 2015. Since then, we have enhanced our efforts to provide basic education overseas. From fiscal years 2001 to 2006, USAID, the Departments of State and Defense and the Millennium Challenge Corporation allocated \$2.2 billion to support our basic international education efforts. During this same period, the Departments of Agriculture and Labor further allocated an estimated \$1 billion to programs with basic education as a component. I am proud of our country's generosity and commitment to this important goal.

Our bill will ensure the United States provides the resources and leadership necessary to supply all children with a quality basic education. It calls on the President to establish a comprehensive strategy for achieving universal basic education by 2015. This strategy should include actions toward improving coordination, reducing duplication, expanding public-private partnerships, leveraging resources and maximizing the use of American technical experts. The bill also establishes a U.S. Education for All Coordinator, an ambassador-level position appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The Coordinator will manage U.S. efforts to ensure aid dollars are used in the most effective manner possible.

The bill further establishes a fellowship program at USAID which allows qualified individuals to serve 3-year terms as Basic Education fellows, helping establish and carry out basic education policy and programming. This fellowship will broaden U.S. capabilities in the areas of technical assistance and training. Finally, the bill authorizes \$1 billion for fiscal year 2008, \$1.5 billion for fiscal year 2009, \$2 billion for fiscal year 2010, \$2.5 billion for fiscal year 2011, and \$3 billion for fiscal year 2012 for international basic education programs.

I hope my colleagues will join us in supporting the noble ambition of achieving universal basic education by endorsing the Education for All Act of 2007.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 1261. A bill to amend title 10 and 38, United States Code, to repeal the 10-year limit on use of Montgomery GI Bill educational assistance benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about an investment program in lifelong education for our service members and veterans. The Montgomery GI Bill is consistently cited as an important reason people join the military and continues to be one of the most important benefits provided for military service today. There is no reason why 100 percent of our active duty, selected reserve, and veteran servicemembers should not have the

opportunity to take advantage of their earned education benefits.

That is why I'm reintroducing the Montgomery GI Bill for Life Act of 2007, which would allow Montgomery GI Bill participants an unlimited amount of time to use their earned benefits.

I am pleased that my colleague, Senator TOM HARKIN, is again joining me in sponsoring this legislation and that Senator SHERROD BROWN has also signed on to further extend MGIB benefits.

The MGIB is a program that provides up to 36 months of education benefits for educational opportunities ranging from college to apprenticeship and job training, and even flight training. Upon enlistment, the GI Bill also requires service members to contribute \$100 per month for their first 12 months of services.

Basically, the MGIB is divided into two programs. One program targets active duty and veteran members, paying over \$1,000 per month to qualified students. That's more than \$36,000 for school. The other is directed at the Selected Reserve. This program provides educational benefits of \$288 per month, for a total of \$10,368.

If recruits are overwhelmingly declaring that education opportunity under the GI Bill is the key incentive for them to join the military, then it makes sense that most—if not all—of our troops, who signed up for the program, would also be cashing in on their benefits. But reports show that the majority, 40 to 60 percent, do not actually use the benefits they have earned.

Currently, MGIB participants have up to 10 years from their release date from the military to use their earned education benefits. Members of the Selected Reserve are able to use their MGIB benefit for 14 years. However, that means your earned education benefits expire if you don't use them within the required timeframe, closing your window of opportunity to go to school or finish your college education. Plus, you lose the \$1,200 dedicated for your GI Bill during your first year of enlistment.

Originally, the intent of 1944 GI Bill of Rights was to help veterans successfully transition back into civilian life as education is the key to employment opportunities. Looking back now, we know that the GI Bill opened the door to higher education, helping millions of service members and veterans who wouldn't otherwise have had the chance to pay for college. That is, servicemembers benefited from the GI Bill because they used the payments within the 10 and 14 year limitation.

But there are many others who did not use their earned education benefits within that timeframe. For example, after leaving the military, some servicemembers postponed going to school because they had to go straight to work in order to support their family. Others unfortunately, were either homeless or incarcerated for long peri-

ods of time due to disability associated with military service, but are now ready to move forward in their lives, and going back to school is their first step. In some cases, due to random life circumstances, some people just lost track of time. Additionally, because of misinformation and bureaucratic language, the GI Bill is known as a complicated program to navigate.

A constituent of mine, Ruben Ruelas—who is a Local Veterans Employment Representative, LVER, for the WorkSource in Wenatchee, Washington, wrote to me saying, "It's been my experience that most people don't know what they want to do in life or are placed in situations where, due to changing economic times, they are displaced and need further education and training to compete for jobs. But most don't have access to training resources to do so."

In terms of Vietnam Era veterans, Mr. Ruelas goes on to say, "many 50 year olds are unemployed, untrained and uneducated and could use their educational benefits to improve their skills to compete for better jobs. Many have come to realize, too late, that they need college or retraining and don't have the resources to do so."

While times have changed remarkably, one thing remains constant: education is critical to employment opportunity. In the 21st Century global labor market, enhancing skills through education and job training is now more important than ever. The need for retraining is even more underscored for our military service members and veterans.

My legislation, the Montgomery GI Bill for Life, would ensure that educational opportunities are lifelong, allowing service members and veterans the flexibility to seek education and job training opportunities when it is the right time for them to do so.

Higher education not only serves as an individual benefit, but positive externalities have transpired: the GI Bill was instrumental in building our country's middle class and continues to help close the college education gap.

Today, employers are requiring higher qualifications from the workforce. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that six of the ten fastest-growing occupations require an associate's degree or bachelor's degree. By 2010, 40 percent of all job growth will require some form of postsecondary education. While a highly skilled workforce is one characteristic of the new economy, working for one employer throughout a lifetime is no longer routine, but rather an evanescent feature. According to findings by Brigham Young University, the average person changes jobs or careers eight times in his or her lifetime. To keep up with these trends, expanding access to education and training is a must do in the 21st Century global marketplace.

A 1999 report by the Congressional Commission on Service members and Veterans Transition Assistance stated

that the GI Bill of the future must include the following: Provide veterans with access to post-secondary education that they use; assist the Armed forces in recruiting the high quality high school graduates needed; enhance the Nation's competitiveness by further educating American veterans, a population that is already self-disciplined, goal oriented, and steadfast; and attract the kind of service members who will go on to occupy leadership positions in government and the private sector.

Eliminating the GI Bill 10 and 14 year limitation for service members, veterans, and Selected Reserve moves one step toward improving the MGIB. The Montgomery GI Bill for Life would allow MGIB members, including qualified Vietnam Era Veterans, the flexibility to access their earned education benefits at any time.

As the nation's economy continues to recover and grow stronger, the GI Bill will continue to be the primary vehicle keeping our active duty service members and veterans of military service on track, helping to ensure our country's prosperity.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 178—EX-PRESSING THE SYMPATHY OF THE SENATE TO THE FAMILIES OF WOMEN AND GIRLS MURDERED IN GUATEMALA, AND ENCOURAGING THE UNITED STATES TO WORK WITH GUATEMALA TO BRING AN END TO THESE CRIMES

Mr. BINGAMAN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 178

Whereas, since 2001, more than 2,000 women and girls have been murdered in Guatemala;

Whereas most of the victims are women ranging in age from 18 to 30, with many of the cases involving abduction, sexual violence, or brutal mutilation;

Whereas, from 2001 to 2006, the rate at which women have been murdered in Guatemala has almost doubled, increasing at a higher rate than the murder rate of men in Guatemala during the same period;

Whereas, according to data from Guatemala's Public Prosecutors Office, few arrests and fewer convictions have occurred, and prosecutors, forensics experts, and other state justice officials have not brought the perpetrators to justice;

Whereas, from 2001 to 2006, there were only 20 convictions for the murders of women and girls;

Whereas the Human Rights Ombudsman of the Government of Guatemala has reported that in 1 year alone police officers were implicated on 10 separate occasions in the murder of women in Guatemala, and recommended that such officers and other officials be held accountable for their acts;

Whereas an effective, transparent, and impartial judicial system is key to the administration of justice, and the failure to ensure proper investigations and prosecutions hampers the ability to solve crimes and punish perpetrators;