

COVERDELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2161, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a 1 year moratorium on certain diesel fuel excise taxes and to require the Secretary of the Treasury to transfer amounts to the Highway Trust Fund to cover any shortfall.

S. 2196

At the request of Mr. MOYNIHAN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2196, a bill to reliquidate certain entries of tomato sauce preparation.

S. 2218

At the request of Mr. CLELAND, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2218, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for the establishment of a program under which long-term care insurance is made available to Federal employees and annuitants and members of the uniformed services, and for other purposes.

S. 2231

At the request of Mr. COVERDELL, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. WELLSTONE), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD), and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 2231, a bill to provide for the placement at the Lincoln Memorial of a plaque commemorating the speech of Martin Luther King, Jr., known as the "I Have A Dream" speech.

S. CON. RES. 81

At the request of Mr. ROTH, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. NICKLES) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 81, concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the Government of the People's Republic of China should immediately release Rabiya Kadeer, her secretary, and her son, and permit them to move to the United States if they so desire.

S. CON. RES. 96

At the request of Mr. SARBANES, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. COVERDELL) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 96, concurrent resolution recognizing and honoring members of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA) who are being awarded the AHEPA Medal for Military Service in the Armed Forces of the United States.

S. RES. 128

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAU) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 128, a resolution designating March 2000, as "Arts Education Month".

S. RES. 263

At the request of Mr. ASHCROFT, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin

(Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 263, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the President should communicate to the members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries ("OPEC") cartel and non-OPEC countries that participate in the cartel of crude oil producing countries, before the meeting of the OPEC nations in March 2000, the position of the United States in favor of increasing world crude oil supplies so as to achieve stable crude oil prices.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 97—EXPRESSING THE SUPPORT OF CONGRESS FOR ACTIVITIES TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS; CONSIDERED AND AGREED TO

Mr. REED (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 97

Whereas multiple sclerosis is a chronic and often disabling disease of the central nervous system which often first appears in people between the ages of 20 and 40, with lifelong physical and emotional effects;

Whereas multiple sclerosis is twice as common in women as in men;

Whereas an estimated 250,000 to 350,000 individuals suffer from multiple sclerosis nationally;

Whereas symptoms of multiple sclerosis can be mild, such as numbness in the limbs, or severe, such as paralysis or loss of vision;

Whereas the progress, severity, and specific symptoms of multiple sclerosis in any one person cannot yet be predicted;

Whereas the annual cost to each affected individual averages \$34,000, and the total cost can exceed \$2,000,000 over an individual's lifetime;

Whereas the annual cost of treating all people who suffer from multiple sclerosis in the United States is nearly \$9,000,000,000;

Whereas the cause of multiple sclerosis remains unknown, but genetic factors are believed to play a role in determining a person's risk for developing multiple sclerosis;

Whereas many of the symptoms of multiple sclerosis can be treated with medications and rehabilitative therapy;

Whereas new treatments exist that can slow the course of the disease, and reduce its severity;

Whereas medical experts recommend that all people newly diagnosed with relapse-remitting multiple sclerosis begin disease-modifying therapy;

Whereas finding the genes responsible for susceptibility to multiple sclerosis may lead to the development of new and more effective ways to treat the disease;

Whereas increased funding for the National Institutes of Health would provide the opportunity for research and the creation of programs to increase awareness, prevention, and education; and

Whereas Congress as an institution, and Members of Congress as individuals, are in unique positions to help raise public awareness about the detection and treatment of multiple sclerosis and to support the fight against multiple sclerosis: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring).* That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) all Americans should take an active role in the fight to end the devastating effects of multiple sclerosis on individuals, their families, and the economy;

(2) the role played by national and community organizations and health care professionals in promoting the importance of continued funding for research, and in providing information about and access to the best medical treatment and support services for people with multiple sclerosis should be recognized and applauded; and

(3) the Federal Government has a responsibility to—

(A) continue to fund research so that the causes of, and improved treatment for, multiple sclerosis may be discovered;

(B) continue to consider ways to improve access to, and the quality of, health care services for people with multiple sclerosis;

(C) endeavor to raise public awareness about the symptoms of multiple sclerosis; and

(D) endeavor to raise health professional's awareness about diagnosis of multiple sclerosis and the best course of treatment for people with the disease.

SENATE RESOLUTION 276—TO EXPRESS THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE CONFEREES ON THE VIOLENT AND REPEAT JUVENILE OFFENDER ACCOUNTABILITY AND REHABILITATION ACT SHOULD SUBMIT THE CONFERENCE REPORT ON THE BILL BEFORE APRIL 20, 2000, AND INCLUDE THE GUN SAFETY AMENDMENTS PASSED BY THE SENATE

Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KOHL, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. ROBB, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BYRD, Mr. KERRY, Mr. REID, Mr. INOUE, Mr. BRYAN, and Mr. BINGAMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 276

*Resolved,* That it is the sense of the Senate that the conferees on H.R. 1501, the Violent and Repeat Juvenile Offender Accountability and Rehabilitation Act, should complete and submit the conference report before April 20, 2000, and include in the conference report the amendments passed by the Senate seeking to limit access to firearms by juveniles, convicted felons, and other persons prohibited by law from purchasing or possessing firearms.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

SENIOR CITIZENS' FREEDOM TO WORK ACT OF 1999

KERREY AMENDMENT NO. 2885

Mr. KERREY proposed an amendment to the bill (H.R. 5) to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the earnings test for individuals who have attained retirement age; as follows:

At the end add the following:  
**SEC. 2. REDESIGNATION OF TERM FOR AGE AT WHICH AN INDIVIDUAL IS ELIGIBLE FOR FULL, UNREDUCED OLD-AGE BENEFITS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by striking “retirement age” each place it appears and inserting “the age of eligibility for full, unreduced old-age benefits”;

(2) by striking “early retirement age” each place it appears and inserting “the age of earliest eligibility for old-age benefits”; and

(3) by striking “delayed retirement” each place it appears and inserting “delayed entitlement for old-age benefits”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 202(q)(9) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 402(q)(9)) is amended by striking “early retirement” and inserting “early entitlement for old-age benefits”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

**ROTH (AND MOYNIHAN)  
 AMENDMENT NO. 2886**

Mr. ROTH (for himself and Mr. MOYNIHAN) proposed an amendment to the bill, H.R. 5, supra; as follows:

Strike all after the first word and insert the following:

**SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Senior Citizens’ Freedom to Work Act of 2000”.

**SEC. 2. ELIMINATION OF EARNINGS TEST FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE ATTAINED RETIREMENT AGE.**

Section 203 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 403) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(1), by striking “the age of seventy” and inserting “retirement age (as defined in section 216(l))”;

(2) in paragraphs (1)(A) and (2) of subsection (d), by striking “the age of seventy” each place it appears and inserting “retirement age (as defined in section 216(l))”;

(3) in subsection (f)(1)(B), by striking “was age seventy or over” and inserting “was at or above retirement age (as defined in section 216(l))”;

(4) in subsection (f)(3), by striking “age 70” and inserting “retirement age (as defined in section 216(l))”;

(5) in subsection (h)(1)(A), by striking “age 70” each place it appears and inserting “retirement age (as defined in section 216(l))”;

and

(6) in subsection (j)—

(A) in the heading, by striking “Age Seventy” and inserting “Retirement Age”; and

(B) by striking “seventy years of age” and inserting “having attained retirement age (as defined in section 216(l))”.

**SEC. 3. NONAPPLICATION OF RULES FOR COMPUTATION OF EXEMPT AMOUNT FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE ATTAINED RETIREMENT AGE.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 203(f)(8) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 403(f)(8)) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(E) Notwithstanding subparagraph (D), no deductions in benefits shall be made under subsection (b) with respect to the earnings of any individual in any month beginning with the month in which the individual attains retirement age (as defined in section 216(l)).”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 203(f)(9) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 403(f)(9)) is amended by striking “and (8)(D),” and inserting “(8)(D), and (8)(E),”.

**SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

(a) ELIMINATION OF REDUNDANT REFERENCES TO RETIREMENT AGE.—Section 203 of

the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 403) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c), in the last sentence, by striking “nor shall any deduction” and all that follows and inserting “nor shall any deduction be made under this subsection from any widow’s or widower’s insurance benefit if the widow, surviving divorced wife, widower, or surviving divorced husband involved became entitled to such benefit prior to attaining age 60.”; and

(2) in subsection (f)(1), by striking clause (D) and inserting the following: “(D) for which such individual is entitled to widow’s or widower’s insurance benefits if such individual became so entitled prior to attaining age 60.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT TO PROVISIONS FOR DETERMINING AMOUNT OF INCREASE ON ACCOUNT OF DELAYED RETIREMENT.—Section 202(w)(2)(B)(ii) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 402(w)(2)(B)(ii)) is amended by striking “or suffered deductions under section 203(b) or 203(c) in amounts equal to the amount of such benefit” and inserting “or, if so entitled, did not receive benefits pursuant to a request by such individual that benefits not be paid”.

**SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The amendments made by this Act shall apply with respect to taxable years ending after December 31, 1999.

**NOTICES OF HEARINGS**

**PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS**

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Governmental Affairs, will hold a hearing entitled “Oversight of HCFA’s Settlement Policies: Did HCFA Give Favored Providers Sweetheart Deals?” This hearing is part of the Subcommittee’s continuing examination of the Medicare program and will examine settlements between the Health Care Financing Administration (“HCFA”) and certain Medicare providers and whether these settlements conform to HCFA regulations.

The hearing will take place on Tuesday, March 28, 2000, at 9:30 a.m., in room 342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. For further information, please contact K. Lee Blalack II of the subcommittee staff at 224-3721.

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION, AND RECREATION**

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the hearing originally scheduled for Tuesday, March 28, 2000 at 2:30 p.m. before the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources has been rescheduled for Thursday, April 6, 2000 at 2:30 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC. The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the incinerator component at the proposed Advanced Waste Treatment Facility at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory and its potential impact on the adjacent Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks.

For further information, please contact Jim O’Toole or Kevin Clark of the committee staff at (202) 224-6969.

**COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a joint hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Committee on Foreign Relations. The hearing is titled: “America at Risk: U.S. Dependency on Foreign Oil.”

The hearing will take place on Tuesday, March 28, 2000 at 3:00 p.m. in room SH-216 of the Hart Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources or the Committee on Foreign Relations.

For further information, please call Trici Heninger or Howard Useem at (202) 224-7875.

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, AND REGULATION**

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that an oversight hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Energy Research, Development, Production, and Regulation.

The hearing will take place on Friday, March 31, 2000 at 9:00 a.m. in room SH-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C.

The purpose of this hearing is to review the Department of Energy’s findings at the Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Paducah, Kentucky and to receive testimony regarding the Department of Energy’s plans for cleanup at the site.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Subcommittee on Energy Research, Development, Production, and Regulation, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, 364 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-6150.

For further information, please call Trici Heninger, Staff Assistant or Colleen Deegan, Counsel at (202) 224-8115.

**AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**

**COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES**

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 21, 2000, at 9:30 a.m., in open session to consider the nominations of the Honorable Rudy de Leon to be Deputy Secretary of Defense and Mr. Douglas A. Dworkin to