electric utility generating units, to reduce emissions of mercury, carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and sulfur dioxide, to require that all fossil fuel-fired electric utility generating units operating in the United States meet new source review requirements, and to promote alternative energy sources such as solar, wind, and biomass; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HATCH.

S. 2637. A bill for the relief of Belinda McGregory; considered and passed.

By Mr. FRIST (for himself, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. THOMPSON, and Mr. WYDEN):

By Mr. MURKOWSKI:

S. 2639. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to submit a report on the feasibility and desirability of recovering the costs of high altitude lifesaving missions on Mount McKinley in Denali National Park and Preserve, Alaska; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. LOTT:

S. Res. 300. A resolution electing James W. Ziglar, of Mississippi, as the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate; considered and agreed to.

S. Res. 301. A resolution relative to Rule XXXIX; considered and agreed to.

S. Res. 302. A resolution relative to Rule XXXIII; considered and agreed to.

S. Res. 303. A resolution authorizing the President of the Senate, the President of the Senate pro tempore, and the Majority and Minority Leaders to make certain appointments during the recess or adjournment of the present session; considered and agreed to.

S. Res. 304. A resolution tendering the thanks of the Senate to the Vice President for courteous, dignified, and impartial manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of the Senate; considered and agreed to.

S. Res. 305. A resolution tendering the thanks of the Senate to the President pro tempore for the courteous, dignified, and impartial manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of the Senate; considered and agreed to.

S. Res. 306. A resolution to commend the exemplary leadership of the Democratic Leader; submitted and read.

By Mr. DASCHLE:

S. Res. 307. A resolution to commend the exemplary leadership of the Majority leader; submitted and read.

By Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. INOUYE, and Mr. LEVIN):

S. Res. 308. A resolution commending the crew members of the United States Navy destroyers of DesRon 61 for their heroism, intrepidity, and skill in action in the only naval surface engagement occurring inside Tokyo Bay during World War II; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. HELMS (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. Res. 309. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the culpability of Hun Sen for violations of international humanitarian law after 1978 in Cambodia (the former People's Republic of Kampuchea and the State of Cambodia); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LEAHY:

S. 2636. A bill to promote economically sound modernization of electric power generation capacity in the United States, to establish requirements to improve the combustion heat rate efficiency of fossil fuel-fired electric utility generating units, to reduce emissions of mercury, carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and sulfur dioxide, to require that all fossil fuel-fired electric utility generating units operating in the United States meet new source review requirements, and to promote alternative energy sources such as solar, wind, and biomass; to the Committee on Finance.

CLEAN POWER PLANT AND MODERNIZATION ACT OF 1998

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, as we approach the close of the 105th Congress, it is time to take stock of our accomplishments, and reflect on the work that remains. When the environmental record of this Congress is tallied up, there won't be much to show. At best, we have avoided a great roll-back of environmental protections. We can't claim to have broken much new ground.

To her credit, Carol Browner and her staff at the Environmental Protection Agency have tried to push ahead in a very difficult political climate. Administrator Browner recently announced that EPA was ordering 22 Eastern states to make sharp cuts in emissions of the pollutants that result in summertime ozone pollution. A significant portion of these pollutants come from coal-fired power plants. The predictable howl from the utility companies and their lobbyists is being heard on Capitol Hill. I applaud Administrator Browner and her staff for their persistence on this important issue.

Even though this is a good step, it doesn't go far enough. Stronger, more comprehensive action is needed to finally address the whole gamut of air pollution problems that spew from power plant smoke stacks.

Taken collectively, fossil fuel-fired power plants constitute the largest source of air pollution in the United States. It is clear by now that the current Clean Air Act and its regulations are not up to the job of addressing the local, regional and global public health and environmental burdens imposed by the emissions from these plants. Congress took a big step to control air pollution with the Clean Air Act of 1970, and it did major rewrites of the Act in 1977 and 1990. Even with all this legislation on the books, most fossil fuel-fired power plants produce as much pollution as they did prior to 1970. The average fossil fuel-fired generating unit in the United States came into operation in 1964—six years before the 1970 Act. Seventy-seven percent of the fossil fuel generating units in operation in the United States began operation before the 1970 Clean Air Act was implemented, and are thus not subject to the full force of its regulations.

At the very heart of the environmental problems posed by this industry are the antiquated and inefficient combustion technologies that are used. Nothing in the Clean Air Act, or in other energy related statues, tackles this inefficiency. The average plant uses technology devised in the 1950's or before, and has a combustion efficiency of 33%. Put another way, 67% of the energy available in the fuel is wasted. When you get so little energy out of the fuel, you have to burn a lot more fuel to produce a given quantity of electricity. The more fuel you burn, the more pollution you get. Increasing efficiency is the only way to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, and burning less fuel will result in smaller amounts of all pollutants.

Burning all this fuel may be good for the bottom line of the companies that produce the coal, oil, and natural gas, but it imposes great environmental and health consequences on the rest of us. Many of my colleagues came to the Senate after successful business careers. I imagine that most would agree with me that any other business that was this wasteful would not survive for long.

To produce the power that our economy needs, some level of emissions is inevitable. But this inefficiency, coupled with the free ride on emissions that the pre-1970 plants get, exacts an enormous environmental cost. Consider the following power plant facts:

Every year, fossil fuel-fired power plants in the United States produced a staggering 2 billion tons of carbon dioxide, the primary ''greenhouse gas,'' the equivalent weight of 24,655 Washington Monuments.

Over 600 of these generating units produce over one million tons of carbon dioxide per year—two produce more than 9 million tons per year.

On average, coal plants emit over 2,100 pounds of carbon dioxide for every megawatt hour of electricity that is generated.

Coal-fired power plants emit at least 52 tons of mercury per year and are the leading source of mercury pollution in the United States.

Power plants emit particulate and urban ozone pollution that impair respiratory function in people with asthma, emphysema, and other respiratory ailments.

Power plant emissions result in acid deposition, which damages lakes, streams and rivers, and the plants and animals that depend on them for survival.

Technology exists that can raise power plant efficiencies to 35% to 50% above current levels. The question is how to get utilities to retire their inefficient processes and bring new, clean, and efficient ones on line. We can see a better future, but we don't have a clear path to get there.

Today, I am introducing the ''Clean Power Plant and Modernization Act of 1998'' to help us get to the other side. My goals with this legislation are to

chart a sensible and balanced course for the future that: protects public health and the environment; protects consumers, workers, and the economy; and provides electrical power producers with a clear set of achievable performance expectations and financial incentives for installing new, clean, and efficient electrical power generating capacity that will meet our needs into the 21st Century.

This industry plays a central role in the U.S. economy and in our daily lives. We expect that electrical service will be reliable, predictable and affordable. We flip on the switch without giving a second thought that the light will go on. My bill will not change that.

Major changes cannot be made over night. We know about inertia From Sir Isaac Newton's First Law of Motion that ''any object in a state of rest or uniform linear motion will remain in such a state unless acted upon by an external force.'' The inertia in the utility industry to continue business as usual is overwhelming. The old, inefficient, pollution-prone power plants will continue to operate in perpetuity because they are paid for, they burn the cheapest fuel, and they are subject to less stringent environmental requirements.

My bill provides an ''external force'' in the form of financial and regulatory incentives to prompt modernization that is beneficial for the environment and the economy. It provides industry decision-makers with a comprehensive and predictable set of requirements and incentives to guide their long-term business planning.

For investor-owned utilities, the bill provides accelerated depreciation tax incentives for plants that meet the efficiency goals. Under current tax law, new generating capacity is depreciated over a 20 year period. Under my bill, new capacity that meets a 45% efficiency level would be depreciated over a 15 year period, and new capacity that meets a 50% efficiency level would be depreciated over a 10 year period. Publicly owned utilities would be eligible for grants that have the equivalent monetary value of the depreciation benefit received by a similarly-situated investor-owned utility. This approach will spur innovation, and will reward utilities that aggressively move to increase their efficiency and reduce their emissions.

To pay for these incentives and to achieve this within the balanced budget constraints, my bill establishes a fee that would be levied on carbon dioxide emissions. The emission fees would also provide funds: for worker retraining for individuals adversely affected by reduced consumption of coal; community redevelopment funds; research and development for renewable technologies such as wind, solar, and biomass; development of a carbon sequestration strategy; and implementing carbon sequestration projects including soil restoration, tree planting, preservation of wetlands, and other ways of biologically sequestering carbon dioxide.

I want to work cooperatively with the power companies on this legislation, and I want to work with my colleagues from coal-producing states to minimize the impact of reduced coal consumption on mine workers and mining communities. I also want to work with my colleagues on the Committees that are taking up utility restructuring legislation to ensure that this industry, whether in its current form or in a restructured form, finally comes to terms with the environmental costs of its operations.

While the 105th Congress may not have much of an environmental record to brag about, pressure is mounting to dramatically reduce the environmental impact from fossil fuel fired power plants. The people of Vermont are willing, I look forward to working hard in the first session of the 106th Congress to enact this much needed and long-overdue piece of legislation.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the full text of the bill and the section-by-section overview be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2636

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Clean Power Plant and Modernization Act of 1998''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the United States is relying increasingly on old, needlessly inefficient, and highly polluting powerplants to provide electricity;

(2) the pollution from those powerplants causes a wide range of health and environmental damage, including—

(A) fine particulate matter that is associated with the deaths of approximately 50,000 Americans annually;

(B) urban ozone, commonly known as ''smog'', that impairs normal respiratory functions and is of special concern to individuals afflicted with asthma, emphysema, and other respiratory ailments;

(C) rural ozone that obscures visibility and damages forests and wildlife;

(D) acid deposition that damages estuaries, lakes, rivers, and streams (and the plants and animals that depend on them for survival) and leaches heavy metals from the soil;

(E) mercury and heavy metal contamination that renders fish unsafe to eat, with especially serious consequences for pregnant women and their fetuses;

(F) eutrophication of estuaries, lakes, rivers, and streams; and

(G) global climate change that may fundamentally and irreversibly alter human, animal, and plant life;

(3) tax laws and environmental laws—

(A) provide a very strong incentive for electric utilities to keep old, dirty, and inefficient generating units in operation; and

(B) provide a strong disincentive to investing in new, clean, and efficient generating technologies;

(4) fossil fuel-fired power plants, consisting of plants fueled by coal, fuel oil, and natural gas, produce nearly two-thirds of the electricity generated in the United States;

(5) since, according to the Department of Energy, the average combustion heat rate efficiency of fossil fuel-fired power plants in the United States is 33 percent, 67 percent of the heat generated by burning the fuel is wasted;

(6) technology exists to increase the combustion heat rate efficiency of coal combustion from 35 percent to 50 percent above current levels, and technological advances are possible that would boost the net combustion heat rate efficiency even more;

(7) coal-fired power plants are the leading source of mercury emissions in the United States, releasing an estimated 52 tons of this potent neurotoxin each year;

(8) in 1996, fossil fuel-fired power plants in the United States produced over 2,000,000,000 tons of carbon dioxide, the primary greenhouse gas;

(9) on average—

(A) fossil fuel-fired power plants emit 1,999 pounds of carbon dioxide for every megawatt hour of electricity produced;

(B) coal-fired power plants emit 2,110 pounds of carbon dioxide for every megawatt hour of electricity produced; and

(C) coal-fired power plants emit 205 pounds of carbon dioxide for every million British thermal units of fuel consumed;

(10) the average fossil fuel-fired generating unit in the United States commenced operation in 1964, 6 years before the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.) was amended to establish requirements for stationary sources;

(11)(A) according to the Department of Energy, only 23 percent of the 1,000 largest emitting units are subject to stringent new source performance standards under section 111 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7411); and

(B) the remaining 77 percent, commonly referred to as ''grandfathered'' power plants, are subject to much less stringent requirements;

(12) on the basis of scientific and medical evidence, exposure to mercury and mercury

compounds is of concern to human health and the environment;

(13) pregnant women and their developing fetuses, women of childbearing age, and children are most at risk for mercury-related health impacts such as neurotoxicity;

(14) although exposure to mercury and mercury compounds occurs most frequently through consumption of mercury-contaminated fish, such exposure can also occur through—

(A) ingestion of breast milk;

(B) ingestion of drinking water, and foods other than fish, that are contaminated with methyl mercury; and

(C) dermal uptake through contact with soil and water;

(15) the report entitled ''Mercury Study Report to Congress'' and submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency under section 112(n)(1)(B) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7412(n)(1)(B)), in conjunction with other scientific knowledge, supports a plausible link between mercury emissions from combustion of coal and other fossil fuels and mercury concentrations in air, soil, water, and sediments;

(16)(A) the Environmental Protection Agency report described in paragraph (15) supports a plausible link between mercury emissions from combustion of coal and other fossil fuels and methyl mercury concentrations in freshwater fish;

(B) in 1997, 39 States issued health advisories that warned the public about consuming mercury-tainted fish, as compared to 27 States that issued such advisories in 1993; and

(C) the number of mercury advisories nationwide increased from 899 in 1993 to 1,675 in 1996, an increase of 86 percent;

(17) pollution from powerplants can be reduced and possibly eliminated through adoption of modern technologies and practices, including—

(A) methods of combusting coal that are intrinsically more efficient and less polluting, such as pressurized fluidized bed combustion and an integrated gasification combined cycle system;

(B) methods of combusting cleaner fuels, such as gases from fossil and biological resources and combined cycle turbines;

(C) treating flue gases through application of pollution controls;

(D) methods of extracting energy from natural, renewable resources of energy, such as solar and wind sources;

(E) methods of producing electricity and thermal energy from fuels without conventional combustion, such as fuel cells; and

(F) methods of extracting and using heat that would otherwise be wasted, for the purpose of heating or cooling office buildings, providing steam to processing facilities, or otherwise increasing total efficiency; and

(18) adopting the technologies and practices described in paragraph (17) would increase competitiveness and productivity, secure employment, save lives, and preserve the future.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to protect and preserve the environment while safeguarding health by ensuring that each fossil fuel-fired generating unit minimizes air pollution to levels that are technologically feasible through modernization and application of pollution controls;

(2) to greatly reduce the quantities of mercury, carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen oxides entering the environment from combustion of fossil fuels;

(3) to permanently reduce emissions of those pollutants by increasing the combustion heat rate efficiency of fossil fuel-fired generating units to levels achievable through use of commercially available combustion technology, installation of pollution controls, and expanded use of renewable energy sources such as biomass, geothermal, solar, and wind sources;

(4)(A) to create financial and regulatory incentives to retire thermally inefficient generating units and replace them with new units that employ high-thermal-efficiency combustion technology; and

(B) to increase use of renewable energy sources such as biomass, geothermal, solar, and wind sources;

(5) to establish the Clean Air Trust Fund for the purpose of encouraging and facilitating the modernization of fossil fuel-fired generating units in the United States;

(6) to eliminate the ''grandfather'' loophole in the Clean Air Act relating to sources in operation before the promulgation of standards under section 111 of that Act (42 U.S.C. 7411);

(7) to express the sense of Congress that permanent reductions in emissions of greenhouse gases that are accomplished through the retirement of old units and replacement by new units that meet the combustion heat rate efficiency and emission standards specified in this Act should be credited to the utility sector in any climate change implementation program;

(8) to promote permanent and safe disposal of mercury recovered through coal cleaning, flue gas control systems, and other methods of mercury pollution control;

(9) to increase public knowledge of the sources of mercury exposure and the threat to public health from mercury, particularly the threat to the health of pregnant women and their fetuses, women of childbearing age, and children;

(10) to decrease significantly the threat to human health and the environment posed by mercury;

(11) to promote energy efficiency in homes, including major appliances;

(12) to provide worker retraining for workers adversely affected by reduced consumption of coal; and

(13) to provide economic development incentives for communities adversely affected by reduced consumption of coal.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ''Administrator'' means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(2) GENERATING UNIT.—The term ''generating unit'' means an electric utility generating unit.

SEC. 4. COMBUSTION HEAT RATE EFFICIENCY STANDARDS FOR FOSSIL FUEL-FIRED GENERATING UNITS.

(a) STANDARDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the day that is 10 years after the date of enactment of this Act, each fossil fuel-fired generating unit that commences operation on or before that day shall achieve and maintain, at all operating levels, a combustion heat rate efficiency of not less than 45 percent (based on the higher heating value of the fuel).

(2) FUTURE GENERATING UNITS.—Each fossil fuel-fired generating unit that commences operation more than 10 years after the date of enactment of this Act shall achieve and maintain, at all operating levels, a combustion heat rate efficiency of not less than 50 percent (based on the higher heating value of the fuel), unless granted a waiver under subsection (d).

(b) TEST METHODS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, shall promulgate methods for determining initial and continuing compliance with this section.

(c) PERMIT REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 10 years after the date of enactment of this Act, each generating unit shall have a permit issued under title V of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7661 et seq.) that requires compliance with this section.

(d) WAIVER OF COMBUSTION HEAT RATE EFFICIENCY STANDARD.—

(1) APPLICATION.—The owner or operator of a generating unit that commences operation more than 10 years after the date of enactment of this Act may apply to the Administrator for a waiver of the combustion heat rate efficiency standard specified in subsection (a)(2) that is applicable to that type of generating unit.

(2) ISSUANCE.—The Administrator may grant the waiver only if—

(A)(i) the owner or operator of the generating unit demonstrates that the technology to meet the combustion heat rate efficiency standard is not commercially available; or

(ii) the owner or operator of the generating unit demonstrates that, despite best technical efforts and willingness to make the necessary level of financial commitment, the combustion heat rate efficiency standard is not achievable at the generating unit; and

(B) the owner or operator of the generating unit enters into an agreement with the Administrator to offset by a factor of 1.5 to 1, using a method approved by the Administrator, the emission reductions that the generating unit does not achieve because of the failure to achieve the combustion heat rate efficiency standard specified in subsection (a)(2).

(3) EFFECT OF WAIVER.—If the Administrator grants a waiver under paragraph (1), the generating unit shall be required to achieve and maintain, at all operating levels, the combustion heat rate efficiency standard specified in subsection (a)(1).

SEC. 5. AIR EMISSION STANDARDS FOR FOSSIL FUEL-FIRED GENERATING UNITS.

(a) ALL FOSSIL FUEL-FIRED GENERATING UNITS.—Not later than 10 years after the date of enactment of this Act, each fossil fuel-fired generating unit, regardless of its date of construction or commencement of operation, shall be subject to, and operating in physical and operational compliance with, the new source review requirements under section 111 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7411).

(b) EMISSION RATES FOR SOURCES REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN 45 PERCENT EFFICIENCY.—Not later than 10 years after the date of enactment of this Act, each fossil fuel-fired generating unit subject to section 4(a)(1) shall be in compliance with the following emission limitations:

(1) MERCURY.—Each coal-fired or fuel oil-fired generating unit shall be required to remove 95 percent of the mercury contained in the fuel, calculated in accordance with subsection (e).

(2) CARBON DIOXIDE.—

(A) NATURAL GAS-FIRED GENERATING UNITS.—Each natural gas-fired generating unit shall be required to achieve an emission rate of not more than 0.9 pounds of carbon dioxide per kilowatt hour of net electric power output.

(B) FUEL OIL-FIRED GENERATING UNITS.—Each fuel oil-fired generating unit shall be required to achieve an emission rate of not more than 1.3 pounds of carbon dioxide per kilowatt hour of net electric power output.

(C) COAL-FIRED GENERATING UNITS.—Each coal-fired generating unit shall be required to achieve an emission rate of not more than 1.55 pounds of carbon dioxide per kilowatt hour of net electric power output.

(3) SULFUR DIOXIDE.—Each fossil fuel-fired generating unit shall be required—

(A) to remove 95 percent of the sulfur dioxide that would otherwise be present in the flue gas; and

(B) to achieve an emission rate of not more than 0.3 pounds of sulfur dioxide per million British thermal units of fuel consumed.

(4) NITROGEN OXIDES.—Each fossil fuel-fired generating unit shall be required—

(A) to remove 90 percent of nitrogen oxides that would otherwise be present in the flue gas; and

(B) to achieve an emission rate of not more than 0.15 pounds of nitrogen oxides per million British thermal units of fuel consumed.

(c) EMISSION RATES FOR SOURCES REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN 50 PERCENT EFFICIENCY.—Each fossil fuel-fired generating unit subject to section 4(a)(2) shall be in compliance with the following emission limitations:

(1) MERCURY.—Each coal-fired or fuel oil-fired generating unit shall be required to remove 95 percent of the mercury contained in the fuel, calculated in accordance with subsection (e).

(2) CARBON DIOXIDE.—

(A) NATURAL GAS-FIRED GENERATING UNITS.—Each natural gas-fired generating unit shall be required to achieve an emission rate of not more than 0.8 pounds of carbon dioxide per kilowatt hour of net electric power output.

(B) FUEL OIL-FIRED GENERATING UNITS.—Each fuel oil-fired generating unit shall be required to achieve an emission rate of not more than 1.2 pounds of carbon dioxide per kilowatt hour of net electric power output.

(C) COAL-FIRED GENERATING UNITS.—Each coal-fired generating unit shall be required to achieve an emission rate of not more than 1.4 pounds of carbon dioxide per kilowatt hour of net electric power output.

(3) SULFUR DIOXIDE.—Each fossil fuel-fired generating unit shall be required—

(A) to remove 95 percent of the sulfur dioxide that would otherwise be present in the flue gas; and

(B) to achieve an emission rate of not more than 0.3 pounds of sulfur dioxide per million British thermal units of fuel consumed.

(4) NITROGEN OXIDES.—Each fossil fuel-fired generating unit shall be required—

(A) to remove 90 percent of nitrogen oxides that would otherwise be present in the flue gas; and

(B) to achieve an emission rate of not more than 0.15 pounds of nitrogen oxides per million British thermal units of fuel consumed.

(d) PERMIT REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 10 years after the date of enactment of this Act, each generating unit shall have a permit issued under title V of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7661 et seq.) that requires compliance with this section.

(e) COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION AND MONITORING.—

(1) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, shall promulgate methods for determining initial and continuing compliance with this section.

(2) CALCULATION OF MERCURY EMISSION REDUCTIONS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall promulgate fuel sampling techniques and emission monitoring techniques for use by generating units in calculating mercury emission reductions for the purposes of this section.

(3) REPORTING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not less than often than quarterly, the owner or operator of a generating unit shall submit a pollutant-specific emission report for each pollutant covered by this section.

(B) SIGNATURE.—Each report required under subparagraph (A) shall be signed by a responsible official of the generating unit, who shall certify the accuracy of the report.

(C) PUBLIC REPORTING.—The Administrator shall annually make available to the public, through 1 or more published reports and 1 or more forms of electronic media, facility-specific emission data for each generating unit and pollutant covered by this section.

(f) DISPOSAL OF MERCURY CAPTURED OR RECOVERED THROUGH EMISSION CONTROLS.—

(1) CAPTURED OR RECOVERED MERCURY.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall promulgate regulations to ensure that mercury that is captured or recovered through the use of an emission control, coal cleaning, or another method is disposed of in a manner that ensures that—

(A) the hazards from mercury are not transferred from 1 environmental medium to another; and

(B) there is no release of mercury into the environment.

(2) MERCURY-CONTAINING SLUDGES AND WASTES.—The regulations promulgated by the Administrator under paragraph (1) shall ensure that mercury-containing sludges and wastes are handled and disposed of in accordance with all applicable Federal and State laws (including regulations).

(g) PUBLIC REPORTING OF FACILITY-SPECIFIC EMISSION DATA.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall annually make available to the public, through 1 or more published reports and the Internet, facility-specific emission data for each generating unit and for each pollutant covered by this section.

(2) SOURCE OF DATA.—The emission data shall be taken from the emission reports submitted under subsection (e)(3).

SEC. 6. ACCELERATED DEPRECIATION FOR INVESTOR-OWNED GENERATING UNITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 168(e)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to classification of certain property) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (D) (relating to 10-year property), by striking ''and'' at the end of clause (i), by striking the period at the end of clause (ii) and inserting '', and'', and by adding at the end the following:

''(iii) any 50-percent efficient fossil fuel-fired generating unit.''; and

(2) in subparagraph (E) (relating to 15-year property), by striking ''and'' at the end of clause (ii), by striking the period at the end of clause (iii) and inserting '', and'', and by adding at the end the following:

''(iv) any 45-percent efficient fossil fuel-fired generating unit.''.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 168(i) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to definitions and special rules) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(15) FOSSIL FUEL-FIRED GENERATING UNITS.—

''(A) 50-PERCENT EFFICIENT FOSSIL FUEL-FIRED GENERATING UNIT.—The term '50-percent efficient fossil fuel-fired generating unit' means any property used in an investor-owned fossil fuel-fired generating unit pursuant to a plan approved by the Secretary, in consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, to place into service such a unit that is in compliance with sections 4(a)(2) and 5(c) of the Clean Power Plant and Modernization Act of 1998, as in effect on the date of enactment of this paragraph.

''(B) 45-PERCENT EFFICIENT FOSSIL FUEL-FIRED GENERATING UNIT.—The term '45-percent efficient fossil fuel-fired generating unit' means any property used in an investor-owned fossil fuel-fired generating unit pursuant to a plan so approved to place into service such a unit that is in compliance with sections 4(a)(1) and 5(b) of such Act, as so in effect.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property used after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 7. GRANTS FOR PUBLICLY OWNED GENERATING UNITS.

Any capital expenditure made after the date of enactment of this Act to purchase, install, and bring into commercial operation any new publicly owned generating unit that—

(1) is in compliance with sections 4(a)(1) and 5(b) shall, for a 15-year period, be eligible for partial reimbursement through annual grants made by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Administrator, in an amount equal to the monetary value of the depreciation deduction that would be realized by reason of section 168(c)(3)(E) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 by a similarly-situated investor-owned generating unit over that period; and

(2) is in compliance with sections 4(a)(2) and 5(c) shall, over a 10-year period, be eligible for partial reimbursement through annual grants made by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Administrator, in an amount equal to the monetary value of the depreciation deduction that would be realized by reason of section 168(c)(3)(D) of such Code by a similarly-situated investor-owned generating unit over that period.

SEC. 8. CLEAN AIR TRUST FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter A of chapter 98 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to trust fund code) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 9511. CLEAN AIR TRUST FUND.

''(a) CREATION OF TRUST FUND.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States a trust fund to be known as the 'Clean Air Trust Fund' (hereafter referred to in this section as the 'Trust Fund'), consisting of such amounts as may be appropriated or credited to the Trust Fund as provided in this section or section 9602(b).

''(b) TRANSFERS TO TRUST FUND.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There are hereby appropriated to the Trust Fund amounts equivalent to the taxes received in the Treasury under section 4691.

''(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Trust Fund such additional sums as are necessary to carry out the activities described in subsection (c).

''(c) EXPENDITURES FROM TRUST FUND.—Amounts in the Trust Fund shall be available, as provided by appropriation Acts, upon request by the head of the appropriate Federal agency in such amounts as the agency head determines are necessary—

''(1) to offset reductions of revenues to the Treasury resulting from the amendments made by section 6 of the Clean Power Plant and Modernization Act of 1998;

''(2) to provide grants under section 7 of such Act, as in effect on the date of enactment of this section;

''(3) to provide assistance under section 14 of such Act, as so in effect;

''(4) to provide community economic development incentives under section 15, as so in effect; and

''(5) to provide funding under section 16 of such Act, as so in effect.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for such subchapter A is amended by adding at the end the following:

''Sec. 9511. Clean Air Trust Fund.''.

SEC. 9. CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSION FEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 38 of subtitle D of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to miscellaneous excise taxes) is amended by inserting after subchapter D the following:

''Subchapter E—Carbon Dioxide Emission Fees

''Sec. 4691. Imposition of fees.

''SEC. 4691. IMPOSITION OF FEES.

''(a) TAX IMPOSED.—There is hereby imposed on each fossil fuel-fired generating unit with a generating capacity of 5 or more megawatts a tax equal to $50 per ton of carbon dioxide emitted by such generating unit.

''(b) PHASED-IN RATE.—In the case of—

''(1) calendar years 2003 through 2006, subsection (a) shall be applied by substituting '$25' for '$50'; and

''(2) calendar years 2007 through 2009, subsection (a) shall be applied by substituting '$37.50' for '$50'.

''(c) ADJUSTMENT OF RATES.—Not less often than once every 2 years beginning after 2002, the Secretary, in consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall evaluate the rate of the tax imposed by subsection (a) and increase the rate if necessary for the calendar year—

''(1) to ensure that emissions of carbon dioxide are reduced to levels that are adequate to protect sensitive populations, with an adequate margin of safety, against adverse health effects;

''(2) to ensure that emissions of carbon dioxide are reduced to levels (including, if necessary, a level of zero emissions) that preclude any reasonable possibility that the environment, including sensitive species or ecosystems, will be seriously or permanently altered on a global, continental, or subcontinental scale;

''(3) to provide adequate incentives for generating units to minimize emissions of carbon dioxide to levels that are technologically feasible, including a level of zero emissions; and

''(4) to eliminate any economic benefit that a generating unit may derive from the emission of carbon dioxide.

''(d) PAYMENT OF TAX.—The tax imposed by this section—

''(1) shall be paid quarterly by the owner or operator of each fossil fuel-fired generating unit; and

''(2) shall be based on the measured emissions of the generating unit.

''(e) FOSSIL FUEL-FIRED GENERATING UNIT.—The term 'fossil fuel-fired generating unit' means a generating unit (as defined in section 3(2) of the Clean Power Plant and Modernization Act of 1998) powered by fossil fuels.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of subchapters for chapter 38 of such Code is amended by inserting after the item relating to subchapter D the following:

''SUBCHAPTER E. Carbon dioxide emission fees.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to emissions in calendar years beginning after December 31, 2002.

SEC. 10. EXTENSION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION CREDIT.

Section 45(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to definitions) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''and'';

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period and inserting '', and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) solar power.'';

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by inserting '', and December 31, 1998, in the case of a facility using solar power to produce electricity'' after ''electricity''; and

(B) by striking ''1999'' and inserting ''2010''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) SOLAR POWER.—The term 'solar power' means solar power harnessed through—

''(A) photovoltaic systems,

''(B) solar boilers that provide process heat, and

''(C) any other means.''.

SEC. 11. RECOGNITION OF PERMANENT EMISSION REDUCTIONS IN FUTURE CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS.

It is the sense of Congress that permanent reductions in emissions of carbon dioxide and nitrogen oxides that are accomplished through the retirement of old generating units and replacement by new generating units that meet the combustion heat rate efficiency and emission standards specified in this Act, or through replacement of old generating units with nonpolluting renewable power generation technologies, should be credited to the utility sector, and to the owner or operator that retires or replaces the old generating unit, in any climate change implementation program enacted by Congress.

SEC. 12. RENEWABLE POWER GENERATION TECHNOLOGIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Under the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Technology Act of 1989 (42 U.S.C. 12001 et seq.), the Secretary of Energy shall fund research and development programs and commercial demonstration projects and partnerships to demonstrate the commercial viability and environmental benefits of electric power generation from biomass, geothermal, solar, and wind technologies.

(b) TYPES OF PROJECTS.—Demonstration projects may include solar power tower plants, solar dishes and engines, co-firing of biomass with coal, biomass modular systems, next-generation wind turbines and wind turbine verification projects, and geothermal energy conversion.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to amounts made available under any other law, there is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $75,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2015.

SEC. 13. EVALUATION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT AND OTHER STATUTES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the Administrator, shall submit to Congress a report on the implementation of this Act.

(b) IDENTIFICATION OF CONFLICTING LAW.—The report shall identify any provision of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–486), the Energy Supply and Environmental Coordination Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 791 et seq.), the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.), or the Powerplant and Industrial Fuel Use Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 8301 et seq.), or the amendments made by those Acts, that conflicts with the intent or efficient implementation of this Act.

(c) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The report shall include recommendations from the Secretary of Energy, the Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and the Administrator for legislative or administrative measures to harmonize and streamline the statutes specified in subsection (b) and the regulations implementing those statutes.

SEC. 14. ASSISTANCE FOR WORKERS ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY REDUCED CONSUMPTION OF COAL.

In addition to amounts made available under any other law, there is authorized to be appropriated $75,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2010, and $50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2011 through 2015, to provide assistance, under the economic dislocation and worker adjustment assistance program of the Department of Labor authorized by title III of the Job Training Partnership Act (29 U.S.C. 1651 et seq.), to coal industry workers who are terminated from employment as a result of reduced consumption of coal by the electric power generation industry.

SEC. 15. COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES FOR COMMUNITIES ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY REDUCED CONSUMPTION OF COAL.

In addition to amounts made available under any other law, there is authorized to be appropriated $75,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2010, and $50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2011 through 2015, to provide assistance, under the economic adjustment program of the Department of Commerce authorized by the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3121 et seq.), to assist communities adversely affected by reduced consumption of coal by the electric power generation industry.

SEC. 16. CARBON SEQUESTRATION.

(a) CARBON SEQUESTRATION STRATEGY.—In addition to amounts made available under any other law, there is authorized to be appropriated to the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2005 a total of $15,000,000 to conduct research and development activities in basic and applied science in support of development by January 1, 2005, of a carbon sequestration strategy that is designed to offset all growth in carbon dioxide emissions in the United States after 2010.

(b) METHODS FOR BIOLOGICALLY SEQUESTERING CARBON DIOXIDE.—In addition to amounts made available under any other law, there is authorized to be appropriated to the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Agriculture for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2015 a total of $15,000,000 to carry out soil restoration, tree planting, wetland protection, and other methods of biologically sequestering carbon dioxide.

SECTION-BY-SECTION OVERVIEW OF THE ''CLEAN POWER PLANT AND MODERNIZATION ACT OF 1998''

What will the ''Clean Power Plant and Modernization Act of 1998'' do?

The ''Clean Power Plant and Modernization Act of 1998'' lays out an ambitious, achievable, and balanced set of financial incentives and regulatory requirements designed to increase power plant efficiency, reduce emissions, and encourage use of renewable power generation methods. The bill encourages innovation, entrepreneurship, and risk-taking.

The bill encourages ''retirement and replacement'' of old, dirty, inefficient generating capacity. It does not utilize a ''cap and trade'' approach. Many believe that the ''retirement and replacement'' approach does a superior job at the local and regional levels of protecting public health and the environment from mercury pollution, ozone pollution, and acid deposition. On a global level, the ''retirement and replacement'' also does a much superior job of permanently reducing the volume of carbon dioxide emitted.

Section 4. Combustion Heat Rate Efficiency Standards for Fossil Fuel-Fired Generating Units.

Fossil fuel-fired power plants in the United States operate at an average combustion efficiency of 33%. Put another way, on average, 67% of the heat generated by burning the fuel is wasted. Increasing combustion efficiency is really the only way to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Section 4 lays out a phased two-stage process for increasing efficiency. In the first stage, by 10 years after enactment, all units in operation must achieve a combustion heat rate efficiency of not less than 45%. In the second stage, with expected advances in combustion technology, units commencing operation more than 10 years after enactment must achieve

a combustion heat rate efficiency of not less than 50%. Carbon dioxide emission reductions of at least 650 million tons per year are expected, and the potential exists for even larger reductions.

If, for some unforeseen reason, technological advances do not achieve the 50% efficiency level, Section 4 contains a waiver provision that allows owners of new units to offset any shortfall in carbon dioxide emissions through implementation of carbon sequestration projects.

Section 5. Air Emission Standards for Fossil Fuel-Fired Generating Units.

Subsection (a) eliminates the ''grand father'' loophole in the Clean Air Act and requires all units, regardless of when they were constructed or began operation, to comply with existing new source review requirements under Section 111 of the Clean Air Act.

Subsection (b) sets mercury, carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen oxide emission standards for units that are subject to the 45% thermal efficiency standards set forth in Section 4. For mercury, 95% removal of mercury contained in the fuel is required. For carbon dioxide, the emission limits are set by fuel type (i.e., natural gas = 0.9 pounds per kilowatt hour of output; fuel oil = 1.3 pounds per kilowatt hour of output; coal = 1.55 pounds per kilowatt hour of output). Ninety-five percent of sulfur dioxide emissions (and not more than 0.3 pounds per million Btu's of fuel consumed), and 90 percent of nitrogen oxides (and not more than 0.15 pounds per million Btu's of fuel consumed) are to be removed.

Subsection (c) contains the same emission standards for mercury, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen oxides as those in Subsection (b). Greater combustion efficiency results in lower emissions of carbon dioxide, and the fuel specific emission limits at the 50% efficiency level are lowered accordingly (i.e., natural gas = 0.8 pounds per kilowatt hour of output; fuel oil = 1.2 pounds per kilowatt hour of output; coal = 1.4 pounds per kilowatt hour of output). Section 6. Accelerated Depreciation for Investor-Owned Generating Units.

Under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, utilities can depreciate their generating equipment over a 20 year period. Section 6 amends Section 168 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow for depreciation over a 15 year period for units meeting the 45% efficiency level and the emission standards in Section 5(b). Section 168 is further amended to allow for deprecation over a 10 year period for units meeting the 50% efficiency level and the emission standards in Section 5(c).

Section 7. Grants for Publicly-Owned Generating Units. No federal taxes are paid on publicly-owned generating units. To provide publicly-owned utilities with comparable incentives to modernize, Section 7 provides for annual grants in an amount equal to the monetary value of the depreciation deduction that would be realized by a similarly-situated investor owned generating unit under Section 6. Units meeting the 45% efficiency level and the emission standards in Section 5(b) would receive annual grants over a 15 year period, and units meeting the 50% efficiency level and the emission standards in Section 5(c) would receive annual grants over 10 year period.

Section 8. Clean Air Trust Fund, and Section 9. Carbon Dioxide Emission Fees.

To offset the impact to the Treasury of the incentives in Sections 6 and 7, the bill establishes the Clean Air Trust Fund. The Trust Fund is similar to the Highway Trust Fund or the Superfund. The revenue for the trust fund will be provided through phased implementation of a ''per ton fee'' on emissions of carbon dioxide. Implementation of the fee would begin 3 years after enactment at the rate of $25.00 per ton. The rate would increase to $37.50 per ton seven years after enactment, and would be fully implemented 10 years after enactment at a rate of $50.00 per ton.

The Trust Fund will also be used to pay for assistance to workers and communities adversely affected by reduced consumption of coal, research and development for renewable power generation technologies (e.g., wind, solar, and biomass), and carbon sequestration projects.

Section 10. Extension of Renewable Energy Production Credit.

Section 45(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to include solar power, and to extend renewable energy production credit to 2010 (it is currently set to expire in 1999). This section expands on S. 1459 (Senator LEAHY is a co-sponsor) which would extend the credit to 2004. S. 1459 has been referred to the Finance Committee.

Section 11. Recognition of Permanent Emission Reductions in Future Climate Change Implementation Programs.

This section expresses the sense of Congress that permanent reductions in emissions of carbon dioxide and nitrogen oxides that are accomplished through the retirement of old generating units and replacement by new generating units that meet the efficiency and emissions standards in the bill, or through replacement with non-polluting renewable power generation technologies, should be credited to the utility sector and to the owner/operator in any climate change implementation program enacted by Congress.

Section 12. Renewable Power Generation Technologies.

Beginning 3 years after enactment, this section provides $75 million per year (for a total of $975 million over 13 years) to fund research and development programs and commercial demonstration projects and partnerships to demonstrate the commercial viability and environmental benefits of electric power generation from biomass, geothermal, solar, and wind technologies. Types of projects may include solar power tower plants, solar dishes and engines, co-firing biomass with coal, biomass modular systems, next-generation wind turbines and wind verification projects, and geothermal energy conversion.

Section 13. Evaluation of Implementation of this Act and other Statutes.

Not later than 2 years after enactment, DOE, in consultation with EPA and FERC, shall report to Congress on the implementation of the Clean Power Plant and Modernization Act of 1998. The report shall identify any provision of the Energy Policy Act of 1992, the Energy Supply and Environmental Coordination Act of 1974, the Public Utilities Regulatory Policies Act of 1978, or the Powerplant and Industrial Fuel Use Act of 1978 that conflicts with the efficient implementation of the Clean Power Plant and Modernization Act of 1998. The report shall include recommendations for legislative or administrative measures to harmonize and streamline these other statutes.

Section 14. Assistance for Workers Adversely Affected by Reduced Consumption of Coal.

Beginning 3 years after enactment, this section provides a total of $850 million over 13 years ($75 million per year for the first 8 years and $50 million per year for the following 5 years) to provide assistance to coal industry workers who are adversely affected as a result of reduced consumption of coal by the electric power generation industry. The funds will be administered under the economic dislocation and worker adjustment assistance program of the Department of Labor authorized by Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act.

Section 15. Community Economic Development Incentives for Communities Adversely Affected by Reduced Consumption of Coal.

Beginning 3 years after enactment, this section provides a total of $850 million over 13 years ($75 million per year for the first 8 years and $50 million per year for the following 5 years) to provide assistance to communities adversely affected as a result of reduced consumption of coal by the electric power generation industry. The funds will be administered under the economic adjustment program of the Department of Commerce authorized by the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965.

Section 16. Carbon Sequestration.

This section authorizes expenditure of $45 million over 3 years for development of a long-term carbon sequestration strategy for the United States. This section also authorizes EPA and USDA to fund up to $195 million over 13 years ($15 million per year) for carbon sequestration projects including soil restoration, tree planting, wetlands protection, and other ways of biologically sequestering carbon dioxide.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI:

S. 2639. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to submit a report on the feasibility and desirability of recovering the costs of high altitude lifesaving missions on Mount McKinley in Denali National Park and Preserve, Alaska; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

MOUNT MCKINLEY IN DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE LEGISLATION

• Mr. MURKOSWKI. Mr. President, today I am introducing legislation that would require the Secretary of the Interior to report to Congress on the feasibility and desirability of recovering the cost to taxpayers of rescuing high altitude climbers on Mt. McKinley in Denali National Park and Preserve in the State of Alaska.

Mr. President, Denali National Park and Preserve attracts approximately 355,000 visitors per year who come to see the wildlife, the grandeur of our State, and to gaze at America's highest peak. Most are unaware that while they are taking in the breathtaking vista that is Mt. McKinley, there are approximately another 1,100 persons per year that are attempting to attain the 20,320 submit.

Climbimg Mt. McKinley is certainly no easy walk in the Park. A typical year sees a dozen major rescue incidents and one or two fatal accidents. Extreme and unpredictable weather on Mt. McKinley make high altitude rescues very dangerous and very expensive.

Over the last few years the National Park Service has actively and successfully worked to reduce the loss of life and injury to climbers who have made attempts to climb this mountain. The NPS spends more than $750,000 per year for education; pre-positioning supplies and materials at various altitudes on the mountain; the positioning of a special high altitude helicopter in the Park; and actual rescue attempts.

Just last summer the military and the Park Service spent four days and $221,818 rescuing 6 sick and injured

British climbers who disregarded warnings and advice from park ranger stationed on the mountain. This rescue included what is probably the world's highest short haul helicopter rescue at 19,000 feet and entailed a very high level of risk for the rescue team. This is just one example of many rescues the Park Service conducts each year on Mt. McKinley.

Mr. President, I personally do not feel that the American taxpayer should be left with the bill for rescues on this mountain. The Federal Government does not force these climbers to climb; they engage in this activity voluntarily and with full knowledge of the risks. While I admire the courage and tenacity of mountain climbers, I do not think it is fair to divert scarce park funds from services that benefit the majority of park visitors for the purpose of providing extraordinarily expensive services to a small number of users who put themselves in harm's way with their eyes wide open. Mountain climbers are a special breed who are proud of their self-sufficiency and independence—and rightly so. For that reason I think they should recognize the simple equity of paying their fair share of the public costs of their sport.

As a result of a recent field hearing on this issue, I found that while I have received many letters of support, there are a few stalwart individuals who do not agree with my point of view and have raised some legitimate questions. That is why I want the Secretary of the Interior to look at the feasibility and desirability of some sort of a cost recovery system that puts a minimal burden on climbers, whether it be an insurance requirement or any other scheme. The pros and cons of these cost recovery mechanisms need to be carefully explored before we act.

Last but not least, Mr. President, I want the Secretary to evaluate requiring climbers to show proof of medical insurance so that hospitals in Alaska and elsewhere are not left holding the bag as they sometimes are under present circumstances. It is a good neighbor policy that should be put into effect at the earliest opportunity.●

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 261

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 261, a bill to provide for a biennial budget process and a biennial appropriations process and to enhance oversight and the performance of the Federal Government.

S. 1089

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. D'AMATO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1089, a bill to terminate the effectiveness of certain amendments to the foreign repair station rules of the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 1529

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1529, a bill to enhance Federal enforcement of hate crimes, and for other purposes.

S. 2418

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2418, a bill to establish rural opportunity communities, and for other purposes.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 55

At the request of Mr. ROTH, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 55, a joint resolution requesting the President to advance the late Rear Admiral Husband E. Kimmel on the retired list of the Navy to the highest grade held as Commander in Chief, United States Fleet, during World War II, and to advance the late Major General Walter C. Short on the retired list of the Army to the highest grade held as Commanding General, Hawaiian Department, during World War II, as was done under the Officer Personnel Act of 1947 for all other senior officers who served in positions of command during World War II, and for other purposes.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 94

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ROBB) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 94, a concurrent resolution supporting the religious tolerance toward Muslims.

SENATE RESOLUTION 298

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 298, a resolution condemning the terror, vengeance, and human rights abuses against the civilian population of Sierra Leone.

SENATE RESOLUTION 300—ELECTING JAMES W. ZIGLAR, OF MISSISSIPPI, AS THE SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER OF THE SENATE

Mr. LOTT submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 300

Resolved, That James W. Ziglar, of Mississippi, be, and he is hereby, elected Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate effective November 9, 1998.

SENATE RESOLUTION 301—RELATIVE TO RULE XXXIX

Mr. LOTT submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 301

Resolved, That if a Member who is precluded from foreign travel by the provisions of Rule 39 is appointed as a delegate to an official conference to be attended by Members of the Senate, then the appointment of that individual shall constitute an authorization by the Senate and the individual will not be deemed in violation of Rule 39.

SEC. 2. This resolution shall be applicable only until November 21, 1998.

SENATE RESOLUTION 302—RELATIVE TO RULE XXXIII

Mr. LOTT submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 302

Resolved, That, notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXXIII, the Senate authorize the videotaping of the address by the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. Byrd) to the incoming Senators scheduled to be given in the Senate Chamber in December 1998.

SENATE RESOLUTION 303—AUTHORIZING CERTAIN APPOINTMENTS DURING THE RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT OF THE PRESENT SESSION

Mr. LOTT submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 303

Resolved, That during the recess or adjournment of the present session of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President of the Senate pro tempore, the Majority Leader of the Senate, and the Minority Leader of the Senate be, and they are hereby, authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

SENATE RESOLUTION 304—TENDERING THE THANKS OF THE SENATE TO THE VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. LOTT submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 304

Resolved, That the thanks of the Senate are hereby tendered to the Honorable Al Gore, Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate, for the courteous, dignified, and impartial manner in which he has presided over its deliberations during the second session of the One Hundred Fifth Congress.

SENATE RESOLUTION 305—TENDERING THE THANKS OF THE SENATE TO THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Mr. LOTT submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 305

Resolved, That the thanks of the Senate are hereby tendered to the Honorable Strom Thurmond, President pro tempore of the Senate, for the courteous, dignified, and impartial manner in which he has presided over its deliberations during the second session of the One Hundred Fifth Congress.

SENATE RESOLUTION 306—TO COMMEND THE EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

Mr. LOTT submitted the following resolution: