

SECTION 1. TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF DUTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of

the United States is amended by inserting in numerical sequence the following new heading:

“ 9902.33.01	9-[2-[[Bis [(pivaloyloxy) methoxy] phosphinyl]- methoxy] ethyl]adenine (also known as Adefovir Dipivoxil) (CAS No. 142340-99-6) (provided for in subheading 2933.59.59)	Free	No change	No change	On or before 12/31/1999	”.
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(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section applies with respect to goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after the date of enactment of this Act.

By Mr. BURNS (for himself, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. KERREY, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. HELMS):

S. 1957. A bill to provide regulatory assistance to small business concerns, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY ASSISTANCE ACT

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, today I introduce the Small Business Regulatory Assistance Act. Joining me as co-sponsors of this legislation are Senators DORGAN, CHAFEE, LEAHY, KERREY, D'AMATO, MURKOWSKI, ROBERTS, and HELMS.

Complying with complex and overlapping federal regulations is time-consuming and costly for any business, but small businesses bear a disproportionate burden. Given their limited resources, small businesses need all the help they can get when it comes to complying with environmental, tax, and workplace safety regulations. Yet small businesses rarely turn to the regulatory agencies for assistance, either out of fear of punishment or because help isn't available.

This legislation would use the existing network of Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs)—over 950 nationwide and serving 600,000 businesses annually—to provide small businesses with non-punitive, confidential regulatory information and assistance. The SBDC network currently offers business expertise to growing firms, yet information and assistance needed to comply with EPA, OSHA, and IRS rules is often unavailable to these small firms.

The legislation authorizes SBDCs to develop compliance guidelines in conjunction with these federal agencies and then use that information to educate small businesses on regulatory compliance. With this information, businesses will be able to follow important environmental, safety, and tax laws, and the government will spend fewer resources on costly enforcement measures.

This bill is pro-small business and pro-compliance. It will help small firms develop practical business solutions to regulatory compliance problems.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 40

At the request of Mr. FAIRCLOTH, the name of the Senator from Arkansas

(Mr. HUTCHINSON) was added as a co-sponsor of S. 40, a bill to provide Federal sanctions for practitioners who administer, dispense, or recommend the use of marihuana, and for other purposes.

S. 1031

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON) was added as a co-sponsor of S. 1031, a bill to protect Federal law enforcement officers who intervene in certain situations to protect life or prevent bodily injury.

S. 1251

At the request of Mr. D'AMATO, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1251, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the amount of private activity bonds which may be issued in each State, and to index such amount for inflation.

S. 1252

At the request of Mr. D'AMATO, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1252, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the amount of low-income housing credits which may be allocated in each State, and to index such amount for inflation.

S. 1254

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1254, a bill to provide a procedure for the submission to Congress of proposals for, and permit upon subsequent enactment of law, assumption of management authority over certain federal lands by States and nonprofit organizations; to encourage the development and application to federal lands of alternative management programs that may be more innovative, less costly, and more reflective of the neighboring communities' and publics' concerns and needs, and for other purposes.

S. 1326

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS) was added as a co-sponsor of S. 1326, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide for medicaid coverage of all certified nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists services.

S. 1334

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1334, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to establish a demonstration project to evaluate the feasibility of using the Federal Employees Health Benefits program to ensure the

availability of adequate health care for Medicare-eligible beneficiaries under the military health care system.

S. 1427

At the request of Mr. FORD, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAU), and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. ASHCROFT) were added as cosponsors of S. 1427, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require the Federal Communications Commission to preserve lowpower television stations that provide community broadcasting, and for other purposes.

S. 1481

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1481, a bill to amend the Social Security Act to eliminate the time limitation on benefits for immunosuppressive drugs under the medicare program, to provide for continued entitlement for such drugs for certain individuals after medicare benefits end, and to extend certain medicare secondary payer requirements.

S. 1687

At the request of Mr. THOMPSON, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. FRIST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1687, a bill to provide for notice to owners of property that may be subject to the exercise of eminent domain by private nongovernmental entities under certain Federal authorization statutes, and for other purposes.

S. 1749

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1749, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide funding for the implementation of the endangered fist recovery implementation programs for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins.

S. 1873

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. ROTH), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1873, A bill to state the policy of the United States regarding the deployment of a missile defense system capable of defending the territory of the

United States against limited ballistic missile attack.

S. 1874

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. KEMPTHORNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1874, a bill to improve the ability of small businesses, Federal agencies, industry, and universities to work with Department of Energy contractor-operated facilities, and for other purposes.

S. 1879

At the request of Mr. BURNS, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. FAIRCLOTH), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD), and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of S. 1879, a bill to provide for the permanent extension of income averaging for farmers.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 13

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 13, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the display of the Ten Commandments by Judge Roy S. Moore, a judge on the circuit court of the State of Alabama.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 89—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE NATION MUST PLACE GREATER EMPHASIS ON HELPING YOUNG AMERICANS TO DEVELOP HABITS OF GOOD CHARACTER

Mr. FRIST submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources:

S. CON. RES. 89

Whereas the future of our Nation and world will be determined by the young people of today;

Whereas record levels of youth crime, violence, teenage pregnancy, and substance abuse indicate a growing moral crisis in our society;

Whereas a recent poll of teachers found that 45 percent of all students cheat on tests;

Whereas character development is the long-term process of helping young people to know, care about, and act upon such basic values as trustworthiness, respect for self and others, responsibility, fairness, compassion, and citizenship;

Whereas these values are universal, reaching across cultural and religious differences;

Whereas a recent poll found that 90 percent of Americans support the teaching of core moral and civic values;

Whereas parents will always be children's primary character educators;

Whereas good moral character is developed best in the context of the family;

Whereas parents, community leaders, and school officials are establishing successful partnerships across the Nation to implement character education programs;

Whereas character education programs also ask parents, faculty, and staff to serve as role models of core values, to provide opportunities for young people to apply these values, and to establish high academic standards that challenge students to set high goals, work to achieve them, and persevere in spite of difficulty;

Whereas the development of virtue and moral character, those habits of mind, heart, and spirit that help young people to know, desire, and do what is right, has historically been a primary mission of colleges and universities;

Whereas in recent years the emphasis on developing the moral character of students has steadily declined in our colleges and universities as students are increasingly viewed as consumers in the marketplace rather than citizens participating in a democracy;

Whereas print resources that recognize colleges and universities according to emphasis of character development as an essential component of higher education are available to students, parents, and high school counselors;

Whereas many of these resources are available in public libraries and in public and private high schools across the Nation; and

Whereas the Congress encourages parents, faculty, and staff across the Nation to emphasize character development in the home, in the community, in our schools, and in our colleges and universities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Congress supports and encourages character building initiatives in schools across America and urges colleges and universities to affirm that the development of character is one of the primary goals of higher education.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I believe it is important that we put character back into our vocabulary. The American people are crying out for virtue and values—character is critical and we must focus our efforts in extending this message.

I have been a faithful co-sponsor of the Character Counts movement, which seeks to teach the core elements of good character to our nation's young people.

I am pleased to submit a resolution in the Senate to expand this message to our nation's institutions of higher education. Specifically, I am submitting a concurrent resolution expressing that it is the sense of the Congress that the Nation must place greater emphasis on helping young Americans to develop habits of good character that are essential to their own well-being and to that of our communities.

I believe that we should encourage parents, faculty, and staff across the Nation to emphasize character development in our homes, in our communities, in our schools, and in our colleges and universities. Congress should support and encourage character building initiatives in schools across American and urge colleges and universities to affirm that the development of character is one of the primary goals of higher education.

This concurrent resolution has already been submitted in the House of Representatives by a member of the Tennessee congressional delegation, Congressman BOB CLEMENT. I am proud to note that it has received bipartisan support. It is a privilege for me to submit this concurrent resolution in the Senate.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

THE OCEAN SHIPPING REFORM ACT OF 1998

GORTON AMENDMENT NO. 2287

Mr. GORTON proposed an amendment to amendment No. 1689 proposed by Mrs. HUTCHISON to the bill, S. 414, to amend the Shipping Act of 1984 to encourage competition in international shipping and growth of United States imports and exports, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 5, line 10, strike "ocean".
On page 5, line 15, strike "ocean".
On page 11, line 16, strike "ocean".
On page 12, line 8, strike "ocean".

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

COVERDELL AMENDMENT NO. 2269

• Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I would like to commend my friend from Georgia, Senator COVERDELL, for offering this excellent amendment last evening.

The purpose of our amendment is to curb wasteful military spending. I am a co-sponsor.

This amendment contains a very important message. It sends this signal: Pay a fair market value for what you buy. We hope the Department of Defense (DOD) will be guided by this common sense principle in the coming year when it starts spending all the money provided for in this resolution. Unfortunately, that may not happen.

Two recent reports issued by the Inspector General at the Defense Department undermine our confidence in DOD's ability to get a handle on the problem. These two reports provide details on the latest round of spare parts "horror stories" at the Pentagon. They were presented by the Inspector General (IG), Ms. Eleanor Hill, at a hearing before the Senate Armed Services Committee on March 18, 1998.

The IG's testimony and reports are the motivating force behind our amendment.

Mr. President, the story presented by the Inspector General on March 18th was not new. In fact, it's the same old story about spare parts overpricing that we have heard so many times before. It's a carbon copy of what we witnessed back in the 1980's. First came the revelations about the \$450.00 hammer and the \$640.09 toilet seat. Then came the assurances from all the Pentagon bureaucrats: "Don't worry," they said. "We already have a fix in place."

History has repeatedly proven that those promises were worthless. They were empty promises. And history is about to repeat itself—again. There's no reform in sight.

The IG has brought new spare parts horror stories to light, and the bureaucrats are already promising that "corrective actions" are in place. Problem solved, right? Wrong! Unless DOD's corrective action has some teeth—and