

that are working in the plants and the factories and the carpet looms who want a better future and a better education. I feel sorry for the millions of people in poverty who want a little bit better life in India but are now going to have to struggle because more and more of their money is going into their weapons and their nuclear arsenal. And I feel sorry for the people of Pakistan, too, again, who have made great strides in the last 50 years to build a nation, to build an infrastructure that will allow for a moderate Islamic State to exist in that area, and I feel sorry for the people of China. What is its Government going to do now?

Mr. President, we can only hope and pray that South Asia will now see this as a sign that they must get together and sign a comprehensive test ban treaty now, stop nuclear testing now, stop the arms race now; that India and China and Pakistan must get together and work out their problems through serious peaceful negotiations and not through the bluster of provocative actions taken by India yesterday to increase the arms race, especially the nuclear arms race.

Mr. President, I call on India to disavow what they did yesterday, to admit they made a mistake, to reach out to their neighbors in a serious attempt to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, and to stop this madness once and for all.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for 10 minutes in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE BREAST CANCER STAMP

Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Mr. President, I would like to ask everyone to take a moment to look at the most important stamp ever issued in our history, and that is the one we have the painting of here on the easel. I joined the U.S. Postal Service in unveiling this stamp in Chapel Hill, NC, yesterday, the day after Mother's Day, as my colleague, Senator FEINSTEIN, did the day before in Los Angeles, CA.

For the first time in U.S. history, the public will be able to play a more direct role in funding medical research and setting research priorities because of this stamp.

This may look like a regular first-class postage stamp, but it is not. It is a semi-postal stamp, the first of its kind ever issued in this country. It took an Act of Congress to create it, and we did just that. It was done to raise money for breast cancer research.

Incidentally, the United States is the only Nation around the world that has not issued semi-postal stamps before, but this stamp is different because part of the proceeds of this stamp will go directly to the NIH and the Department of Defense to pay for breast cancer research.

My colleague from California, DIANNE FEINSTEIN, introduced this legislation here in the Senate as Congressman VIC FAZIO did in the House of Representatives. While popular, the bill needed a vehicle to get it passed. I decided that if the Post Office could sell a Bugs Bunny stamp, they could sell a stamp to raise money for breast cancer research. I was able to add the proposal to an appropriations bill, and, along with the support of the majority of my colleagues here in the Senate and the House, the stamp now is born and in existence.

The Postal Service was not excited about doing this stamp, and they were concerned that other groups sponsoring other diseases would be pushing for a similar stamp. I find no problem with that. I just cosponsored a bill introduced by Senator SNOWE and Senator BURNS that would create a semi-postal stamp to raise money for prostate cancer research. I think this is a great way to let the public play a much larger role in helping fund medical research, and the effort should be encouraged. In fact, the Postal Service Board of Governors met today and selected an old friend and fellow North Carolinian, Bill Henderson, to serve as the next Postmaster General. Let me be the first to congratulate an old friend.

I have asked each member of the Postal Service Board to contribute an additional amount to this effort by turning over what would normally be collected for administrative costs to the cancer research fund. In other words, all of the gross money would go to cancer research. This is especially important in light of the fact that the Postal Rate Commission has just recommended that we raise the price of a first-class stamp by 1 cent.

If only 20 percent of first-class stamp buyers decide to buy this postal stamp—only 20 percent, one-fifth—we will raise \$120 million annually. That is the same amount of funding increase we fought for in last year's budget for the National Cancer Institute. The stamp will be sold for 40 cents when it goes on sale in August. The difference in price from 32 cents or 33 cents required to send a first-class letter, either the 7 cents or 8 cents, will go directly to the NIH and the Department of Defense for their breast cancer research studies.

If I could turn this into a "Home Shopping Channel" for a moment and address all the folks who may be watching: Please, I ask that they themselves buy and urge their friends to buy the stamp when it goes on sale this August. It is a wonderful gift, and when so giving it, when you make a gift, No. 1, you are sure the gift will be used, and you encourage the recipients of the gift to in turn buy the stamp themselves after the gift supply has been exhausted.

There may be some confusion because about a year ago the post office released a breast cancer awareness stamp. This was a nice gesture, but it

provided no money. This stamp will raise money for all the women and families afflicted by this dread disease. Let's prove the post office wrong and make the sale of this stamp a record-setting event.

I thank all my colleagues, and especially Senator FEINSTEIN, for their help in making this semi-postal stamp a reality. I urge you to join with the Postal Service, corporate sponsors, and breast cancer groups to plan events to launch the sale of this stamp completely around the country and in all the States. It has to be a success.

I thank the Chair, and I yield the remainder of my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I suggested the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask to speak up to 3 minutes as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE U.S.-INDIAN RELATIONSHIP

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, Senator HARKIN from Iowa recently spoke on the floor about the terrible occurrence recently happening in India, the explosion of three nuclear devices, which has been roundly condemned around the world. It is very destabilizing in the Indian subcontinent and is going to trigger a set of automatic sanctions.

In the Foreign Relations Committee, at 2 p.m. tomorrow afternoon, we will be holding a hearing about the actions taken by the Indian Government, its consequences on the U.S.-Indian relationship, and its consequences throughout that subcontinent. I certainly invite all the Members of the U.S. Senate and others interested to watch these hearings and to follow those, because this is a significant event that has occurred. It has significant ramifications on U.S.-India relationships and is an action that is happening in one of the most volatile regions of the world.

I think we all advise and advocate strongly, for our allies and other friends of ours in the neighborhood, for there to be a calm, stable response to this and that there not be further testing to take place. We will explore these issues in the Foreign Relations Committee tomorrow at 2 o'clock.

I yield the floor.

HIGH-TECH WEEK

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I am pleased that the Senate will be considering a series of bills that truly impact

and shape our lives in this age of ever-changing technology.

Many of us in this chamber can remember a time when the words "Internet" and "intellectual property" had no meaning in our day-to-day activities. That is changing. Rapidly changing. New, competitive markets are emerging, and exploding, thanks to continuing technological advancements and innovations.

The potential benefits of such unprecedented growth is exciting. Besides transforming the structure of the communications industry, high technology is literally changing the way millions of us live and do business.

I would like to share a good Samaritan story about how wireless technology does impact, and possibly save, lives.

Mrs. Debbie Sanders, one of my constituents from the small town of Enid, Mississippi, is the 1998 recipient of the VITA Wireless Samaritan Award for her act of heroism. On her way home from a long day at work as a store's assistant manager, Debbie saw a car flipped upside down in a water-filled ditch. She used her wireless phone to call for help and pulled the victim from the vehicle. Not sure of her exact location on this lonely stretch of deserted, rural road, Debbie had to remain on the phone for over one hour with emergency personnel until she and the victim could be reached.

Mr. President, this is only one example of how high technology can enhance our world.

There will be boundless opportunity in the next century for new technological applications to evolve. With that opportunity will come an absolute necessity for a highly skilled labor work force to ensure America's competitive standing and high-technology leadership. Our vibrant economy is directly tied to this cutting-edge technology. Bills that advance our country's ability to compete will strengthen our future and our children's future.

Several measures will be considered, but I want to particularly mention the Consumer Anti-Slamming Protection Act. We need a public policy to crack down on slamming. We need to protect the telephone consumer. The world indeed is shrinking, and we all have come to depend upon long distance service, not as a luxury but as a necessity. We want to talk to those closest to our hearts, wherever they may be.

The practice of "slamming"—unauthorized switching of long distance telephone service carriers by competing service providers—must stop. It is abusive to the consumer, and has become much too frequent and too disruptive. Our colleagues have told us horror stories in the past, and today we will hear even more illustrations of slamming abuses. With this statute, I join my colleagues in urging the FCC to strengthen its enforcement program to stop this unscrupulous practice. Tougher penalties against companies that intentionally slam will be an effective solution.

I want to thank my Senate colleagues for their diligent leadership and keen focus on tackling these legislative challenges. Their willingness and commitment to work in a bipartisan manner is the reason we are here today. Although some of the issues may be fundamentally noncontroversial, I know the issues are complex, and I appreciate their efforts.

Mr. President, I look forward to the debate. It is also my hope that progress will be continued, and consensus achieved, on other critical pieces of legislation to address a variety of high-technology related concerns shared by many in this Chamber.

CONSUMER ANTI-SCAMMING ACT OF 1998

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. 1618. I ask further consent there be 2 hours of general debate on the bill, equally divided in the usual form.

I further ask consent that the only first-degree amendments, other than committee amendments, be the following, and that the first-degree amendments be subject to relevant second-degree amendments: Manager's amendment; Collins-Durbin amendment—No. 1, liability, No. 2, penalties, No. 3, report slamming complaints; a Rockefeller amendment on Telecom; a Reed amendment on slamming; Levin amendment on billing information, surety bonds switchless; Feingold amendment on CB interference; Feinstein amendment on telephone privacy; McCain amendment that is relevant; a Harkin amendment on telemarketing fraud; and a Hollings amendment that is relevant.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is ordered.

Mr. MCCAIN. Upon disposition of all amendments, the bill be read a third time and the Senate then proceed to vote on passage of S. 1618 with no intervening action or debate; provided further that Senator BRYAN be recognized further to speak on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. DORGAN. Reserving the right to object, did the Senator from Arizona note Senator MURRAY in his list of amendments?

Mr. MCCAIN. I say to my friend that Senator MURRAY and Senator COATS both agreed to drop their amendments on the assurance that these respective pieces of legislation will be brought up at a later date.

Mr. DORGAN. I have no objection.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1618) to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to improve the protection of consumers against "slamming" by telecommunications carriers, and for other purposes.

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill which had been reported from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with amendments, as follows:

(The parts of the bill intended to be stricken are shown in boldface brackets, and the parts of the bill intended to be inserted are shown in italic.)

S. 1618

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

SECTION 1. IMPROVED PROTECTION FOR [CONSUMERS AGAINST "SLAMMING" BY TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIERS.] CONSUMERS.

(a) VERIFICATION OF AUTHORIZATION.—Subsection (a) of section 258 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 258) is amended to read as follows:

"(a) PROHIBITION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—No telecommunications [carrier shall] *carrier or reseller of telecommunications services shall* submit or execute a change in a subscriber's selection of a provider of telephone exchange service or telephone toll service except in accordance with this section and such verification procedures as the Commission shall prescribe.

"(2) VERIFICATION.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—In order to verify a subscriber's selection of a telephone exchange service or telephone toll service provider under this section, the telecommunications carrier *or reseller shall*, at a minimum, require the subscriber—

"(i) to acknowledge the type of service to be changed as a result of the selection;

"(ii) to affirm the subscriber's intent to select the provider as the provider of that service;

"(iii) to affirm that [the subscriber] *the consumer is the subscriber or* is authorized to select the provider of that service for the telephone number in question;

"(iv) to acknowledge that the selection of the provider will result in a change in providers of that service; *and*

"(v) to acknowledge that the individual making the oral communication is the subscriber; *and*

"(vi) *(v)* to provide such other information as the Commission considers appropriate for the protection of the subscriber.

"(B) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—The procedures prescribed by the Commission to verify a subscriber's selection of a provider shall—

"(i) preclude the use of negative option marketing;

"(ii) provide for verification of a change in telephone exchange service or telephone toll service provider in oral, written, or electronic form; *and*

"(iii) require the retention of such verification in such manner and form and for such time as the Commission considers appropriate.

"(3) INTRASTATE SERVICES.—Nothing in this section shall preclude any State commission from enforcing such procedures with respect to intrastate services.

"(4) SECTION NOT TO APPLY TO WIRELESS.—This section does not apply to a provider of commercial mobile service, as that term is defined in section 332(d)(1) of this Act."

(b) RESOLUTION OF COMPLAINTS.—Section 258 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 258) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

"(c) NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBER.—Whenever there is a change in a subscriber's selection of a provider of telephone exchange service or telephone toll service, the telecommunications carrier *or reseller* selected shall notify the subscriber in writing, not more than