

was issued in response to concerns relating to the Justice Department's enforcement strategies in national health care projects. In response, Congressman DELAHUNT, co-sponsor of H.R. 3523, determined that the written guidance made this new legislation inadvisable. Mr. DELAHUNT then courageously decided to pull back his support for H.R. 3523. Shortly thereafter Congressmen BLILEY, BARTON, DINGELL, STARK, and BERMAN stated in a Dear Colleague that: "The Department's guidelines are quite extensive and sufficient time must be given to allow for their appropriate implementation. A non-legislative solution is the appropriate manner to address their issues."

At this juncture it must be said that the Department of Justice, despite the attacks, despite the rhetoric and despite the misinformation, raised itself up from its bootstraps and, in good faith, issued guidance documenting its implementation of the False Claims Act. And even more amazing, Congressman MCCOLLUM, it is reported, still plans to move forward with the bill that would gut the False Claims Act.

I suppose there are certain people associated with this effort who just don't get it. Who don't mind moving forward despite major questions of credibility. There are many more important issues that I and my staff could have been working on for the last seven months on behalf of the taxpayers. Instead we spent seven months of negative energy trying to put out brush fires as the False Claims Act came under assault.

How anyone could ever suggest someone would enjoy that kind of politics is beyond me. To say the bill is "innocuous" is beyond me. And that's what I mean, Mr. President, when I talk about major questions of credibility.

In the Senate, my colleagues, Senators COCHRAN and HOLLINGS, played a critical role in having the Department of Justice issue responsible guidance to the health care industry without gutting the False Claims Act. In addition, my Senate colleagues worked hand-in-hand with me to develop legislative and report language that assures the future integrity of the False Claims Act and the good faith implementation of the guidance by the Department of Justice. I thank you, Senator COCHRAN and Senator HOLLINGS.

All in all, the history of the assault of the False Claims Act sends us on a long and winding road. But it is important to recognize that future attacks on the False Claims Act are undoubtedly around the corner—this despite the fact that the law's success is in many ways unparalleled in the enforcement community.

Consequently, the False Claims Act is, and will remain, a target of those industries that accept billions and billions of taxpayer dollars annually and balk at strict accountability. I ask only that we, as legislators, remember the history of the assault made upon the False Claims Act by the AHA in the present. I ask further that we agree

to be strong despite the strength of an industry, simply because it is the "right" thing to do. Taxpayers deserve no less—and as legislators, we should deliver no less.

DEATH OF ELLISON "BUBBY" MCKISSICK, JR.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, while the Senate was recessed last week, South Carolina lost one of its most prominent citizens, Ellison "Bubby" McKissick, Jr., who was best known as a leader in the textile industry both in the Palmetto State and throughout the United States.

Bubby McKissick passed away, after a long illness, at the rather young age of 69. Though his passing came too soon, he distinguished himself in many ways throughout his life. Not the least of these achievements was serving as the Chairman of Alice Manufacturing, the McKissick family mill and one of the largest textile companies in the Southeast. Additionally, he was a past president of the American Textile Manufacturers Institute, and a forceful advocate for measures that would make the textile industry more competitive, including promoting education.

While his career ultimately took him to the boardroom, Bubby McKissick learned the textile business from the ground floor of one of his family's facilities, working in some of the most demanding jobs in any mill operation. Additionally, Bubby McKissick served in the United States Marine Corps during the Korean War, earning the rank of Sergeant, and having the unenviable distinction of being wounded in combat. This was a man who truly did not have anything handed to him on a silver platter, and who knew well the valuable lessons that one can only learn from experience and hard work.

Bubby McKissick's passing is all the more saddening because he was a loyal supporter, and more importantly, a valued friend. I had known Bubby almost literally from the day he was born as his family was well known to me. I was pleased to watch the successes and achievements of this man, both professional and personal, and I take consolation in the fact that he lived a full and rewarding life.

Mr. President, Bubby McKissick's passing leaves a tremendous void not only in our state's corporate community, but in the lives of the many men and women who called him friend. Bubby McKissick will not soon be forgotten, and I am certain that all those who knew him would join me in sending condolences to his family.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, July 7, 1998, the federal debt stood at \$5,530,116,137,980.45 (Five trillion, five hundred thirty billion, one hundred sixteen million, one hundred thirty-seven thousand, nine hundred eighty dollars and forty-five cents).

One year ago, July 7, 1997, the federal debt stood at \$5,355,915,000,000 (Five trillion, three hundred fifty-five billion, nine hundred fifteen million).

Five years ago, July 7, 1993, the federal debt stood at \$4,337,775,000,000 (Four trillion, three hundred thirty-seven billion, seven hundred seventy-five million).

Ten years ago, July 7, 1988, the federal debt stood at \$2,555,671,000,000 (Two trillion, five hundred fifty-five billion, six hundred seventy-one million).

Fifteen years ago, July 7, 1983, the federal debt stood at \$1,328,914,000,000 (One trillion, three hundred twenty-eight billion, nine hundred fourteen million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$4 trillion—\$4,201,202,137,980.45 (Four trillion, two hundred one billion, two hundred two million, one hundred thirty-seven thousand, nine hundred eighty dollars and forty-five cents) during the past 15 years.

NEED FOR ACTION ON KOSOVO

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, the use of indiscriminate force by units of the Serbian special police and the Yugoslav armed forces in Kosovo must stop. If unchecked, the violence there could well spillover into Albania and Macedonia and could at some point involve other nations in the region, including our NATO allies.

Acting in the direction of Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian police and military units have brutally targeted civilians and used scorched earth tactics with a plan to drive ethnic Albanians out of their towns and villages. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata, around 65,000 people have been forced to flee their homes in Kosovo since March and prior to the latest Serbian special police and troop attack on the town of Belacevac.

Of that number, around 12,000 have fled to neighboring Albania across treacherous mountains—some children had to walk barefoot for days. About 8,000 have fled to Montenegro and small numbers have sought refuge in Macedonia, where the United States maintains about 350 Army personnel as part of the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force.

Before I comment further on what I believe should be done to address the crisis in Kosovo, I would like to briefly describe how this crisis came about.

Kosovo, with a population of 2 million of which more than 90 percent are ethnic Albanians, enjoyed autonomous province status under the 1974 Yugoslav Constitution. However, changes to the Serbian constitution in 1989 through 1991 revoked that autonomous province status and abolished the Parliament and Government of Kosovo. Since that time, Serbian authorities have carried out a policy of repression: firing ethnic Albanians from all public jobs and using arrests, brutal and often fatal beatings and other forms of intimidation in violation of commonly

accepted human rights standards. In the face of this repressive policy, ethnic Albanians pursued a policy of non-violent resistance. They boycotted Serbian institutions and built their own parallel set of political, economic and social institutions. In 1992, they elected Ibrahim Rugova as president and a 130-member parliament.

When the policy of non-violent resistance failed to make any progress, some ethnic Albanians turned to violence and over the past two years, the Kosovo Liberation Army has conducted attacks on Serbian police and other officials. On the night of February 28 of this year, Serbian special police reportedly killed more than 20 ethnic Albanians in a sweep through the Drenica region of Kosovo. Since late February, it is estimated that more than 200 ethnic Albanians have been killed in Kosovo at the hands of Serbian special police and military forces. As Serbian police forces have increased their violence against civilians, more and more ethnic Albanians have joined the Kosovo Liberation Army.

Mr. President, the actions of Slobodan Milosevic and his henchmen have been condemned by the entire international community. Russia, at the conclusion of the NATO-Russia Permanent Joint Council meeting on June 12, 1998, joined the NATO defense ministers in condemning "Belgrade's massive and disproportionate use of force as well as violent attacks by Kosovar Albanian extremists."

The United Nations Security Council, by resolution 1160 adopted on March 31, 1998, condemned the excessive use of force by Serbian police forces against civilians and peaceful demonstrators in Kosovo and acting under Chapter VII of the Charter imposed a comprehensive arms embargo on Yugoslavia and urged the Prosecutor for the International Criminal Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia to begin gathering information related to the violence in Kosovo.

The Security Council's action is important because, by taking under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, the Security Council has determined that the violence in Kosovo is a threat to international peace and security. This is important because, there is a possibility that Russia may use its veto to prevent the Security Council from authorizing the use of all necessary means to stop the violence in Kosovo. In this regard, I note with approval that both Secretary of State Albright and Secretary of Defense Cohen took the position that the Security Council's authorization was desirable but not required for NATO action to intervene in Kosovo.

Mr. President, I applaud NATO's decision to conduct an air exercise in Albania and Macedonia to demonstrate its capability to project power rapidly in the region. I regret that Russian President Yeltsin was unable to gain Milosevic's commitment to withdraw Serbian special units from Kosovo, when they met in Moscow on June 16. Milosevic has already defaulted on his commitment to President Yeltsin to

carry out no repressive actions against civilians.

Mr. President, we all hope that this tragic situation will be resolved peacefully, but that does not appear to be likely. Bosnia has taught us that quick and decisive action can prevent a crisis from getting out of hand. We must not allow Milosevic to draw this crisis out, while the ethnic Albanian people of Kosovo suffer. The international community must let Milosevic know that he must halt the systematic campaign of repression and expulsions in Kosovo. He must withdraw his special police from Kosovo and return his military forces to their barracks. And he must engage in bona fide negotiations to restore a significant degree of autonomy to Kosovo. Anything else will be insufficient and justify strong action by the international community.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 2271. An act to simplify and expedite access to the Federal courts for injured parties whose rights and privileges, secured by the United States Constitution, have been deprived by final action of Federal agencies, or other government official or entities acting under color of State law, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on July 8, 1998, he had presented to the President of the United States, the following enrolled bill:

S. 731. An act to extend the legislative authority for construction of the National Peace Garden memorial, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. THOMPSON, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 2071: A bill to extend a quarterly financial report program administered by the Secretary of Commerce (Rept. No. 105-241).

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary:

Report to accompany the bill (H.R. 1534) to simplify and expedite access to the Federal courts for injured parties whose rights and privileges, secured by the United States Constitution, have been deprived by final actions of Federal agencies, or other government officials or entities acting under color of State law; to prevent Federal courts from abstaining from exercising Federal jurisdiction in actions where no State law claim is alleged; to permit certification of unsettled State law questions that are essential to resolving Federal claims arising under the Constitution; and to clarify when government action is sufficiently final to ripen certain Federal claims arising under the Constitution (Rept. No. 105-242).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BURNS:

S. 2272. A bill to amend the boundaries of Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site in the State of Montana; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 2273. A bill to increase, effective as of December 1, 1998, the rates of disability compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities, and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of certain service-connected disabled veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

By Mr. BINGAMAN:

S. 2274. A bill for relief of Richard M. Barlow of Santa Fe, New Mexico; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LUGAR (for himself, Mr. SANTORUM, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. LEAHY, and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 2275. A bill to make technical corrections to the Agricultural Research Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998; considered and passed.

By Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself and Mr. BREAUX):

S. 2276. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate El Camino Real de los Tejas as a National Historic Trail; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. 2277. A bill to protect employees of air carriers who serve as whistleblower under applicable Federal law, or who refuse to violate an applicable law, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. COVERDELL):

S. 2278. A bill to exclude certain veterans' educational benefits from being considered a resource in the computation of financial aid; to the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. BINGAMAN:

S. Res. 256. A resolution to refer S. 2274 entitled "A bill for the relief of Richard M. Barlow of Santa Fe, New Mexico" to the chief judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a report thereon; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BURNS:

S. 2272. A bill to amend the boundaries of Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site in the State of Montana; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

GRANT-KOHR'S RANCH NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I am pleased to rise today and introduce legislation which will amend the boundaries of the Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site in the State of Montana.

Congress authorized the Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site on August 25, 1972 to preserve the Grant-Kohrs Ranch that operated from 1860-1972. Preserving the ranch also preserved a historic reminder of our Nation's frontier cattle era. The ranch's