

from the community on their behalf, including a letter from the Director of Graduate Studies at the University of Illinois. They have no family left in Lebanon and have never visited it in the last 15 years.

The Sweilem brothers have spent more than half their lives in the United States. At every step, the Sweilems took American law at its word: they always attempted to follow the law only to have Congress suddenly pull the rug out from under them. I think this is an injustice and these two brothers from Lebanon deserve the same relief that we gave people from Nicaragua, El Salvador and Czechoslovakia. Mr. President, I ask you and my fellow colleagues to support these Lebanese brothers by giving them permanent residence status and not depriving them of the opportunity to become United States citizens.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the legislation be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2305

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

SECTION 1. PERMANENT RESIDENCE.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for purposes of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.), Nizar Sweilem and Hassan Sweilem shall be held and considered to have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence as of the date of enactment of this Act upon payment of the required visa fees.

SEC. 2. REDUCTION OF NUMBER OF AVAILABLE VISAS.

Upon the granting of permanent residence to Nizar Sweilem and Hassan Sweilem, as provided in this Act, the Secretary of State shall instruct the proper officer to reduce by the appropriate number during the current fiscal year the total number of immigrant visas available to natives of the country of the aliens' birth under section 203(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1153(a)).

By Mr. BURNS (for himself and Mr. McCain):

S. 2306. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to modify its duopoly rule for multiple ownership of television stations; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION LEGISLATION

• Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, today I introduce legislation that would eliminate the outdated broadcast ownership restrictions in place at the Federal Communications Commission. I am pleased to note that I am introducing this legislation with the co-sponsorship of the Chairman of the Commerce Committee. I welcome Senator McCain's support on this issue and look forward to working with him to make sure that these impractical restrictions are eliminated.

Currently, the FCC disallows ownership of stations in separate markets if

the broadcast signals overlap. For example, a broadcaster may not now own a station in each of the Washington, DC, and Baltimore markets. I believe that ownership of stations with overlapping signals should be allowed if the stations are licensed to communities in different markets. Practical ownership policies will encourage the construction of new television stations and broadcast networks that will promote increased consumer choice.

In the Senate Communications Subcommittee, I have recently held numerous FCC oversight hearings on how best to create a regulatory framework for the age of competition. I believe this bill will help to move in the direction of deregulation and I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure its passage.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2306

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

SECTION 1. MULTIPLE OWNERSHIP RULES.

The Federal Communications Commission shall modify the television contour overlap rule set forth at section 73.3555 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, to permit any party (including all parties under common control), to own, operate, or control television stations despite overlapping contours if the television stations are licensed to communities in different television markets (as defined in section 76.55(e) of such title).

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 636

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 636, a bill to establish a congressional commemorative medal for organ donors and their families.

S. 1251

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, his name 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. 1385

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1385, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the list of diseases presumed to be service connected with respect to radiation-exposed veterans.

S. 1413

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1413, a bill to provide a framework for consideration by the legislative and executive branches of unilateral economic sanctions.

S. 1764

At the request of Mr. THURMOND, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr.

GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1764, a bill to amend sections 3345 through 3349 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the "Vacancies Act") to clarify statutory requirements relating to vacancies in certain Federal offices, and for other purposes.

S. 1825

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1825, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide sufficient funding to assure a minimum size for honor guard details at funerals of veterans of the Armed Forces, to establish the minimum size of such details, and for other purposes.

S. 1862

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. FORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1862, a bill to provide assistance for poison prevention and to stabilize the funding of regional poison control centers.

S. 1993

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. THURMOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1993, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to adjust the formula used to determine costs limits for home health agencies under medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 2003

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. FORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2003, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to allow workers who attain age 65 after 1981 and before 1992 to choose either lump sum payments over four years totalling \$5,000 or an improved benefit computation formula under a new 10-year rule governing the transition to the changes in benefit computation rules enacted in the Social Security Amendments of 1977, and for other purposes.

S. 2078

At the request of Mr. FAIRCLOTH, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2078, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for Farm and Ranch Risk Management Accounts, and for other purposes.

S. 2118

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2118, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce the tax on vaccines to 25 cents per dose.

S. 2170

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2170, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate the temporary increase in unemployment tax.

S. 2266

At the request of Mr. THURMOND, the names of the Senator from Colorado

(Mr. ALLARD) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL) were added as cosponsors of S. 2266, a bill to amend the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to exempt State and local agencies operating prisons from the provisions relating to public services.

S. 2285

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2285, a bill to establish a commission, in honor of the 150th Anniversary of the Seneca Falls Convention, to further protect sites of importance in the historic efforts to secure equal rights for women.

S. 2295

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD), and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2295, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to extend the authorizations of appropriations for that Act, and for other purposes.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 80

At the request of Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. FORD) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 80, a concurrent resolution urging that the railroad industry, including rail labor, management and retiree organization, open discussions for adequately funding an amendment to the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 to modify the guaranteed minimum benefit for widows and widowers whose annuities are converted from a spouse to a widow or widower annuity.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 95

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 95, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress with respect to promoting coverage of individuals under long-term care insurance.

SENATE RESOLUTION 237

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, her name was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 237, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the situation in Indonesia and East Timor.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

HARKIN (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 3127

Mr. DASCHLE (for Mr. HARKIN for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. WELLSTONE) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 2159) making

appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert:
Findings:

In contrast to our Nation's generally strong economy, in a number of States agricultural producers and rural communities are experiencing serious economic hardship; Increased supplies of agricultural commodities in combination with weakened demand have caused prices of numerous farm commodities to decline dramatically;

Demand for imported agricultural commodities has fallen in some regions of the world, due in part to world economic conditions, and United States agricultural exports have declined from their record level of \$60 billion in 1996;

Prolonged periods of weather disasters and crop disease have devastated agricultural producers in a number of States;

Thirty-two of the fifty States experienced declines in personal farm income between 1996 and 1997;

Whereas, June estimates by the Department of Agriculture indicate that net farm income for 1998 will fall to \$45.5 billion, down 13 percent from the \$52.2 billion for 1996;

Total farm debt for 1998 is expected to reach \$172 billion, the highest level since 1985;

Thousands of farm families are in danger of losing their livelihoods and life savings

Now, therefore, it is the sense of the Senate that emergency action by the President and Congress is necessary to respond to the economic hardships facing agricultural producers and their communities.

BUMPERS (AND COCHRAN) AMENDMENT NO. 3128

Mr. COCHRAN (for Mr. BUMPERS for himself and Mr. COCHRAN) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 2159, supra; as follows:

On page 10, line 17, strike "\$767,921,000" and insert in lieu thereof "\$768,221,000".

On page 13, line 11, strike "\$49,200,000" and insert in lieu thereof "\$50,500,000".

On page 14, line 17, strike "\$434,782,000" and insert in lieu thereof "\$436,082,000".

On page 35, line 7, strike "\$700,201,000" and insert in lieu thereof "\$703,601,000".

On page 36, line 14, after the "systems", insert "": *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$2,800,000 shall be available for a community improvement project in Arkansas";

On page 64, line 18, strike "140,000" and insert in lieu thereof "120,000".

On page 67, after line 23, add the following: "SEC. 739. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to require any producer to pay an administrative fee for catastrophic risk protection under section 508(b)(5)(A) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(b)(5)(A)) in an amount that is greater than \$50 per crop per county."

"SEC. 740. Nothing in this Act shall be interpreted or construed to alter the current implementation of the Wetlands Reserve Program, unless expressly provided herein."

COCHRAN (AND BUMPERS) AMENDMENTS NOS. 3129-3130

Mr. COCHRAN (for himself and Mr. BUMPERS) proposed two amendments to the bill, S. 2159, supra; as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 3129

On page 35, line 25, strike "\$1,000,000" and insert "\$70,000".

AMENDMENT NO. 3130

On page 26, line 26, strike "\$488,872,000" and insert in lieu thereof "\$510,649,000".

On page 27, line 7, insert "and" before "for".

On page 27, lines 8 and 9, strike "and for credit sales of acquired property, \$25,000,000".

On page 27, line 13, strike "\$16,320,000" and insert in lieu thereof "\$19,580,000".

On page 27, line 20, insert "and" before "for".

On page 27, lines 21 and 22, strike "and for credit sales of acquired property, \$3,260,000".

BUMPERS AMENDMENT NO. 3131

Mr. BUMPERS proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 2159, supra; as follows:

On page 67, after line 23, insert the following:

"SEC. . That notwithstanding section 4703(d)(1) of title 5, United States Code, the personnel management demonstration project established in the Department of Agriculture, as described at 55 FR 9062 and amended at 61 FR 9507 and 61 FR 49178, shall be continued indefinitely and become effective upon enactment of this bill."

D'AMATO (AND SARBANES) AMENDMENTS NO. 3132

Mr. COCHRAN (for Mr. D'AMATO for himself and Mr. SARBANES) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 2159, supra; as follows:

On page 67, after line 23, insert the following:

"SEC. ____ (a) The first sentence of section 509(f)(4)(A) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1479(f)(4)(A)) is amended by striking "fiscal year 1998" and inserting "fiscal year 1999".

(b) Section 515(b)(4) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1485(b)(4)) is amended by striking "September 30, 1998" and inserting "September 30, 1999".

(c) The first sentence of section 515(w)(1) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1485(w)(1)) is amended by striking "fiscal year 1998" and inserting "fiscal year 1999".

(d) Section 538 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490p-2) is amended—

(1) in subsection (t), by striking "fiscal year 1998" and inserting "fiscal year 1999"; and

(2) in subsection (u), by striking "September 30, 1998" and inserting "September 30, 1999".

GRAHAM AMENDMENT NO. 3133

Mr. COCHRAN (for Mr. GRAHAM) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 2159, supra; as follows:

On page 67, after line 23, add the following: "SEC. 7 ____ METHYL BROMIDE ALTERNATIVES RESEARCH.

(a) REVIEW.—The Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Agricultural Research Service, shall conduct a review of the methyl bromide alternatives research conducted by the Secretary that describes—

(1) the amount of funds expended by the Secretary since January 1, 1990, on methyl bromide alternatives research, including a description of the amounts paid for salaries, expenses, and actual research;

(2) plot and field scale testing of methyl bromide alternatives conducted by the Secretary since January 1, 1990, including a description of—

(A) the total amount of funds expended for the testing;

(B) the amount of funds expended for the testing as a portion of a larger project or independently of other projects; and