

and strengthen our economy. In rural America, for example, new ethanol and ETBE plants will be built, so long as we wise up and create a level playing field against subsidized Saudi competition.

Phase II of the Clean Air Act's reformulated gasoline program (RFG) requires transportation fuels to meet even tougher emissions standards starting in the year 2000. That gasoline market is growing, with demand for ethanol, ETBE and MTBE in 2005 estimated to be 300,000 barrels per day. Unless we act to ensure that American-made oxygenated fuels can compete in American fuels markets, we stand to cede those markets to subsidized Saudi Arabian MTBE.

Mr. President, I am hopeful that my legislation will help level the playing field for American producers of ethanol, ETBE and MTBE and add new economic vitality to their associated communities of workers, farmers, and business owners. I urge my colleagues to give it serious consideration and to enact it as soon as possible so that we may begin the process of bringing fairness back into the realm of international trade in oxygenated fuels.

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. 2391

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Fair Trade in MTBE Act of 1998".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Section 814 of Public Law 101-549 (commonly referred to as the "Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990") expressed the sense of Congress that every effort should be made to purchase and produce American-made reformulated gasoline and other clean fuel products.

(2) Since the passage of the Clean Air Amendments Act of 1990, Saudi Arabia has added substantial industrial capacity for the production of methyl tertiary butyl ether (in this Act referred to as "MTBE").

(3) The expansion of Saudi Arabian production capacity has been stimulated by government subsidies, notably in the form of a governmental decree guaranteeing Saudi Arabian MTBE producers a 30 percent discount relative to world prices on feedstock.

(4) The expansion of subsidized Saudi Arabian production has been accompanied by a major increase in Saudi Arabian MTBE exported to the United States.

(5) The subsidized Saudi Arabian MTBE exports have reduced the market share of American producers of MTBE, ETBE, and ethanol, as well as discouraged capital investment by American producers.

(6) Saudi Arabia is not a member of the World Trade Organization and is not subject to the terms and conditions of the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures negotiated as part of the Uruguay Round Agreements.

SEC. 3. INITIATION OF COUNTERVAILING DUTY INVESTIGATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the

administering authority shall initiate an investigation pursuant to title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1671 et seq.) to determine if the necessary elements exist for the imposition of a duty under section 701 of such Act with respect to the importation into the United States of MTBE from Saudi Arabia.

(b) ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY.—For purposes of this section, the term "administering authority" has the meaning given such term by section 771(1) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1677(1)).

By Mr. BENNETT (for himself, Mr. DODD, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. KOHL, and Mr. ROBB) (by request):

S. 2392. A bill to encourage the disclosure and exchange of information about computer processing problems and related matters in connection with the transition to the Year 2000; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

YEAR 2000 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE ACT

• Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, today I introduce, by request of President Bill Clinton, the Administration's "Good Samaritan" legislation referred to as the "Year 2000 Information Disclosure Act".

I want to thank the White House for joining Vice Chairman DODD and the rest of the members of the Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem in the debate on how to promote the flow of information on Year 2000 readiness throughout the private sector. The Administration's recognition of this problem, the fear of law suits and its stifling effect on companies' willingness to disclose helpful Y2K information, is invaluable in helping all of us deal with this national crisis.

The existing legal framework clearly discourages the sharing of critical information between private sector companies. The President's bill attempts to limit the legal liability of corporations and other organizations who in good faith openly share information about computer and technology processing problems and related matters in connection with the transition to the Year 2000. We welcome the thoughtful ideas of the White House and the hard work of the Office of Management and Budget, as well as John Koskinen, the Chairman of the President's Council on Year 2000 Conversion.

President Clinton's proposal represents a good starting point from which to begin the process of addressing the critical need for private sector information sharing announced in his speech before the National Sciences Foundation on Tuesday, July 14.

The Senate Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem, which I chair, has to date held hearings on Year 2000 problems in several industry sectors including energy utilities, financial institutions, and health care. This Friday, July 31, the Committee will hold its fourth hearing the subject of which will be the telecommunications industry. In each of the prior hearings, it has become increasingly

evident that the fear of legal liability has proven to be the single biggest deterrent to the open sharing of Year 2000 information. With just over 500 days remaining before the Year 2000 problem manifests itself in full, we must do everything we can to encourage the sharing of vital Year 2000 information. Through this sharing, organizations can save valuable time and resources in addressing their Year 2000 problems.

But, we must be careful to pass meaningful legislation that will indeed encourage disclosure and sharing of Year 2000 information. For example, small companies which cannot afford to do all of their own testing and who, for the most part, are not as knowledgeable about where the dangers of the Y2K bug may appear are significant elements of our economy and their Y2K failures could have devastating impacts on those who depend on their services.

We look forward to hearing the input of those companies and individuals who are affected both as plaintiffs and defendants. To be of value, we must pass legislation this year. To that end, we will be working closely with the administration, and with Senators HATCH and LEAHY of the Judiciary Committee which has the primary jurisdiction for this legislation.●

• Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to join with Senators ROBERT F. BENNETT (R-UT) and CHRISTOPHER DODD (D-CT) today as original cosponsors of President Clinton's "Year 2000 (Y2K) Information Disclosure Act." This legislation is intended to promote the open sharing of information about Y2K solutions by protecting those who share information in good faith from liability claims based on exchanges of information. As the President stated in his speech at the National Academy of Sciences on July 14, 1998, the purpose of this legislation is to "guarantee that businesses which share information about their readiness with the public or with each other, and do it honestly and carefully, cannot be held liable for the exchange of that information if it turns out to be inaccurate."

The open sharing of information on the Y2K problem will play a significant role in preparing the nation and the world for the millennial malady. I urge the prompt and favorable consideration of this legislation. There is no time to waste.●

• Mr. DODD. Mr. President, today I join with Senator ROBERT BENNETT, the chairman of the Senate Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem, to introduce, at the request of the President of the United States, "The Year 2000 Information Disclosure Act." We are joined in this introduction by Senators MOYNIHAN, KOHL, and ROBB.

It should be clear to even the most disinterested observer that we are facing a serious economic challenge in

form of the Year 2000 computer problem. There is little doubt that the millennium conversion will have a significant impact on the economy; the outstanding question is how large that impact will be.

One of the most relevant factors in assessing the potential impact of this problem is the expected readiness of small and medium sized businesses to deal with this issue. Many of the nation's largest corporations are spending hundreds of millions of dollars to prepare for Year 2000 conversion: Citibank is spending \$600 million, Aetna is spending more than \$125 million, and the list goes on and on. However, it is not so clear that small and medium sized businesses are approaching the problem with similar vigor.

As a result, it is my opinion that it will become increasingly necessary for those companies that have successfully completed remediation and are now testing to be able to share those results with other companies that might not be as far along. It will be an increasing national economic priority to use all the tools available to help businesses and government entities meet the millennium deadline, and encouraging the sharing of information that can cut precious weeks off the time it takes to get ready will be essential.

I agree with the statements of President Clinton that companies that make such voluntary disclosures should not be punished for those disclosures with frivolous or abusive lawsuits. It is to address that concern that the President has requested that Senator BENNETT and I introduce his legislation.

I also agree with the President's analysis that in order for this information-sharing to be effective, it must start to take place as soon as possible. Sharing information about non-compliant systems six, eight, or twelve months from now will be of limited value to all concerned.

Some questions have emerged in the press as to the scope of this legislation. The fact is that there are very few weeks left in this session, and therefore the broader the bill, the more difficult it will be to pass. Therefore, if we are intent on providing protection for voluntary disclosures on Year 2000, it will be very hard to add to that provisions dealing with other aspects of Year 2000 liability. While I believe that concerns on underlying liability are real and meaningful, there is little question that dealing with any liability issues is always a controversial and lengthy process. So as we move forward with the concept of a safe harbor for voluntary disclosure, I hope that we can do so without encumbering that legislation with these larger and contentious issues regarding liability.

President Clinton has given us an excellent starting point for discussing these important issues. I look forward to working with all my colleagues in the weeks remaining to craft final legislation that addresses these issues in a meaningful and constructive manner.●

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 230

At the request of Mr. FAIRCLOTH, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 230, a bill to amend section 1951 of title 18, United States Code (commonly known as the Hobbs Act), and for other purposes.

S. 657

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 657, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive military retired pay concurrently with veterans' disability compensation.

S. 1360

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1360, a bill to amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to clarify and improve the requirements for the development of an automated entry-exit control system, to enhance land border control and enforcement, and for other purposes.

S. 1459

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1459, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a 5-year extension of the credit for producing electricity from wind and closed-loop biomass.

S. 1759

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BUMPERS), and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) were added as cosponsors of S. 1759, a bill to grant a Federal charter to the American GI Forum of the United States.

S. 1877

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1877, a bill to remove barriers to the provision of affordable housing for all Americans.

S. 1905

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1905, a bill to provide for equitable compensation for the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, and for other purposes.

S. 1959

At the request of Mr. COVERDELL, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1959, a bill to prohibit the expenditure of Federal funds to provide or support programs to provide individuals with hypodermic needles or syringes for the use of illegal drugs.

S. 1960

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the

Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. ROTH), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1960, a bill to allow the National Park Service to acquire certain land for addition to the Wilderness Battlefield, as previously authorized by law, by purchase or exchange as well as by donation.

S. 2061

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. BRYAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2061, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to prohibit transfers or discharges of residents of nursing facilities.

S. 2071

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2071, a bill to extend a quarterly financial report program administered by the Secretary of Commerce.

S. 2086

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. ROTH), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 2086, a bill to revise the boundaries of the George Washington Birthplace National Monument.

S. 2161

At the request of Mr. THOMPSON, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2161, a bill to provide Government-wide accounting of regulatory costs and benefits, and for other purposes.

S. 2213

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2213, a bill to allow all States to participate in activities under the Education Flexibility Partnership Demonstration Act.

S. 2217

At the request of Mr. FAIRCLOTH, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2217, a bill to provide for continuation of the Federal research investment in a fiscally sustainable way, and for other purposes.

S. 2233

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI), and the Senator from New York (Mr. D'AMATO) were added as cosponsors of S. 2233, a bill to amend section 29 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the placed in service date for biomass and coal facilities.

S. 2295

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) 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.

S. 2308

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. BRYAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2308, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to prohibit transfers or discharges of residents of nursing facilities as a result of a voluntary withdrawal from participation in the medicaid program.

S. 2318

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2318, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to phaseout the estate and gift taxes over a 10-year period.

S. 2344

At the request of Mr. COVERDELL, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS), and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2344, a bill to amend the Agricultural Market Transition Act to provide for the advance payment, in full, of the fiscal year 1999 payments otherwise required under production flexibility contracts.

At the request of Mr. BROWNBAC, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2344, *supra*.

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2344, *supra*.

S. 2352

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2352, a bill to protect the privacy rights of patients.

S. 2354

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. FRIST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2354, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to impose a moratorium on the implementation of the per beneficiary limits under the interim payment system for home health agencies, and to modify the standards for calculating the per visit cost limits and the rates for prospective payment systems under the medicare home health benefit to achieve fair reimbursement payment rates, and for other purposes.

S. 2359

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. MOYNIHAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2359, a bill to amend the National Environmental Education Act to extend the programs under the Act, and for other purposes.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 83

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES), the

Senator from Delaware (Mr. ROTH), and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) were added as cosponsors of Senate Concurrent Resolution 83, a concurrent resolution remembering the life of George Washington and his contributions to the Nation.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 108

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS), and the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) were added as cosponsors of Senate Concurrent Resolution 108, a concurrent resolution recognizing the 50th anniversary of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, and for other purposes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 199

At the request of Mr. TORRICELLI, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 199, a resolution designating the last week of April of each calendar year as "National Youth Fitness Week."

AMENDMENT NO. 3124

At the request of Mr. HUTCHINSON the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. WELLSTONE), the Senator from Florida (Mr. MACK), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM), and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. ASHCROFT) were added as cosponsors of Amendment No. 3124 proposed to S. 2132, an original bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3338

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON his name was added as a cosponsor of Amendment No. 3338 proposed to H.R. 1151, a bill to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to clarify existing law and ratify the longstanding policy of the National Credit Union Administration Board with regard to field of membership of Federal credit unions.

AMENDMENT NO. 3388

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON his name was added as a cosponsor of Amendment No. 3388 proposed to S. 2312, an original bill making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3389

At the request of Mr. KERREY the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. MOYNIHAN) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAUX) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3389 proposed to S. 2312, an original bill making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 114—PROVIDING FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL ADJOURNMENT OF BOTH HOUSES

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

S. CON. RES. 114

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring). That, in consonance with section 132(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, when the Senate recesses or adjourns at the close of business on Friday, July 31, 1998, Saturday, August 1, 1998, or Sunday, August 2, 1998, pursuant to a motion made by the Majority Leader or his designee in accordance with this concurrent resolution, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Monday, August 31 or Tuesday, September 1, 1998, or until such time on that day as may be specified by the Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until noon on the second day after Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Friday, August 7, 1998, it stand adjourned until noon on Wednesday, September 9, 1998, or until noon on the second day after Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the House, shall notify the Members of the Senate and House, respectively, to reassemble whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 115—TO AUTHORIZE THE PRINTING OF COPIES OF THE PUBLICATION ENTITLED "THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL" AS A SENATE DOCUMENT

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

S. CON. RES. 115

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring). That (a) a revised edition of the publication entitled "The United States Capitol" (referred to as "the pamphlet") shall be reprinted as a Senate document.

(b) There shall be printed 2,000,000 copies of the pamphlet in the English language at a cost not to exceed \$100,000 for distribution as follows:

(1)(A) 206,000 copies of the publication for the use of the Senate with 2,000 copies distributed to each Member;

(B) 886,000 copies of the publication for the use of the House of Representatives, with 2,000 copies distributed to each Member; and

(C) 908,000 of the publication for distribution to the Capitol Guide Service; or

(2) if the total printing and production costs of copies in paragraph (1) exceed \$100,000, such number of copies of the publication as does not exceed total printing and production costs of \$100,000, with distribution to be allocated in the same proportion as in paragraph (1).

(c) In addition to the copies printed pursuant to subsection (b), there shall be printed at a total printing and production cost of not to exceed \$70,000—

(1) 50,000 copies of the pamphlet in each of the following 5 languages: German, French, Russian, Chinese, and Japanese; and