

and Human Services (referred to in this section as the "Secretary"), acting as appropriate in consultation with the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Director of the National Institutes of Health, the Committee, and other agencies, should consider carrying out the following:

(1) FIVE-YEAR PLAN.—It is the sense of the Senate that the Secretary should consider the establishment of a plan that, for the five fiscal years following the date of the enactment of this Act, provides for the activities to be carried out during such fiscal years toward achieving the goals under paragraphs (2) through (4). The plan should, as appropriate to such goals, provide for the coordination of programs and activities regarding Lyme disease and other tick-borne disorders that are conducted or supported by the Federal Government.

(2) FIRST GOAL: DIAGNOSTIC TEST.—The goal described in this paragraph is to develop a diagnostic test for Lyme disease and other tick-borne disorders for use in clinical testing.

(3) SECOND GOAL: SURVEILLANCE AND REPORTING OF LYME DISEASE AND OTHER TICK-BORNE DISORDERS.—The goal described in this paragraph is to accurately determine the prevalence of Lyme disease and other tick-borne disorders in the United States.

(4) THIRD GOAL: PREVENTION OF LYME DISEASE AND OTHER TICK-BORNE DISORDERS.—The goal described in this paragraph is to develop the capabilities at the Department of Health and Human Services to design and implement improved strategies for the prevention and control of Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases. Such diseases may include Masters' disease, ehrlichiosis, babesiosis, other bacterial, viral and rickettsial diseases such as tularemia, tick-borne encephalitis, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, and bartonella, respectively.

The bill (S. 969), as amended, was read the third time and passed.

AMENDING THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of H.R. 4013.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4013) to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish an Office of Rare Diseases at the National Institutes of Health, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I commend the Senate today for its bipartisan action in approving the Rare Diseases Act of 2002 and the Rare Diseases Orphan Product Development Act of 2002. These two measures will enhance the prospects for developing effective care, treatments and cures for literally thousands of rare diseases and disorders.

Congress has a longstanding commitment to provide this support. In 1983, we passed the Orphan Drug Act to improve the development of treatments for rare diseases and disorders. These diseases affect small patient populations, typically smaller than 200,000 individuals in the United States. They

include Huntington's disease, myoclonus, ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease), Tourette syndrome, and muscular dystrophy.

The Rare Diseases Act and the Rare Diseases Orphan Product Development Act build upon the enormous success of the original Orphan Drug Act, which encouraged the development of over 220 treatments for rare diseases and disorders.

The Rare Diseases Act of 2002 provides a statutory authorization for the existing Office of Rare Diseases at the National Institutes of Health and authorizes regional centers of excellence for research and training with respect to rare diseases. This proposal originated with the NIH, in recommendations of a Special Emphasis Panel convened to examine the state of rare disease research. The Panel itself was convened in response to a request of the Senate Appropriations Committee in 1996, and it is appropriate that we are today introducing legislation which represents the fruition of a long, deliberative process involving both Congress and the NIH.

The Rare Diseases Orphan Product Development Act increases funding for the Food and Drug Administration's Orphan Product Research Grant program, which provides vital support for clinical research on new treatments for rare diseases and disorders. This funding will encourage many more commercial sponsors to investigate and develop vital new medicines.

Although each rare disease may not affect many patients, 25 million Americans today suffer from the 6,000 known rare diseases and disorders, including more than 600,000 in Massachusetts. Anyone who has a family member or friend who suffers from a rare disease or disorder knows the importance of developing new treatments and helping patients to obtain these potential cures. Today's passage of these two bills will provide the resources necessary to continue to develop new treatments and even cures for millions of Americans.

I would also add that these bills are intended to build upon previous congressional efforts to expand research and development for all rare diseases and disorders. Senator HATCH and I introduced the Rare Diseases Act, upon which these bills are based, to expand and enhance existing initiatives underway at the various institutes of NIH with respect to different rare diseases, including but not limited to muscular dystrophy, Huntington's disease, and ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease). I believe the NIH will act upon these new bills in the appropriate spirit, by building upon current activities and investments on rare diseases and disorders.

I commend the National Organization for Rare Diseases for its tireless and continuing leadership on these basic issues. I also commend Senator HATCH for his leadership on this issue in the Senate, and I commend Congressmen WAXMAN, SHIMKUS, and

FOLEY for their leadership in the House of Representatives. I know that all of us look forward to the implementation of these important measures we are approving today.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times, passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to this matter be printed in the RECORD, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 4013) was read the third time and passed.

AMENDING THE FEDERAL FOOD, DRUG, AND COSMETIC ACT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to the consideration of H.R. 4014.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4014) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the development of products for rare diseases.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times, passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; and that any statements thereto be printed in the RECORD, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 4014) was read the third time and passed.

TO ESTABLISH WILDERNESS AREAS, PROMOTE CONSERVATION, IMPROVE PUBLIC LAND, AND PROVIDE FOR HIGH QUALITY DEVELOPMENT IN CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 5200.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5200) to establish wilderness areas, promote conservation, improve public land, and provide for high quality development in Clark County, Nevada, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, today I rise to comment on the Clark County Conservation of Public Lands and Natural Resources Act of 2002, which is important to southern Nevada and a priority for the Nevada delegation. This broad-based compromise legislation is also important for America. The many provisions in this legislation reflect the many challenges faced by southern Nevada. I would like to highlight some of