

contact Ms. Julia McCaul or Mr. Howard Useem at 202-224-7875.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet on Tuesday, July 21, 1998, at 5:30 p.m. in closed session, to consider certain pending nominations.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 21, 1998, to conduct a hearing on the monetary policy report to Congress pursuant to the Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act of 1978.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Tuesday, July 21, 1998, at 9:30 a.m. on discretionary spending at the Department of Transportation and Department of Commerce.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be permitted to meet Tuesday, July 21, 1998 beginning at 10:30 a.m. in room SH-215, to conduct a markup.

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

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet for a hearing on S. 766, Insurance Coverage of Contraceptives during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 21, 1998, at 10:00 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules and Administration be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 21, 1998, at 9:00 a.m., to hold a hearing on the nominations of:

Scott E. Thomas, of the District of Columbia, to be a member of the Federal Election Commission for a term expiring April 30, 2003 (reappointment);

David M. Mason, of Virginia, to be a member of the Federal Election Commission for a term expiring April 30, 2003, vice Trevor Alexander McClurg Potter, resigned;

Darryl R. Wold, of California, to be a member of the Federal Election Com-

mission for a term expiring April 30, 2001, vice Joan D. Aikens, term expired; and,

Karl L. Sandstrom, of Washington, to be a member of the Federal Election Commission for a term expiring April 30, 2001, vice John Warren McGarry, term expired.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SENECA FALLS CONVENTION

• Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I rise to recognize and remember the importance of the previous two days in American history. July nineteenth and twentieth, 1998, mark the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Seneca Falls Convention in Seneca Falls, New York. This gathering of American women and men began a movement in our nation that changed the role of women in this country and, ultimately, around the world. Because of the convention's tremendous impact on the American way of life, I joined Senator TORRICELLI and several other Senate colleagues in recently introducing a Senate resolution honoring the women's rights movement and saluting those who made it all happen. Today I speak in honor of this occasion.

Women's struggle for equality had very humble beginnings. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, a housewife and mother of three sons, and Lucretia Mott, a Quaker teacher and staunch abolitionist, were ejected from the 1840 World Anti-Slavery Convention in London simply because they were women. Outraged at such an injustice, they were compelled to call attention to the many freedoms denied to women, including the right to vote or hold elective office, the right to own property if married, the right to obtain a professional education and the basic right to protect oneself from an abusive spouse.

Mrs. Stanton and Miss Mott, along with Jane Hunt, Martha Coffin Wright and Mary Ann McClintock, called for a public convention to discuss the social, civil and religious rights of women. The first meeting of the women's rights movement convened at the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in Seneca Falls, New York. Over 300 men and women attended the two day conference, including Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass.

The highlight of the convention was the reading of the Declaration of Sentiments, a document composed on Mrs. McClintock's kitchen table. The statement was based on the words of our Declaration of Independence, applying its self-evident truths to both males and females and declaring all men and women equal. The document even called for a woman's right to vote, a revolutionary idea at the time. In fact, while 68 women and 32 men signed the Declaration of Sentiments, more than

200 attendees refused to endorse such an outrageous notion. Today, it is difficult to imagine a democratic society that would not permit women to hold elective office, sign legal documents or attend the church of their choice, much less exercise the basic right to vote.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, and the other founders of the women's rights movement epitomized the strength of the American woman and exhibited the courage necessary to put an end to a great injustice. They understood the road before them would be long and hard. Little did they know, however, that it would be more than 70 years before women would be granted suffrage in the United States. Today the movement is symbolized by the unfinished marble carving of the Suffrage advocates now displayed in the Capitol Rotunda.

The calling of the Seneca Falls Convention and the passion of those involved forever changed the course of American history. All Americans should honor the efforts of these intrepid women and learn from their commitment to a cause in which they so deeply believed. Without the fortitude shown throughout this arduous struggle for equality, I could not be standing before you on the Senate floor today. •

NATIONAL YOUTH CRIME PREVENTION DEMONSTRATION ACT

• Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I am proud to join Senator COATS in introducing this important bill. We have become accustomed in the past couple of years to hearing a great deal of positive news about crime trends in this country. Thanks to many factors, including a number of innovative crime-fighting strategies and the return of community policing, most of our cities are experiencing a decrease in violent crime. But the news on the crime front is far from all good. Indeed, as my colleague from Indiana already has noted, there still is far too much violence—and desensitization to violence—among our nation's youth. And, if what demographers tell us about the future is correct, we all should begin now to brace ourselves for what is to come as this group grows in both size and age.

We can attribute much of the problem of youth crime to the environment—both local and national—in which many of our children are now being reared. For too many children, the things on which previous generations relied to support and teach them simply no longer exist. From the family unit to the local neighborhood to the surrounding community, many children have no where to turn for the support structure necessary to help bring them into adulthood with proper values, commitment to society and, most importantly of all, hope for the future. Without that support, they too often accept a falsely appealing invitation to break their bonds with society