

testimony on a computer disk formatted and suitable for use by the Committee. Further, each witness is required to submit by way of electronic mail, one copy of his or her testimony in a format determined by the Committee and sent to an electronic mail address specified by the Committee.

(c). Each member shall be limited to five (5) minutes in questioning of any witness until such times as all Members who so desire have had an opportunity to question the witness unless the Committee shall decide otherwise.

(d). The Chairman and Vice Chairman or the ranking Majority and Minority Members present at the hearing may each appoint one Committee staff member to question each witness. Such staff member may question the witness only after all Members present have completed their questioning of the witness or at such time as the Chairman and Vice Chairman or the Ranking Majority and Minority Members present may agree.

BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

Rule 5(a). A legislative measure or subject shall be included in the agenda of the next following business meeting of the Committee if a written request by a Member for such information has been filed with the Chairman of the Committee at least one week prior to such meeting. Nothing in this rule shall be construed to limit the authority of the Chairman of the Committee to include legislative measures or subject on the Committee agenda in the absence of such request.

(b). Notice of, and the agenda for, any business meeting of the Committee shall be provided to each Member and made available to the public at least two days prior to such meeting, and no new items may be added after the agenda is published except by the approval of a majority of the Members of the Committee. The Clerk shall promptly notify absent members of any action taken by the Committee on matters not included in the published agenda.

QUORUM

Rule 6(a). Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c), eight (8) Members shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business of the Committee. Consistent with Senate rules, a quorum is presumed to be present unless the absence of a quorum is noted by a Member.

(b). A measure may be ordered reported from the Committee unless an objection is made by a Member, in which case a recorded vote of the Members shall be required.

(c). One Member shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting a hearing or taking testimony on any measure before the Committee.

VOTING

Rule 7(a). A Recorded vote of the Members shall be taken upon the request of any Member.

(b). Proxy voting shall be permitted on all matters, except that proxies may not be counted for the purpose of determining the presence of a quorum. Unless further limited, a proxy shall be exercised only for the date for which it is given and upon the terms published in the agenda for that date.

SWORN TESTIMONY AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Rule 8. Witnesses in Committee hearings may be required to give testimony under oath whenever the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Committee deems it to be necessary. At any hearing to confirm a Presidential nomination, the testimony of the nominee, and at the request of any Member, any other witness, shall be under oath.

Every nominee shall submit a financial statement, on forms to be perfected by the Committee, which shall be sworn to by the nominee as to its completeness and accu-

racy. All such statements shall be made public by the Committee unless the Committee, in executive session, determines that special circumstances require a full or partial exception to this rule. Members of the Committee are urged to make public a complete disclosure of their financial interests on forms to be perfected by the Committee in the manner required in the case of Presidential nominees.

CONFIDENTIAL TESTIMONY

Rule 9. No confidential testimony taken by, or confidential material presented to the Committee or any report of the proceedings of a closed Committee hearing or business meeting shall be made public in whole or in part by way of summary, unless authorized by a majority of the Members of the Committee at a business meeting called for the purpose of making such a determination.

DEFAMATORY STATEMENTS

Rule 10. Any person whose name is mentioned or who is specifically identified in, or who believes that testimony or other evidence presented at, an open Committee hearing tends to defame him or her or otherwise adversely affect his or her reputation may file with the Committee for its consideration and action a sworn statement of facts relevant to such testimony of evidence.

BROADCASTING OR HEARINGS OR MEETINGS

Rule 11. Any meeting or hearing by the Committee which is open to the public may be covered in whole or in part by television, radio broadcast, or still photography. Photographers and reporters using mechanical recording, filming, or broadcasting devices shall position their equipment so as not to interfere with the sight, vision, and hearing of Members and staff on the dais or with the orderly process of the meeting or hearing.

AMENDING THE RULES

Rule 12. These rules may be amended only by a vote of a majority of all the Members of the Committee in a business meeting of the Committee; Provided, that no vote may be taken on any proposed amendment unless such amendment is reproduced in full in the Committee agenda for such meeting at least seven (7) days in advance of such meeting.

.50 CALIBER SNIPER RIFLES

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, last week the Violence Policy Center released a report entitled "Just Like Bird Hunting: The Threat to Civil Aviation From .50 Caliber Sniper Rifles." This report discusses the range and power of the .50 caliber sniper rifle and its ammunition, and highlights the potential threat this weapon poses to airports and aircraft. The idea that terrorists can legally obtain these weapons should shake us up and force us to act immediately.

The .50 caliber sniper rifle is among the most powerful weapons legally available. According to the VPC's report, a .50 caliber sniper rifle is capable of accurately hitting a target over a thousand yards away and the ammunition available for the .50 caliber includes armor-piercing, incendiary and explosive bullets. The report also cites the U.S. Army's manual on urban combat which states that .50 caliber sniper rifles are designed to attack bulk fuel tanks and other high-value targets from a distance, using "their ability to break through all but the thickest shielding material."

One of the most disturbing parts of the report comes from the leading

manufacturer of .50 caliber sniper rifles, Barrett Firearms. According to the VPC report, a brochure advertising the .50 caliber sniper rifle states, "The cost-effectiveness of the Model 82A1 cannot be overemphasized when a round of ammunition purchased for less than 10USD—U.S. Dollars—can be used to destroy or disable a modern jet aircraft."

I believe the easy availability and the increased popularity of the .50 caliber sniper rifle poses a danger to homeland security, as well as airline safety. That's why last year I cosponsored Senator FEINSTEIN's Military Sniper Weapon Regulation Act. This bill would change the way .50 caliber guns are regulated by placing them under the requirements of the National Firearms Act. This would subject these weapons to the same regimen of registration and background checks as other weapons of war, such as machine guns. This is a necessary step to assuring the safety of Americans.

The .50 caliber sniper rifle is among the most powerful, and least regulated, firearms legally available. Tighter regulation is needed. If Senator FEINSTEIN's bill is reintroduced, I urge my colleagues to support it.

IN HONOR OF DR. F. MARIAN BISHOP

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to pay special tribute to a wonderful Utah doctor, F. Marian Bishop, Ph.D., M.S.P.H, who has dedicated her life to the practice of family medicine. Her shining example of service and dedication to the health and well being of people across America is truly extraordinary.

Dr. Bishop was recently named the recipient of the John G. Walsh Award by the American Academy of Family Physicians, AFP, because of her dedicated, long-term commitment to furthering the development of family practice. This award is one of the highest honors presented by the Academy.

In addition, Dr. Bishop has also received the United States Public Health Service Director's Award from the National Health Service Corps in 1990; the 2001 Women Who Make A Difference Award from the International Women's Forum; and in 2000 the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine, STFM, Foundation created the F. Marian Bishop Scholars program to benefit future students.

Dr. Bishop is currently a professor and chairman emeritus of the Department of Family and Preventative Medicine at the University of Utah. The knowledge and enthusiasm she has shared with countless students have been felt by many and have helped provide the impetus for many future family practitioners.

Dr. Bishop is a tireless advocate for the development of family practice and has served in many positions to further promote this wonderful field of medicine. She has assumed leadership positions for the Department of Health and