

through the committee, we can always put it on an appropriations bill. That was the comment made.

Mr. President, that is not the right way to do business on a major fundamental policy change, to tack it on as one line, as was described by Senator HOLLINGS, that we can always just zero out the funding. That is not the way we should be doing business.

This issue should be decided by all 100 Senators on the floor of the Senate. I am not saying the sponsors of the legislation are wrong. But this has to do with billions of dollars in acquisitions, or nonacquisitions, with fundamental changes within the media. The answer was, well, we will put it on an appropriations bill if we cannot get it through committee. The committee will be marking it up on Thursday. I don't know if it will get to the floor. That is up to the majority leader but, more importantly up to my colleagues who may put holds on it.

These are serious issues that impact greatly the United States of America, and they are being decided on appropriations bills, stuck in without even so much as a hearing many times. I will be on the floor many times on this issue because it is a long way from us being able to remove this power from the Appropriations Committee and put it back into the authorizing committees where it belongs.

Finally, some of the proudest and most intense and enjoyable moments of my political career have been as chairman of the Commerce Committee. I believe the Commerce Committee is well suited to address these issues. I believe the Commerce Committee is well suited to authorize major programs and address major policy challenges that confront the Nation, whether it is commerce, science, transportation, information technology, telecommunications, aviation, or all of the other issues. I don't think they should be decided by the Appropriations Committee, as far as policy is concerned. As far as the amounts of money are concerned, that is their job. I pretend to have no ambitions on that issue.

We have to get this out-of-control—and I mean totally out-of-control—situation under control. The situation has been dramatically exacerbated by the fact that we are now looking, in sheer whole numbers, at the highest deficits in the history of this country. As far as a percent of GNP, they are not the highest, but we are talking about at least \$400 billion this year.

We are about to—I am happy to say—pass a Medicare prescription drug program that will cost about \$400 billion or more over a 10-year period. We are looking at Social Security and Medicare. We cannot afford this high cost anymore. I believe the chairman of the Rules Committee will be holding a hearing on this issue. I don't believe it would get through the Rules Committee, but I am very grateful to Senator LOTT that he would allow a hearing on this issue. But I do not intend to

give up on it. We will be discussing it and debating it for a long time.

My constituents—and every American—do not expect us to act in this fashion, which in many cases is totally irresponsible.

I yield the floor.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, the Congressional Budget Act, Rule 21 of the House of Representatives, and Rule 16 of the Senate are all designed to establish a balance between authorizing legislation and appropriations bills that would allow Congress to consider authorizing legislation in a timely and thoughtful manner, and prevent the year-ending appropriations process from degenerating into a venue for policymaking and provincialism.

Yet, according to CBO, over the past several years, the total amount of unauthorized appropriations has ranged between about \$90 billion and \$120 billion annually, and since 1998, the number of earmarks has risen by 150 percent to 10,540, which cost \$44.6 billion in 2002 alone. This trend has made a mockery of our institutional arrangement and beckons us to take action to fix the system.

The bill introduced today is not perfect, but it recognizes the deficiencies in current procedure and represents an earnest and thoughtful attempt to correct them. It would improve Rule 16 to close the loophole that currently insulates Senate appropriations committee-reported bills containing unauthorized appropriations and legislative language from points of order, while preserving the Senate's "defense of germaneness" to amend legislative language in House-passed appropriations bills.

It would also preserve balance between the Houses by allowing any Senator to raise a point of order against unauthorized appropriations included in a House-passed appropriations bill, conference report, or amendment between Houses. Finally, the bill attempts to regulate the practice of using committee or conference report language to earmark funds.

We have a problem; I think that much is clear. If other Members of this chamber do not agree with specific provisions of this bill, I ask that they offer constructive suggestions as to how best to breathe life back into Rule 16 and the institutional balance between authorization and appropriations. In the midst of the War on Terrorism and projected budget deficits, it would be an abrogation of our role as elected officials to allow the status quo to persist.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet on Wednesday, June 18, 2003, at 10 a.m. in room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing on Native American Sacred Places.

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee at 224-2251.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session on Tuesday, June 17, 2003, at 10:00 a.m., to hear testimony on the "Implementation of U.S. Bilateral Free Trade Agreements with Singapore and Chile."

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 17, 2003, at 9:30 a.m., to hold a hearing on "Treaties Related to Aviation and the Environment."

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Tuesday, June 17, 2003, at 10:00 a.m., to hold a business meeting to consider pending Committee business.

Agenda

Legislation: S. 481, the Kurtz Bill; S. 589, Homeland Security Workforce Act; S. 610, NASA Workforce Flexibility Act of 2003; S. 678, Postmasters Equity Act of 2003; S. 908, United States Consensus Council; S. 910, Non-Homeland Security Mission Performance Act of 2003; S. 926, Federal Employee Student Loan Assistance Act; S. 1166, National Security Personnel System Act; and S. 1245, Homeland Security Grant Enhancement Act.

Post Office Naming Bills: S. 508, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1830 South Lake Drive in Lexington, South Carolina, as the "Floyd Spence Post Office Building"; S. 708, a bill to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7401 West 100th Place in Bridgeview, Illinois, as the "Michael J. Healy Post Office Building"; S. 867, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 710 Wicks Lane in Billings, Montana, as the "Ronald Reagan Post Office Building"; S. 1145, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 120 Baldwin Avenue in Paia, Maui, Hawaii, as the "Patsy Takemoto Mink Post Office Building"; S. 1207, a bill to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 120 East Ritchie Avenue in Marceline, Missouri, as the "Walt Disney Post Office Building"; H.R. 825, an act to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7401 West 100th Place in Bridgeview, Illinois, as the "Michael J. Healy Post Office Building"; H.R. 917, an act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1830 South

Lake Drive in Lexington, South Carolina, as the "Floyd Spence Post Office Building"; H.R. 925, an act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1859 South Ashland Avenue in Chicago, Illinois, as the "Cesar Chavez Post Office"; H.R. 981, an act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 141 Erie Street in Linesville, Pennsylvania, as the "James R. Merry Post Office"; H.R. 985, an act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 111 West Washington Street in Bowling Green, Ohio, as the "Delbert L. Latta Post Office Building"; H.R. 1055, an act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1901 West Evans Street in Florence, South Carolina, as the "Dr. Roswell N. Beck Post Office Building"; H.R. 1368, an act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7554 Pacific Avenue in Stockton, California, as the "Norman D. Shumway Post Office Building"; H.R. 1465, an act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4832 East Highway 27 in Iron Station, North Carolina, as the "General Charles Gabriel Post Office"; H.R. 1596, an act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2318 Woodson Road in St. Louis, Missouri, as the "Timothy Michael Gaffney Post Office Building"; H.R. 1609, an act to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 West Boston Street in Brookfield, Missouri, as the "Admiral Donald Davis Post Office Building"; H.R. 1740, an act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1502 East Kiest Boulevard in Dallas, Texas, as the "Dr. Caesar A.W. Clark, Sr. Post Office Building"; and H.R. 2030, an act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 120 Baldwin Avenue in Paia, Maui, Hawaii, as the "Patsy Takemoto Mink Post Office Building."

Nominations: Michael J. Garcia to be Assistant Secretary for Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security; C. Steward Verdery, Jr. to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security; Susanne Marshall to be Chairman of the Merit Systems Protection Board; Neil McPhie to be a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board; Terrence A. Duffy to be a Member of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board; Peter Eide to be General Counsel for the Federal Labor Relations Authority; Albert Casey to be a Governor for the United States Postal Service; and James C. Miller, III to be a Governor for the United States Postal Service.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on "The FTC Study on Barriers to Entry in the Pharmaceutical

Marketplace," on Tuesday, June 17, 2003, at 10:00 a.m., in the Dirksen Senate Office Building Room 226.

Witness List

Panel 1: The Honorable Timothy J. Muris, Esq., Chairman, Federal Trade Commission, Washington, DC; Mr. Dan Troy, Esq., Chief Counsel for Food and Drugs, Food and Drug Administration, Rockville, MD; Mr. Sheldon T. Bradshaw, Esq., Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Counsel, Department of Justice, Washington, DC.

Panel 2: The Honorable Howard M. Metzenbaum, Esq.; Former U.S. Senator, [D-OH], Chairman, Consumer Federation of America, Washington, DC; Ms. Kathleen Jaeger, Esq., President and CEO, Generic Pharmaceutical Association, Washington, DC; Mr. Bruce Kuhlik, Esq., General Counsel, Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, Washington, DC.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on "The Dark Side of a Bright Idea: Could Personal and National Security Risks Compromise the Potential of Peer-to-Peer Fine-Sharing Networks?" on Tuesday, June 17, 2003, at 2:00 p.m., in the Dirksen Senate Office Building Room 226.

Tentative Witness List

Panel I: The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, U.S. Senator, [D-CA]; The Honorable Tom M. Davis, III, U.S. Representative, [D-VA, 11th District], Chairman, House Committee on Government Reform.

Panel II: Nathaniel S. Good, Graduate Student, School of Information Science, University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, CA; Aaron Krekelberg, Lead Web Developer, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN; Randy Saaf, MediaDefender, Inc., Los Angeles, CA; Alan Morris, Executive Vice President, Sharman Networks, Ltd., London, England; Chris Murray, Esq., Legislative Counsel, Consumers Union, Washington, DC.

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

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. BENNETT. 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, June 17, 2003, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on Senate Resolution 151, requiring public disclosure of notices of objections, holds, to proceedings to motions or measures in the Senate.

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the

Senate on Tuesday, June 17, 2003, for a hearing to consider the nominations of Mr. Alan G. Lance, Sr., and Mr. Lawrence B. Hagel, to be Judges, U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans' Claims. The hearing will take place in room 418 of the Russell Senate Office Building at 2:30 p.m.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 17, 2003, at 2:30 p.m. to hold an open confirmation hearing on Frank Libutti to be Under Secretary for Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

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

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet on June 17, 2003, from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. in Dirksen 628 for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PRODUCT LIABILITY

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs and Product Liability be authorized to meet on Tuesday, June 17, 2003, from 2:30 pm on Reauthorization of the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISHERIES, WILDLIFE, AND WATER

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water be authorized to meet on Tuesday, June 17 at 9:30 am to conduct a hearing to receive testimony on S. 525, the National Aquatic Invasive Species Act at 2003, a bill to reauthorize the nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act. The hearing will take place in SD 406, Hearing Room.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BREUX. Mr. President, at this time, I ask unanimous consent that the following fellows and interns on the Finance Committee be granted floor privileges for the duration of the debate on the Prescription Drug Medicare Improvement Act of 2003: Patrick Straub, Nadija Porobic, Kathy Laubach, Autumn Engellant, Constantine Tujios.

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

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to allow floor privileges for Daniel Crimmins, a Robert