

Earlier today, the Carter-Baker Commission on Federal Election Reform released its recommendations for improving the electoral process. While many of the Commission's recommendations are worthy of consideration, its report recommends the implementation of a national voter identification requirement, despite acknowledging that there is "no evidence of extensive fraud in U.S. elections or of multiple voting."

This past weekend, Afghanistan held its second successful national election, and we have seen successes in Iraq's elections as well. If these nascent democracies can commit themselves to bringing any and all citizens to the polls, surely we can do the same.

Many of us both here in Washington and around the country have been asking questions over the past three weeks about our Nation's priorities and our commitment to helping our country's most vulnerable citizens. But a major priority should be ensuring that these citizens can exercise the most fundamental right in a democracy—the right to vote.

The resolution I am submitting today, along with Senator DODD and joined by Senators REID, CORZINE, CLINTON, HARKIN, FEINGOLD, AKAKA, DORGAN, KENNEDY, KERRY, MIKULSKI, LAUTENBERG and others, expresses the Senate's strong disapproval of photo identification requirements for voting. The resolution also urges the Department of Justice to challenge any State law that limits a citizen's ability to vote based on discriminatory photo identification requirements and urges the rejection of any national photo identification requirements for voting.

I am honored that Representative JOHN LEWIS, a civil rights icon who put his life on the line to fight for the right to vote, will be introducing the same resolution in the House later this week.

I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1736. Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Ms. SNOWE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1737. Mr. ALLARD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, supra.

SA 1738. Mr. ALLARD (for himself, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. BURNS, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. HAGEL) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, supra.

SA 1739. Mr. ALLARD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1740. Mrs. MURRAY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2744, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1741. Mr. DEWINE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1742. Mr. ROBERTS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, supra.

SA 1743. Mr. LUGAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1744. Mrs. MURRAY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2744, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1745. Mrs. MURRAY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2744, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1746. Mrs. MURRAY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2744, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1747. Mr. DURBIN (for Mr. REID) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, supra.

SA 1748. Mr. DURBIN (for Mr. INOUE (for himself, Mr. AKAKA, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, supra.

SA 1749. Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. BINGAMAN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, supra.

SA 1750. Mr. BENNETT proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, supra.

SA 1751. Mr. BENNETT proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, supra.

SA 1752. Mr. BENNETT proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, supra.

SA 1753. Mr. ENSIGN (for himself, Mr. BYRD, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. LOTT, Mr. DEMINT, Ms. LANDRIEU, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. CORZINE) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, supra.

SA 1754. Mr. SALAZAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1755. Mr. SALAZAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1756. Mrs. BOXER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2744, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1757. Mr. LUGAR (for himself and Mr. HARKIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1758. Mr. LUGAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1759. Mr. LUGAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1760. Mr. DURBIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1761. Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. BAYH, and Mr. VOINOVICH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2744, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1762. Ms. STABENOW submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2744, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1763. Mr. TALENT (for himself and Mr. PRYOR) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, supra.

SA 1764. Mr. CRAIG (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted an amendment in-

tended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1765. Mr. KOHL (for Mr. HARKIN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, supra.

SA 1766. Mr. KOHL (for Mr. PRYOR) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, supra.

SA 1767. Mr. NELSON of Nebraska submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1768. Mr. SPECTER (for himself and Mr. LEAHY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1769. Mr. DAYTON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1736. Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Ms. SNOWE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 128, line 19, strike "\$12,400,000" and insert "\$17,400,000".

On page 128, line 24, strike "\$1,000,000" and insert "\$6,000,000".

On page 129, line 2, insert before the period at the end the following: "Provided further, That \$3,000,000 shall be provided to each third round empowerment zone".

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, each amount provided by this Act is reduced by the pro rata percentage required to reduce the total amount provided by this Act by \$5,000,000.

SA 1737. Mr. ALLARD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 93, line 9, before the period at the end insert the following: "Provided further, That the Secretary, through the Agricultural Research Service, or successor, is authorized to lease approximately 40 acres of land at the Central Plains Experiment Station, Nunn, Colorado, to the Board of Governors of the Colorado State University System, for its Shortgrass Steppe Biological Field Station, on such terms and conditions as the Secretary deems in the public interest: *Provided further*, That the Secretary understands that it is the intent of the University to construct research and educational buildings on the subject acreage and to conduct agricultural research and educational activities in these buildings: *Provided further*, That as consideration for a lease, the Secretary may accept the benefits of mutual cooperative research to be conducted by the Colorado State University and the Government at the Shortgrass Steppe Biological Field Station: *Provided further*, That the term of any lease shall be for no more than 20 years, but a lease may be renewed at the

option of the Secretary on such terms and conditions as the Secretary deems in the public interest”.

SA 1738. Mr. ALLARD (for himself, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. BURNS, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. HAGEL) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. It is the sense of the Senate that the United States Government should not permit the importation into the United States of beef from Japan until the Government of Japan takes appropriate actions to permit the importation into Japan of beef from the United States.

SA 1739. Mr. ALLARD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SECTION _____. HUMANE METHODS.

Section 2 of Public Law 85-765 (commonly known as the “Humane Methods of Slaughter Act of 1958”) (7 U.S.C. 1902) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (a) and (b) as paragraphs (1) and (3) respectively, and indenting accordingly;

(2) in the first sentence, by striking “No method” and inserting the following:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—No method”;

(3) in the second sentence, by striking “Either of the following two” and inserting the following:

“(b) PARTICULAR METHODS.—The following methods”;

(4) in paragraph (1) (as redesignated by paragraph (1))—

(A) by striking “in the case” and inserting “In the case”;

(B) by inserting “or ratites” after “other livestock”;

(C) by striking “animals” and inserting “livestock or ratites”;

(D) by striking “; or” at the end and inserting a period;

(5) by inserting after paragraph (1) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) the following:

“(2) In the case of poultry and rabbits, shackling prior to being rendered insensible to pain is permissible if the handling and shackling is performed in a humane manner.”; and

(6) in paragraph (3) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)), by striking “anemia” and inserting “ischemia”.

SA 1740. Mrs. MURRAY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 143, line 13, strike the period and insert the following: “: *Provided further*, that of the amounts appropriated under this heading for salaries and expenses, \$15,000,000, shall be transferred from the Office of the

Commissioner to the Office of Over-the-Counter Drug Evaluation.”.

SA 1741. Mr. DEWINE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the Senate—

(A) encourages expanded efforts to alleviate hunger throughout developing countries; and

(B) pledges to continue to support international hunger relief efforts;

(2) the United States Government should use financial and diplomatic resources to work with other donors to ensure that food aid programs receive all necessary funding and supplies; and

(3) food aid should be provided in conjunction with measures to alleviate hunger, malnutrition, and poverty.

SA 1742. Mr. ROBERTS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. Section 508(a)(4)(B) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(a)(4)(B)) is amended by inserting “or similar commodities” after “the commodity”.

SA 1743. Mr. LUGAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 94, line 9, before the semicolon, insert the following: “, of which not less than \$1,500,000 shall be used for special grants for agricultural research related to hardwood scanning”.

SA 1744. Mrs. MURRAY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 143, line 13, strike the period and insert the following: “: *Provided further*, that of the amounts appropriated under this heading for salaries and expenses, \$10,000,000, shall be transferred from the Office of the Commissioner to the Office of Drug Safety for purposes of postmarket surveillance activities.”.

SA 1745. Mrs. MURRAY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by

her to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 143, line 13, strike the period and insert the following: “: *Provided further*, that the amounts appropriated under this heading for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Commissioner shall be reduced by \$5,000,000.”.

SA 1746. Mrs. MURRAY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 143, after line 19, insert the following:

In addition, notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, none of the amounts appropriated under this title shall be expended to initiate or conduct a rulemaking process relating to the over-the-counter application for the drug Plan B. The preceding sentence shall not apply to the 60-day public comment period initiated on August 26, 2005, relating to such drug.

SA 1747. Mr. DURBIN (for Mr. REID) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. (a) Section 8c(5) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 608c(5)), reenacted with amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(M) MINIMUM MILK PRICES FOR HANDLERS.—

“(i) APPLICATION OF MINIMUM PRICE REQUIREMENTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a milk handler described in clause (ii) shall be subject to all of the minimum and uniform price requirements of a Federal milk marketing order issued pursuant to this section applicable to the county in which the plant of the handler is located, at Federal order class prices, if the handler has packaged fluid milk product route dispositions, or sales of packaged fluid milk products to other plants, in a marketing area located in a State that requires handlers to pay minimum prices for raw milk purchases.

“(ii) COVERED MILK HANDLERS.—Except as provided in clause (iv), clause (i) applies to a handler of Class I milk products (including a producer-handler or producer operating as a handler) that—

“(I) operates a plant that is located within the boundaries of a Federal order milk marketing area (as those boundaries are in effect on the date of enactment of this subparagraph);

“(II) has packaged fluid milk product route dispositions, or sales of packaged fluid milk products to other plants, in a marketing area located in a State that requires handlers to pay minimum prices for raw milk purchases; and

“(III) is not otherwise obligated by a Federal milk marketing order, or a regulated

milk pricing plan operated by a State, to pay minimum class prices for the raw milk that is used for the milk dispositions or sales.

“(iii) OBLIGATION TO PAY MINIMUM CLASS PRICES.—For the purpose of clause (ii)(III), the Secretary may not consider a handler of Class I milk products to be obligated by a Federal milk marketing order to pay minimum class prices for raw milk unless the handler operates the plant as a fully regulated fluid milk distributing plant under a Federal milk marketing order.

“(iv) CERTAIN HANDLERS EXEMPTED.—Clause (i) does not apply to—

“(I) a handler (otherwise described in clause (ii)) that operates a nonpool plant (as defined in section 1000.8(e) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of enactment of this subparagraph));

“(II) a producer-handler (otherwise described in clause (ii)) for any month during which the producer-handler has route dispositions, and sales to other plants, of packaged fluid milk products equaling less than 3,000,000 pounds of milk; or

“(III) a handler (otherwise described in clause (ii)) for any month during which—

“(aa) less than 25 percent of the total quantity of fluid milk products physically received at the plant of the handler (excluding concentrated milk received from another plant by agreement for other than Class I use) is disposed of as route disposition or is transferred in the form of packaged fluid milk products to other plants; or

“(bb) less than 25 percent in aggregate of the route disposition or transfers are in a marketing area or areas located in 1 or more States that require handlers to pay minimum prices for raw milk purchases.

“(N) EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN MILK HANDLERS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, no handler with distribution of Class I milk products in the Arizona-Las Vegas marketing area (Order No. 131) shall be exempt during any month from any minimum milk price requirement established by the Secretary under this subsection if the total distribution of Class I products during the preceding month of any such handler's own farm production that exceeds 3,000,000 pounds.”.

(b) Section 8c(11) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 608c(11)), reenacted with amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C), by striking the last sentence; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) EXCLUSION OF NEVADA FROM FEDERAL MILK MARKETING ORDERS.—In the case of milk and its products, no county or other political subdivision located in the State of Nevada shall be within a marketing area covered by any order issued under this section.”.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section or the amendments made by this section, a milk handler (including a producer-handler or producer operating as a handler) that is subject to regulation under this section or an amendment made by this section shall comply with any requirement under section 1000.27 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation) relating to responsibility of handlers for records or facilities.

(d)(1) This section and the amendments made by this section take effect on the first day of the first month beginning more than 15 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) To accomplish the expedited implementation schedule for the amendment made by subsection (a), effective on the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall ensure that the pool distributing plant provisions of each Federal milk marketing order issued under section

8c(5)(B) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 608c(5)(B)), reenacted with amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement of 1937, provides that a handler described in section 8c(5)(M) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, reenacted with amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement of 1937 (as added by subsection (a)), will be fully regulated by the order in which the distributing plant of the handler is located.

(3) Implementation of this section and the amendments made by this section shall not be subject to a referendum under section 8c(19) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 608c(19)), reenacted with amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937.

SA 1748. Mr. DURBIN (for Mr. INOUE (for himself, Mr. AKAKA, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 101, line 10, before the period at the end insert the following: “: *Provided further*, That none of the funds may be used to demolish or dismantle the Hawaii Fruit Fly Production Facility in Waimanalo, Hawaii”.

SA 1749. Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. KENNEDY and Mr. BINGAMAN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7. (a) Subject to subsection (b), none of the funds made available in this Act may be used to—

(1) grant a waiver of a financial conflict of interest requirement pursuant to section 505(n)(4) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355(n)(4)) for any voting member of an advisory committee or panel of the Food and Drug Administration; or

(2) make a certification under section 208(b)(3) of title 18, United States Code, for any such voting member.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to a waiver or certification if—

(1) not later than 15 days prior to a meeting of an advisory committee or panel to which such waiver or certification applies, the Secretary of Health and Human Services discloses on the Internet website of the Food and Drug Administration—

(A) the nature of the conflict of interest at issue; and

(B) the nature and basis of such waiver or certification (other than information exempted from disclosure under section 552 of title 5, United States Code (popularly known as the Freedom of Information Act)); or

(2) in the case of a conflict of interest that becomes known to the Secretary less than 15 days prior to a meeting to which such waiver or certification applies, the Secretary shall make such public disclosure as soon as possible thereafter, but in no event later than the date of such meeting.

(c) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to make a new appointment to an advisory committee or panel of the Food and Drug Administration unless the Commissioner of Food and Drugs submits a confidential report to the Inspector General

of the Department of Health and Human Services of the efforts made to identify qualified persons for such appointment with minimal or no potential conflicts of interest.

SA 1750. Mr. BENNETT proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 93, line 9 at the end of the sentence insert the following:

“*Provided further*, That the Agricultural Research Service may convey all rights and title of the United States, to a parcel of land comprising 19 acres, more or less, located in Section 2, Township 18 North, Range 14 East in Oktibbeha County, Mississippi, originally conveyed by the Board of Trustees of the Institution of Higher Learning of the State of Mississippi, and described in instruments recorded in Deed Book 306 at pages 553-554, Deed Book 319 at page 219, and Deed Book 33 at page 115, of the public land records of Oktibbeha County, Mississippi, including facilities, and fixed equipment, to the Mississippi State University, Starkville, Mississippi, in their “as is” condition, when vacated by the Agricultural Research Service.”

SA 1751. Mr. BENNETT proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 173 after line 24, insert the following new paragraphs:

“SEC. . (a) Hereafter, none of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act may be used to publish, disseminate, or distribute Agriculture Information Bulletin Number 787.

(b) Of the funds provided to the Economic Research Service, the Secretary of Agriculture shall enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences to conduct a comprehensive report on the economic development and current status of the sheep industry in the United States.”

SA 1752. Mr. BENNETT proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 173 after line 24 insert the following:

“SEC. . The Secretary of Agriculture may establish a demonstration intermediate re-lending program for the construction and rehabilitation of housing for the Choctaw Nation: *Provided*, That the interest rate for direct loans shall be 1 percent: *Provided further*, That no later than one year after the establishment of this program the Secretary shall provide the Committees on Appropriations with a report providing information on the program structure, management, and general demographic information on the loan recipients.”

SA 1753. Mr. ENSIGN (for himself, Mr. BYRD, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. LOTT, Mr. DEMINT, Ms. LANDRIEU, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. CORZINE) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration,

and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, add the following:

SEC. . None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to pay the salaries or expenses of personnel to inspect horses under section 3 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 603) or under the guidelines issued under section 903 the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 1901 note; Public Law 104-127).

SA 1754. Mr. SALAZAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Secretary of Energy, shall provide to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report that describes the impact of increased prices of gas, natural gas, and diesel on agricultural producers, ranchers, and rural communities.

SA 1755. Mr. SALAZAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. The Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this section as the "Secretary") shall prepare a report for submission by the President to Congress, along with the fiscal year 2007 budget request under section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, that—

(1) identifies measures to address bark beetle infestation and the impacts of bark beetle infestation as the first priority for assistance under the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6501 et seq.);

(2) describes activities that will be conducted by the Secretary to address bark beetle infestations and the impacts of bark beetle infestations;

(3) describes the financial and technical resources that will be dedicated by the Secretary to measures to address bark beetle infestations and the impacts of the infestations; and

(4) describes the manner in which the Secretary will coordinate with the Secretary of the Interior and State and local governments in conducting the activities under paragraph (2).

SA 1756. Mrs. BOXER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. Notwithstanding the proclamation by the President dated September 8, 2005, or any other provision of law, the provisions of subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code (and the provisions of all other related Acts to the extent they depend upon a determination by the Secretary of Labor under section 3142 of such title, whether or not the President has the authority to suspend the operation of such provisions), shall apply to all contracts to which such provisions would otherwise apply that are entered into on or after the date of enactment of this Act, to be performed in the counties affected by Hurricane Katrina and described in such proclamation.

SA 1757. Mr. LUGAR (for himself and Mr. HARKIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 85, line 15, strike "\$128,072,000" and insert "\$126,072,000".

On page 167, line 20, strike "\$12,000,000" and insert "\$14,000,000".

SA 1758. Mr. LUGAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 167, line 20, strike "\$12,000,000" and insert "\$14,000,000".

SA 1759. Mr. LUGAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 94, line 9, before the semicolon, insert the following: "; of which not less than \$1,500,000 shall be used for special grants for agricultural research related to hardwood scanning".

On page 85, line 15, strike "\$128,072,000" and insert "\$126,572,000".

SA 1760. Mr. DURBIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. (a)(1) Section 101 of division B of Public Law 108-324 (118 Stat. 1232) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)(2)—

(i) by striking "the 2003, 2004, or 2005 crop (as elected by a producer), but limited to only one of the crop years listed" and inserting "the 2003 or 2004 crop (as elected by a producer) and the 2005 crop"; and

(ii) by striking "qualifying crop losses" and all that follows through "in this paragraph."; and

(B) in subsection (c)(1), by striking "2004" and inserting "2005".

(2) The amounts made available by the transfer of funds in or pursuant to the amendments made by paragraph (1) are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 402 of H. Con. Res. 95 (109th Congress).

(b)(1) Effective beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall use funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to carry out the 2002 Livestock Compensation Program announced by the Secretary on October 10, 2002 (67 Fed. Reg. 63070) for 2005 losses.

(2) In carrying out the Program, the Secretary shall—

(A) provide assistance to any applicant that—

(i) conducts a livestock operation that is physically located in a disaster county, including any applicant conducting a livestock operation with eligible livestock, as that term is used in carrying out the livestock assistance program under section 101(b) of division B of Public Law 108-324 (118 Stat. 1232); and

(ii) meets all other eligibility requirements established by the Secretary for the Program; and

(B) provide assistance to any applicant that—

(i) produces an animal described in section 10806(a)(1) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (21 U.S.C. 321d(a)(1)); and

(ii) meets all other eligibility requirements established by the Secretary for the Program.

SA 1761. Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. BAYH, and Mr. VOINOVICH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 100, line 9, before the colon insert the following: "; of which \$10,440,000 shall be used for the eradication of the emerald ash borer in the States of Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana".

SA 1762. Ms. STABENOW submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. Section 10204(a) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8204(a)) is amended by inserting "per year" after "\$75,000".

SA 1763. Mr. TALENT (for himself and Mr. PRYOR) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to close or relocate a county or local Farm Service Agency office unless or until the Secretary of Agriculture has determined the cost effectiveness and enhancement of program delivery of the closure or relocation, and report to the House and Senate Committees on Agriculture and Appropriations.

SA 1764. Mr. CRAIG (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 85, line 15, strike "\$128,072,000" and insert "\$116,072,000".

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. In addition to other amounts made available by this Act, \$12,000,000 shall be made available to the Secretary of Agriculture for the provision of specialty crop block grants under section 101 of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-465; 7 U.S.C. 1621 note), of which not more than 5 percent shall be available for administrative expenses.

SA 1765. Mr. KOHL (for Mr. HARKIN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. 90 days before initiating any structural change in a mission area of the Department, the Secretary of Agriculture shall provide notice of the change to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

SA 1766. Mr. KOHL (for Mr. PRYOR) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 154, line 10, insert ", Cleburne County, Arkansas," after "Montana".

SA 1767. Mr. NELSON of Nebraska submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. (a) Not later than 14 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Trade Commission shall initiate an inquiry into the retail prices of natural gas and gasoline to determine if the prices of natural gas and gasoline (both before and after Hurricane Katrina), including the price of gasoline containing ethanol, is being arti-

ficially manipulated by reducing refinery capacity, by speculation in oil market, or by any other form of manipulation.

(b) Not later than 14 days after the initiation of the inquiry required under subsection (a), the Federal Trade Commission shall report to Congress the results of the inquiry.

(c) Not later than 14 days after issuing the report required under subsection (b), the Federal Trade Commission shall hold a public hearing for the purpose of presenting the results of the inquiry.

(d)(1) If the Federal Trade Commission determines that the increase in natural gas and gasoline prices, including the price of gasoline containing ethanol, is a result of market manipulation, the Federal Trade Commission shall, in cooperation with the attorney general of any affected State, take appropriate action.

(2) If the Federal Trade Commission determines that the increase in natural gas and gasoline prices, including the price of gasoline containing ethanol, is not the result of market manipulation, the Federal Trade Commission shall notify the Secretary of Energy. The Secretary shall, not later than 14 days after receiving such notification, decide if expanded use of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve should be implemented to assure adequate supplies of gasoline.

(e) This section shall cease to apply on—

(1) the date the Federal Trade Commission makes its determination described in subsection (d); or

(2) if applicable, the date of the decision of the Secretary of Energy under paragraph (2) of such subsection.

SA 1768. Mr. SPECTER (for himself and Mr. LEAHY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. Section 1502 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7982) is amended in subsections (f) and (g)(1) by striking "2005" each place it appears and inserting "2007".

SA 1769. Mr. DAYTON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2744, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 173, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including regulations), none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to carry out section 508A(c)(1)(B)(i) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508A(c)) in a manner that applies the term "crop year" in a manner that fails to take into account the varying climates of different regions of the United States.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Ms. SNOWE, Mr. President, the Chair wishes to inform Members that the

Committee on Small Business & Entrepreneurship will hold a public hearing entitled, "The Impact of Hurricane Katrina on Small Businesses" on Thursday, September 22, 2005, at 10 a.m., in room 428A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. BENNETT, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry be authorized to conduct a business meeting during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 20, 2005 at 10 a.m. in SR-328A, Russell Senate Office Building. The purpose of this meeting will be to markup S. 1582, a bill to reauthorize the U.S. Grain Standards Act.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. BENNETT, 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 September 20, 2005, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Mr. Emil Henry Jr., of New York, to be Assistant Secretary for Financial Institutions, Department of the Treasury; Ms. Scottie Theresa Neese, of Oklahoma, to be Director of the United States Mint; and Mr. Patrick O'Brien, of Minnesota, to be Assistant Secretary for Terrorist Financing, Department of the Treasury.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BENNETT, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 20 at 10 a.m. The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony regarding the current state of climate change scientific research and the economics of strategies to manage climate change. Issues to be discussed include: the relationship between energy consumption and climate change, and the potential effects on the U.S. economy of climate change and strategies to control greenhouse gas emissions.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. BENNETT, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations' Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Peace Corps, and Narcotics Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 20, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. to hold a hearing on China's Role in Latin America.