

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to hold a business meeting on October 18, 2005 at 2:30 p.m., to consider a bill, S. —, to amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users, to make technical corrections.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet on October 18, 2005 at 2:35 p.m., to conduct a legislative hearing on S. 1772, the Gas Petroleum Refiner Improvement and Community Empowerment Act.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session on Tuesday, October 18, 2005, at 10 a.m., in 215 Dirksen Senate Office Building, to consider the nomination of James S. Halpern, to be Judge of the United States Tax Court, The Judiciary; Susan C. Schwab, to be Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the Rank of Ambassador, executive Office of the President; Karen K. Bhatia, to be Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, Executive Office of the President; Franklin L. Lavin, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade, Department of Commerce, and, Clay Lowery, to be Deputy Under Secretary of the Treasury, U.S. Department of Treasury.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 18, 2005, at 9:30 a.m., to hold a hearing on Prospects for United Nations Reform.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 18, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. in SD-430.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on "Comprehensive Immigration Reform II" on Tuesday, October 18, 2005, at 9:30 a.m. in the

Dirksen Senate Office Building Room 226.

Witness List

Panel I: The Honorable Michael Chertoff, Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, Washington, DC; The Honorable Elaine Chao, Secretary of the Department of Labor, Washington, DC.

Panel II: Frank Sharry, Executive Director, National Immigration Forum, Washington, DC; Mark Krikorian, Executive Director, Center for Immigration Studies, Washington, DC; Douglas S. Massey, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on "Executive Nominations" on Tuesday, October 18, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. in the Dirksen Senate Office Building Room 226.

Witness List

Panel I: Members of Congress.

Panel II: James O'Gara to be Deputy Director for Supply Reduction, Office of National Drug Control Policy; Julie Myers to be Assistant Secretary for Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security; Emilio Gonzales to be Director of the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, October 18, 2005, to markup the following nominations:

1. William F. Tuerk, Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, VA.
2. Robert J. Henke, Assistant Secretary for Management, VA.
3. John M. Molino, Assistant Secretary of Policy and Planning, VA.
4. Lisette M. Mondello, Assistant Secretary of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, VA.
5. George J. Opfer, Inspector General, VA.

The markup will take place in the Reception Room off the Senate Floor, the Capitol following the first rollcall vote of the Senate after 1 p.m.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Kristen Averyt, a fellow in my office, be given the privilege of the floor during today's session.

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

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. THUNE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS OF RED RIBBON WEEK

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 277 which was submitted earlier today.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 277) supporting the goals of Red Ribbon Week.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. I rise today in support of a resolution that commemorates the annual "Red Ribbon Week." I am pleased to have Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. TALENT, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. DOMINICI, and Mr. CHAMBLISS join me in introducing this resolution. The purpose of Red Ribbon Week is to educate and advocate a commitment to a drug-free lifestyle. Red Ribbon Week also remembers the contribution of one soldier in the war against drugs, Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena. I am honored to be here to seek the Senate's recognition and support again for the annual Red Ribbon Week Campaign.

In Alaska, Red Ribbon Week will be a statewide celebration involving thousands of school children and those people and organizations who care about the welfare of our children and communities. On October 24, the city of Anchorage will celebrate with a series of Red Ribbon events coordinated with the Anchorage School District, the Alaska National Guard, the Alaska State Troopers, the mayor of Anchorage, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Alaska, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the local U.S. Attorney's Office, many PTA groups and many others throughout the community.

Throughout the week, Alaskans will be encouraged to show gratitude for everyone who remains drug-free and pledges to live a safe and drug-free life and remember those we have lost in the fight against drugs.

The Red Ribbon Week Campaign was started in 1988 by the Federation of Parents. It was organized as an 8-day event and was then chaired by then-President and Mrs. Reagan. The event began as a tribute to DEA Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena who was kidnapped, tortured, and murdered by drug traffickers in 1985. Those who advocate that drug addiction is a

victimless crime should talk to the widow and children of Agent Camarena. His sons, Erik and Enrique, Jr. continue to honor their father and work to help children and families who are victims of drug-related crimes.

The Red Ribbon that we wear during Red Ribbon Week is a symbol of zero tolerance for illegal drug use and a commitment to drug abuse prevention. The ribbon will be worn or displayed in the upcoming Red Ribbon Week by millions of Americans in an act of unity and remembrance of Agent "Kiki" Camarena.

The distribution and abuse of illicit drugs is not a private matter. Drugs harm children. Drugs harm our communities. Illegal drugs only facilitate dependency, addiction and the breakdown of families.

We must encourage our children to make better choices by making the same commitment in our own lives. We as parents and leaders must set good examples.

Our children are growing up in a culture that continues to send confusing and mixed signals. Therefore, our children are confronting difficult choices on a continuous basis. Celebrities in the media, movies, television, and music often encourage them to make the wrong decisions. The Red Ribbon Campaign is one effort to help our children make the right decisions.

I thank my colleagues for joining me in support of this resolution to help illustrate the Senate's commitment in ensuring that our children know the benefits of a drug-free lifestyle and encouraging all people to live such a lifestyle.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President. I am pleased to join my colleague Senator MURKOWSKI in sponsoring a resolution commemorating the annual "Red Ribbon Week." Celebrated October 23-31, Red Ribbon Week encourages individuals, families, and communities to take a stand against alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drug use. I hope the rest of the Senate will join in supporting this resolution and support this very important campaign.

The tradition of Red Ribbon Week now in its twentieth year of wearing and displaying red ribbons started following the assassination of U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena. In an effort to honor his memory and unite in the battle against drug crime and abuse, friends, neighbors, and students from his home town began wearing red ribbons. Shortly thereafter, the National Family Partnership took the celebration nationwide. Since then, the Red Ribbon campaign has reached millions of children, families, and communities across the country, spreading the message about the destructive effects of drugs.

In my State of Iowa, this year's theme for Red Ribbon Week is "Take a Stand—Be Drug Free." Schools and community groups across the State are organizing a variety of activities in-

cluding pledges, contests, workshops, rallies, theatrical and musical performances, and other family and educational events all designed to educate our children on the negative effects of drugs and promote a drug-free environment.

Research tells us that the longer a child stays drug-free the less likely they will become addicted or even try illegal drugs. This is why it is so important to maintain a coherent anti-drug message that begins early in adolescence and continues throughout the growing years. Such an effort must involve parents, communities, and young people. Red Ribbon Week provides each of us the opportunity to take a stand by helping our children make the right decisions when it comes to drugs.

In light of the growing epidemic of methamphetamine abuse throughout the Nation and especially in State of Iowa, this year's Red Ribbon Week holds greater importance. I urge colleagues to join us in passing this resolution to demonstrate our commitment to raising awareness about drugs and encourage everyone to make healthy choices.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 277) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 277

Whereas the Governors and Attorneys General of the States, the National Family Partnership, Parent Teacher Associations, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, and more than 100 other organizations throughout the United States annually cosponsor Red Ribbon Week during the week of October 23 through October 31;

Whereas a purpose of the Red Ribbon Campaign is to commemorate the service of Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, a Drug Enforcement Administration special agent who died in the line of duty in 1985 while engaged in the battle against illicit drugs;

Whereas the Red Ribbon Campaign is nationally recognized and is in its twentieth year of celebration, helping to preserve Special Agent Camarena's memory and further the cause for which he gave his life;

Whereas the objective of Red Ribbon Week is to promote drug-free communities through drug prevention efforts, education, parental involvement, and community wide support;

Whereas drug and alcohol abuse contributes to domestic violence and sexual assaults, and places the lives of children at risk;

Whereas drug abuse is one of the major challenges our Nation faces in securing a safe and healthy future for our families and children;

Whereas emerging drug threats, such as the growing epidemic of methamphetamine abuse, jeopardize the progress made against illegal drug abuse; and

Whereas parents, youth, schools, businesses, law enforcement agencies, religious institutions, service organizations, senior citizens, medical and military personnel, sports teams, and individuals throughout the

United States demonstrate their commitment to drug-free, healthy lifestyles by wearing and displaying red ribbons during this week long celebration: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals of Red Ribbon Week;

(2) encourages children and teens to choose to live a drug-free life; and

(3) encourages all people of the United States to promote drug-free communities and to participate in drug prevention activities to show support for healthy, productive, drug-free lifestyles.

NATIONAL CHILDHOOD LEAD
POISONING PREVENTION WEEK

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 278 which was submitted earlier today.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 278) designating the week of October 23, 2005, through October 29, 2005, as National Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD without intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 278) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 278

Whereas lead poisoning is a leading environmental health hazard to children in the United States;

Whereas according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 310,000 preschool children in the United States have harmful levels of lead in their blood;

Whereas lead poisoning may cause serious, long-term harm to children, including reduced intelligence and attention span, behavior problems, learning disabilities, and impaired growth;

Whereas children from low-income families are significantly more likely to be poisoned by lead than are children from high-income families;

Whereas children may be poisoned by lead in water, soil, or consumable products;

Whereas children most often are poisoned in their homes through exposure to lead particles when lead-based paint deteriorates or is disturbed during home renovation and repainting; and

Whereas lead poisoning crosses all barriers of race, income, and geography: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of October 23, 2005, through October 29, 2005, as "National Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week"; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States to observe the week with appropriate programs and activities.