

under the same conditions as Federal agencies and shall, for purposes of the frank, be considered a commission of Congress as described in section 3215 of title 39, United States Code.

(g) PRINTING.—For purposes of costs relating to printing and binding, including the cost of personnel detailed from the Government Printing Office, the Office shall be deemed to be a committee of the Congress.

SEC. 305. EXPENSES.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this title.

(b) FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES.—The Director may place orders and enter into agreements for goods and services with the head of any agency, or major organizational unit within an agency, in the legislative or executive branch of the Government in the same manner and to the same extent as agencies are authorized to do so under sections 1535 and 1536 of title 31, United States Code.

SEC. 306. TRANSFER OF RECORDS.

Not later than 90 days after the effective date of this Act, the Office of Public Records in the Senate and the Office of Clerk of the House of Representatives shall transfer all records to the Office with respect to their former duties under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995.

SEC. 307. TRANSFER OF JURISDICTION TO OFFICE OF LOBBYING DISCLOSURE.

(a) FILING OF REGISTRATIONS.—Section 4 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1603) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives” and inserting “Office of Lobbying Disclosure”; and

(2) in subsection (d), by striking “Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives” and inserting “Office of Lobbying Disclosure”.

(b) REPORTS BY REGISTERED LOBBYISTS.—Section 5(a) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1604(a)) is amended by striking “Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives” and inserting “Office of Lobbying Disclosure”.

(c) DISCLOSURE AND ENFORCEMENT.—Section 6(a) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1605) is amended by striking “Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives” and inserting “Office of Lobbying Disclosure”.

(d) PENALTIES.—Section 7 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1606) is amended by striking “Secretary of the Senate or the Clerk of the House of Representatives” and inserting “Office of Lobbying Disclosure”.

(e) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Section 8(c) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1607(c)) is amended by striking “Secretary of the Senate or the Clerk of the House of Representatives” and inserting “Office of Lobbying Disclosure”.

(f) ESTIMATES BASED ON TAX REPORTING SYSTEM.—Section 15(c)(1) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1610(c)(1)) is amended by striking “Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives” and inserting “Office of Lobbying Disclosure”.

SEC. 308. OFFICE EMPLOYEES UNDER THE CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT.

Section 101 of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 3) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in subparagraph (H), by striking “or”;

(B) in subparagraph (I), by striking the period and inserting “; or”;

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(J) the Office of Lobbying Disclosure.”;

and

(2) in paragraph (9), by striking “and the Office of Technology Assessment” and inserting “the Office of Technology Assessment, and the Office of Lobbying Disclosure”.

SEC. 309. PROHIBITION ON FILING AND OTHER ASSOCIATED FEES.

The Office shall not—

(1) charge any registrant a fee for filings with the Office required under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995; or

(2) charge such a registrant a fee for obtaining an electronic signature for such a filing.

SEC. 310. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided by subsection (b), this title shall take effect on January 1, 2007.

(b) EXCEPTION.—Sections 302, 304, and 305 shall take effect upon the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 3180. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2349, to provide greater transparency in the legislative process; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 5, strike lines 4 through 17 and insert the following:

“(2) the term ‘out-of-scope earmark’ means an earmark that includes any matter not committed to the conferees by either House; and

“(3) the term ‘assistance’ means budget authority, contract authority, loan authority, and other expenditures, and tax expenditures or other revenue items.

“2. It shall not be in order to consider any Senate bill or Senate amendment or conference report on any bill, including an appropriations bill, a revenue bill, and an authorizing bill, unless a list of—

“(1) all earmarks in such measure;

“(2) an explanation of the essential governmental purpose for each earmark; and

“(3) an identification of the Member or Members who proposed each out-of-scope earmark, if any;

SA 3181. Mr. REID (for Mr. BYRD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 2349, to provide greater transparency in the legislative process; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 50, strike lines 8 through 13 and insert the following:

(1) FINAL REPORT.—Two years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall submit to Congress a final report containing information described in subsection (a).

SA 3182. Mr. REID (for Mr. BYRD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 2349, to provide greater transparency in the legislative process; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 46, after line 7, insert the following:

(d) LIMIT ON COMMISSION AUTHORITY.—The Commission shall not conduct any law enforcement investigation, function as a court of law, or otherwise usurp the duties and responsibilities of the ethics committee of the House of Representatives or the Senate.

Strike Sec. 266(a)(2) and (b).

SA 3183. Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. OBAMA) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2349, to provide greater

transparency in the legislative process; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 5, strike line 21 through page 6, line 19, and insert the following:

72 hours before its consideration.

SEC. 104. AVAILABILITY OF LEGISLATION ON THE INTERNET.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) AMENDMENT.—Rule XIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended by adding at the end the following:

“11. (a) It shall not be in order to consider a bill or resolution, or conference report thereon, unless such measure is available to all Members and made available through a searchable electronic format to the general public by means of the Internet for at least 72 hours before its consideration.

“(b) This paragraph may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of 3/5 of the Members, duly chosen and sworn. An affirmative vote of 3/5 of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required in the Senate to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this paragraph.”

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection shall take effect 60 days after the date of enactment of this title.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this title, the Secretary of the Senate, in consultation with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, the Government Printing Office, and the Committee on Rules and Administration, shall develop and establish a website capable of complying with the requirements of paragraph 11 of rule XIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, as added by subsection (a).

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Environment and Public Works will hold an oversight hearing on Wednesday, March 29, at 9:30 a.m., on the impact of the elimination of MTBE.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held on Thursday, April 6, 2006, at 2:30 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the following bills: S. 1510, a bill to designate as wilderness certain lands within the Rocky Mountain National Park in the State of Colorado; S. 1719 and H.R. 1492, bills to provide for the preservation of the historic confinement sites where Japanese Americans were detained during World War II, and for other purposes; S. 1957, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Interior to convey to The Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Interpretive Trail and Visitor Center Foundation, Inc. certain Federal land associated with the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail in Nebraska, to be used as

an historical interpretive site along the trail; S. 2034 and H.R. 394, bills to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to evaluate the significance of the Colonel James Barnett Farm in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and assess the suitability and feasibility of including the farm in the National Park System as part of the Minute Man National Historical Park, and for other purposes; S. 2252, a bill to designate the National Museum of Wildlife Art, located at 2820 Rungius Road, Jackson, Wyoming, as the National Museum of Wildlife Art of the United States; and S. 2403, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to include in the boundaries of the Grand Teton National Park land and interests in land of the Grand Teton Park Subdivision, and for other purposes.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, SD-364 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Tom Lillie, David Szymanski, or Sara Zecher.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 28, 2006, at 9:30 a.m. to hold a hearing on Multilateral Development Banks.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 28, 2006, at 2:30 p.m. to hold a hearing on Nominations.

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet on Tuesday, March 28, 2006, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing on S. 1439, the Indian Trust Reform Act of 2005, Titles II through VI.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on "NSA III: Wartime Executive Powers and the FISA Court" on Tuesday, March 28, 2006, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

Witness List

Panel I: The Honorable Harold A. Baker, Judge, U.S. District Court for

the Central District of Illinois, Urbana, IL; The Honorable Stanley S. Brotman, Judge, U.S. District Court of New Jersey, Camden, NJ; The Honorable John F. Keenan, Judge, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York New York City, NY; The Honorable Allan Kornblum, Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida Gainesville, FL.

Panel II: Morton H. Halperin, Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress, Executive Director, Open Society Policy Center, Washington, DC; David S. Kris, Senior Vice President, Time Warner, Inc., New York, NY.

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

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations be authorized to meet on Tuesday, March 28, 2006, 9:30 a.m., for a hearing entitled "Neutralizing The Nuclear And Radiological Threat: Securing the Global Supply Chain (Part One)."

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AIRLAND

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Airland be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 28, 2006, at 2:30 p.m. in open session to receive testimony on Air Force and Navy tactical aviation programs in review of the Defense authorization request for fiscal year 2007 and the future years Defense program.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Aviation be authorized to meet on Tuesday, March 28, 2006, at 10 a.m., on FAA Budget.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON BIOTERRORISM AND PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Bioterrorism and Public Health Preparedness be authorized to hold a hearing during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 28, 2006, at 10 a.m., in SD-430.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FEDERAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security be authorized to meet on Tuesday, March 28, 2006, at 2:30 p.m., for a hearing regarding "Bolstering the Safety Net: Eliminating Medicaid Fraud."

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON RETIREMENT SECURITY AND AGING

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Retirement Security and

Aging be authorized to hold a hearing during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 28, 2006, at 2:30 p.m., in SD-430.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination on today's Executive Calendar: No. 596. I further ask unanimous consent that the nomination be confirmed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

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

The nomination considered and confirmed is as follows:

COAST GUARD

The following named individual for appointment as Commandant of the United States Coast Guard and to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 44:

To be admiral

Vice Adm. Thad W. Allen, 4359

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

HIGHER EDUCATION EXTENSION ACT OF 2006

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 380, H.R. 4911.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4911) to temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 4911) was read the third time and passed.

FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 410, which was submitted earlier today.