

Senate on May 17, 2006, at 4 p.m., in open session to receive testimony on the roles and missions of the National Guard in support of the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection.

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

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 17, 2006, at 4:30 p.m., in close session to receive a briefing from the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I would like to ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to hold a hearing on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, at 9:30 a.m. to consider the following pending nominations: Dale Klein to be a Commissioner of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Molly O'Neill to be an Assistant Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, at 10 a.m., in 215 Dirksen Senate Office Building, to hear testimony at a hearing entitled, "Physician-Owned Specialty Hospitals: Profits before Patients?"

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, at 9:30 a.m. to hold a hearing on Iran's Political/Nuclear Ambitions and U.S. Policy Options.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, at 2:30 p.m. to hold a hearing on Nominations.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, at 10 a.m. in SD-430.

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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, at 10 a.m. to consider the nomination of Robert J. Portman to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct an oversight hearing on Suicide Prevention Programs and their Application in Indian Country.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on "Understanding the Benefits and Costs of Section 5 Pre-Clearance" on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, at 9 a.m. in Room 226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

Witness List

Panel I: Fred Grey, Senior Partners, Gray, Langford, Sapp, McGowan, Gray and Nathanson, Montgomery, Alabama; Drew S. Days III, Alfred M. Rankin, Professor of Law, Yale Law School, New Haven, Connecticut; Abigail M. Thernstrom, Senior Fellow, Manhattan Institute, New York, New York; Armand Derfner, Attorney, Derfner, Altman and Wilborn, Charleston, South Carolina; Nate Persily, Professor Law, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 17, 2006, at 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed Business Meeting.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT, THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE, AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs' Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce and the District of Columbia be authorized to meet on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, at 2:30 p.m. for a hearing entitled, Progress or More Problems: Assessing the Federal Government's Security Clearance Process.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, in accordance with 22 U.S.C. 1928a-1928d, as amended, appoints the following Senators as members of the Senate Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, during the 109th Congress: the Honorable PATRICK LEAHY of Vermont and the Honorable RON WYDEN of Oregon.

The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, in accordance with 22 U.S.C. 1928a-1928d, as amended, appoints the following Senators to the Senate Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, during the 109th Congress: the Honorable CHARLES GRASSLEY of Iowa, the Honorable WAYNE ALLARD of Colorado, the Honorable JEFF SESSIONS of Alabama, the Honorable GEORGE VOINOVICH of Ohio, and the Honorable NORM COLEMAN of Minnesota.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2810

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2810) to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to eliminate months in 2006 from the calculation of any late enrollment penalty under the Medicare part D prescription drug program and to provide for additional funding for State health insurance counseling programs and area agencies on aging, and for other purposes.

Mr. McCONNELL. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2006

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 9 a.m. tomorrow, Thursday, May 18. I further ask that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved, and the Senate resume consideration of S. 2611, the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. McCONNELL. Today we continue to make considerable progress on the immigration bill. We will be starting early tomorrow. We have Senator KENNEDY's and Senator INHOFE's amendments lined up, next up in the queue. Members can expect early votes