

spiritual growth so she became a member of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of the late Reverend J. I. Ross. Eager to serve, she became a doorkeeper at the Church. She also served as an assistant chief to the usher board. She later formed the now Jordan Grove Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of the late Reverend Charlie E. Smith.

Ada also enjoys singing and praying; especially praying because she will pray for everyone. During her forty years at Jordan Grove Missionary Baptist Church, she was a member of the Willing Workers where she served as president for one term and then vice-president. As also a member of the Prayer Band, she worked on several committees including Women's Days.

Currently she is a member of the First Baptist Church of Brownsville. She is an exemplary figure for both the young and the old of her parish.

Madam Speaker, and colleagues, I ask that you join me in honoring Ada Manuel today. I hope we all have the good fortune to live such a full life as she has; she is truly a great lady. Her family and friends must be very proud, and I thank her for continuing to serve the community.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3093) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes:

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Chairman, I commend the House and the Appropriations Committee for passing the FY 2008 Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill last week.

Back in January, I signed a bi-partisan letter along with 39 of my colleagues calling for an increase in NASA's budget. The President requested \$17.3 billion, an increase of over \$1 billion from FY 2007 enacted levels. Subsequently, 23 CEOs of our country's top aerospace companies wrote Congress calling for a top-line increase in NASA's budget.

I'm happy to report that Appropriations Committee not only listened but acted. This bill contains over \$17.6 billion for our space program, \$1.3 billion above current levels and \$313 million on top of the President's request. The bill moves ahead with construction of our next generation human space vehicle, while ensuring that our current vehicle, the Space Shuttle, is fully funded so that it can continue to fly safely, complete construction of the International Space Station (ISS), and service the Hubble Space Telescope. It also restores funding for important missions in space science and aeronautics.

Some of my colleagues who don't have an active space constituency in their district might ask why should we spend this amount of

money on NASA? Quite simply, NASA programs are about investing in our country's future—our future from a scientific standpoint given all the agency does to promote and to inspire young people to study science, math and engineering; our future economically given the agency's development and support for new industries, just think of how many folks are watching this debate as a result of space-based communications; and lastly, our future from a national security standpoint.

Let me go into that last point in more detail. My colleagues are well aware of China's irresponsible and provocative anti-satellite weapons test. Debris from that test is now floating in orbit and presents a real threat to our space-based assets. But my colleagues may be less aware of China's plans for manned space exploration. China has already flown humans in orbit and has stated plans to build a space craft to land people on the Moon. Thirty years ago we were in a space race with the Russians. Now, our main competitor is the Chinese. Frankly, I do not want to see the American flag on the Moon supplanted by the Chinese flag. That remains a real possibility if we do not properly fund NASA. This bill contains the full request for development of the next generation U.S. human space flight vehicle to get us back to the Moon and beyond.

Lastly, I would like to point out one area in the bill where we could make some improvements once we get into Conference with the Senate. The ISS faces \$20 million in reductions from the President's request in reserve funding and crew and cargo services. Given that we are entering into the most critical phase of construction, I believe it is vital that we fully fund the ISS. So I hope the Committee will be able to restore these funds.

I thank my colleagues for supporting this important legislation.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, July 31, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

AUGUST 1

9:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations
African Affairs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the United States Africa Command, focusing on a new strategic relationship with Africa.

SD-419

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 1677, to amend the Exchange Rates and International Economic Coordination Act of 1988, and original bills entitled, "Housing Assistance Authorization Act", "Private Student Loan Transparency and Improvement Act", and "Commission on Natural Catastrophe Risk Management and Insurance Act".

SD-538

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold an oversight hearing to examine recent advances in clean coal technology, focusing on the prospects for deploying these technologies at a commercial scale in the near future.

SD-366

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider S. 579, to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to make grants for the development and operation of research centers regarding environmental factors that may be related to the etiology of breast cancer, S. 625, to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products, and S. 1858, to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish grant programs to provide for education and outreach on newborn screening and coordinated followup care once newborn screening has been conducted, to reauthorize programs under part A of title XI of such Act.

Room to be announced

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 680, to ensure proper oversight and accountability in Federal contracting, H.R. 1254, to amend title 44, United States Code, to require information on contributors to Presidential library fundraising organizations, S. 1000, to enhance the Federal Telework Program, S. 1446, to amend the National Capital Transportation Act of 1969 to authorize additional Federal contributions for maintaining and improving the transit system of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, S. 547, to establish a Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security for Management, S. 1245, to reform mutual aid agreements for the National Capitol Region, S. 597, to extend the special postage stamp for breast cancer research for 2 years, H.R. 2570, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 301 Boardwalk Drive in Fort Collins, Colorado, as the "Dr. Karl E. Carson Post Office Building", S. 1732, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 301 Boardwalk Drive in Fort Collins, Colorado, as the "Dr. Karl E. Carson Post Office Building", S. 1772, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 127 South Elm Street in Gardner, Kansas, as the "Private First Class Shane R. Austin Post Office", S. 1781, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 118 Minner Avenue in Bakersfield, California, as the "Buck Owens Post Office", H.R. 2127, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 408 West 6th Street in Chelsea, Oklahoma, as the "Clem Rogers McSpadden Post Office Building", H.R. 2563, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at

309 East Linn Street in Marshalltown, Iowa, as the "Major Scott Nisely Post Office", S. 1539, to designate the post office located at 309 East Linn Street, Marshalltown, Iowa, as the "Major Scott Nisely Post Office", S. 1596, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 103 South Getty Street in Uvalde, Texas, as the "Dolph S. Briscoe, Jr. Post Office Building", H.R. 1722, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 601 Banyan Trail in Boca Raton, Florida, as the "Leonard W. Herman Post Office", H.R. 1425, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4551 East 52nd Street in Odessa, Texas, as the "Staff Sergeant Marvin "Rex" Young Post Office Building", H.R. 2078, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14536 State Route 136 in Cherry Fork, Ohio, as the "Staff Sergeant Omer T. 'O.T.' Hawkins Post Office", H.R. 2077, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 20805 State Route 125 in Blue Creek, Ohio, as the "George B. Lewis Post Office Building", H.R. 1617, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 561 Kingsland Avenue in University City, Missouri, as the "Harriett F. Woods Post Office Building", H.R. 2025, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11033 South State Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the "Willye B. White Post Office Building", and H.R. 1335, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 508 East Main Street in Seneca, South Carolina, as the "S Sgt Lewis G. Watkins Post Office Building".

SD-342

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Commerce.

SR-253

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the underrepresentation of Americans at the United Nations and its organizations; focusing on ways to build a stronger American diplomatic presence.

SD-342

Energy and Natural Resources
Water and Power Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 1054 and H.R. 122, bills to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Inland Empire regional re-

cycling project and in the Cucamonga Valley Water District recycling project, S. 1472, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to create a Bureau of Reclamation partnership with the North Bay Water Reuse Authority and other regional partners to achieve objectives relating to water supply, water quality, and environmental restoration, S. 1475 and H.R. 1526, bills to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Bay Area Regional Water Recycling Program, H.R. 30, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Eastern Municipal Water District Recycled Water System Pressurization and Expansion Project, H.R. 609, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Central Texas Water Recycling and Reuse Project, and H.R. 1175, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to increase the ceiling on the Federal share of the costs of phase I of the Orange County, California, Regional Water Reclamation Project.

SD-366

Intelligence

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Donald M. Kerr, of Virginia, to be Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence.

SH-219

AUGUST 2

9:30 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Randall S. Kroszner, of New Jersey, Larry Allan Klane, of the District of Columbia, and Elizabeth A. Duke, of Virginia, all to be Members of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

SD-538

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SR-253

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (Public Law 109-435), focusing on the services that are provided to customers.

SD-342

Judiciary

To continue hearings to examine the Department of Justice politicizing the hiring and firing of United States Attorneys, focusing on preserving prosecutorial independence.

SD-226

11:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To receive a closed briefing on drawdown planning for the United States forces in Iraq.

S-407, Capitol

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 1692, to grant a Federal charter to Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated, S. 1060, to reauthorize the grant program for reentry of offenders into the community in the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, to improve reentry planning and implementation, S. 453, to prohibit deceptive practices in Federal elections, S. 1845, to provide for limitations in certain communications between the Department of Justice and the White House Office relating to civil and criminal investigations, a bill entitled, "School Safety and Law Enforcement Act", and the nomination of Rosa Emilia Rodriguez-Velez, to be United States Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico.

SD-226

2 p.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine freedom of the media in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe region.

B-318RHOB

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 1253, to establish a fund for the National Park Centennial Challenge.

SD-366

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Security and International Trade and Finance Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine reforming key international financial institutions for the 21st century.

SD-538

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

AUGUST 3

8 a.m.

Armed Services

To receive a closed briefing regarding the treatment of detainees.

SR-222