

term is defined in section 1072 of title 10, United States Code) or by reason of entitlement to health care benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs or as a member of the uniformed services on active duty), and the employee or dependent loses eligibility for such coverage.

“(ii) The employee or dependent is otherwise eligible to enroll for coverage under the terms of the plan.

“(iii) The employee requests such coverage not later than 90 days after the date on which the coverage described in clause (i) terminated.

“(B) EFFECTIVE DATE OF COVERAGE.—Coverage requested under subparagraph (A)(iii) shall become effective not later than the first day of the first month after the date of such request.”.

(d) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Labor, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, consistent with section 104 of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (42 U.S.C. 300gg-92 note), may promulgate such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to require the notification of individuals (or their dependents) of their rights under the amendment made by this Act.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 303. INCREASE IN MINIMUM PENALTY ON FAILURE TO FILE A RETURN OF TAX.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 6651 is amended by striking “\$100” in the last sentence and inserting “\$225”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to returns the due date for the filing of which (including extensions) is after December 31, 2007.

SA 3848. Mr. HARKIN (for Mr. BAUCUS) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 3997, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief and protections for military personnel, and for other purposes; as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: “An Act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief and protections for military personnel, and for other purposes.”.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to advise that the oversight hearing scheduled before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources to receive testimony regarding Reform of the Mining Law of 1872, on Thursday, December 13, 2007, at 9:30 a.m., has been postponed. A rescheduled date and time will be announced when it becomes available.

For further information, please contact Patty Beneke at (202) 224-5451, Angela Becker-Dippman at (202) 224-5269 or Gina Weinstock at (202) 224-5684.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, December 12, 2007, at 11 a.m. in order to hold a closed briefing on North Korea.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. HARKIN. 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 Wednesday, December 12, 2007, at 10 a.m. in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, December 12, 2007, at 10 a.m. in order to consider the nominations of Harvey E. Johnson, Jr., to be Deputy Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and Jeffrey William Runge to be Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs and Chief Medical Officer, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

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

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules and Administration be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, December 12, 2007, at 10 a.m., in order to hear testimony on the funding challenges and facilities maintenance issues facing the Smithsonian Institution.

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

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet tomorrow, Wednesday, December 12, 2007 from 10:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. in room SD-628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building for the purposes of conducting a hearing.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE CONSTITUTION

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Constitution, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, in order to conduct a hearing entitled “S. 1782, The Arbitration Fairness Act of 2007” on Wednesday, December 12, 2007 at 9:30 a.m. in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

Witness list: Richard M. Alderman, Associate Dean, University of Houston Law Center, Houston, Texas; Mark A. de Bernardo, Executive Director and President, Council for Employment Law Equity, Jackson Lewis LLP, Vienna, Virginia; F. Paul Bland, Jr., Staff Attorney, Public Justice, Washington, DC; Fonza Luke, Birmingham,

Alabama; Richard Naimark, Senior Vice President, The American Arbitration Association, Washington, DC; Peter B. Rutledge, Associate Professor of Law, Columbus School of Law, The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC; and Tanya Solov, Director, Securities Department, Illinois Secretary of State, Chicago, Illinois.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a member of my staff, Dave Frederickson, who is my agriculture staff person from Minnesota and former head of the National Farmers Union, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the farm bill debate.

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

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to Public Law 96-114, as amended, appoints the following individual to the Congressional Award Board: Patrick Murphy of Washington, DC, and reappoints the following individual to the Congressional Award Board: Andrew Ortiz of Arizona.

The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, and after consultation with the ranking members of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, pursuant to Public Law 106-398, appoints the following individual as a member of the United States-China Economic Security Review Commission: Patrick A. Mulloy of Virginia for a term beginning January 1, 2008, and expiring December 31, 2009, vice C. Richard D'Amato of Maryland, and reappoints the following individual to the United States-China Economic Security Review Commission: William A. Reinsch of Maryland for a term beginning January 1, 2008, and expiring December 31, 2009.

CONGRATULATING BOYS TOWN ON ITS 90TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 403, which was submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:
A resolution (S. Res. 403) congratulating Boys Town on its 90th anniversary celebration.

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

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed